

less than 10	Reporting Baptisms.	Reporting No Baptisms
3	5	3
7	10	4
0	14	9
8	25	3
5	5	4
12	12	9
11	10	10
11	8	8
21	2	2
13	3	3
10	9	9
9	2	2
146	66	

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RELIGION IN THE DENOMINATION.

41

The following tabulated statement of the average contributions of the members of our reporting associations this year and last may be interesting:—

AVERAGE CONTRIBUTION PER MEMBER.

	FOR CHURCH PURPOSES.		FOR DENOMINATIONAL WORK.		TOTAL.	
	1895-6	1896-7.	1895-6	1896-7	1895-6	1896-7.
Eastern	\$ 9 25	\$10 67	\$ 2 55	\$ 2 97	\$ 11 80	\$ 13 64
Elgin	5 26	4 23	74	67	6 00	4 90
Guelph	8 78	7 44	1 10	1 64	9 88	9 08
Middlesex and Lambton	7 11	10 57	1 17	1 45	8 28	12 02
Niagara	6 80	5 26	70	74	7 50	6 00
Northern	5 79	6 56	37	49	6 16	7 05
Ottawa	8 15	8 66	2 07	2 38	10 22	11 04
Owen Sound	4 60	4 81	83	84	5 43	5 65
Toronto	9 19	8 46	2 94	3 97	12 13	12 43
Walkerton	5 88	5 49	90	1 91	6 78	7 40
Whitby and Lindsay	6 06	5 70	1 88	1 02	7 94	6 72
Woodstock	8 31	6 47	94	70	9 25	7 17
	\$85 18	\$84 32	\$16 19	\$18 78	\$101 37	\$103 10
Average	\$ 7 08	\$ 7 03	\$ 1 35	\$ 1 57	\$ 8 44	\$ 8 60

It will be seen from this statement that the general average of giving has been better than last year in the reporting churches. In view of all the circumstances, this is a cheering feature. It is also to be remarked that the gain over last year has been in the contributions to denominational objects. This is also cheering. At the same time it is to be noticed that the ratio between what is given to the church purposes and the great objects of denomination effort is as 7.03 to 1.57, or less than one-quarter. May we not hope that the contributions to these outside objects will continue to increase in proportion to the church expenses until they shall be equal?

In conclusion, while much remains to be attained, there is solid ground for encouragement. Never was the missionary enthusiasm of our body more general or more steadily sustained. While the type of life in our churches may be less demonstrative than in times past, we are not sure but that it is in a quiet way as devoted as in the times of the fathers. Our people, in the face of financial depression and discouragement, are steadily growing in the grace of giving, which furnishes a