

rage, and comparing this average with the average of the class, one congregation gets credit for \$1.82 per family more, and the other for \$1.82 less per family than it is entitled to. The two congregations are spoken of in the same terms of disapproval although one—the poorer of the two—has actually contributed \$509 more than the other—a sum greater than the total contributions of 41 of our congregations.—In justice to both congregations, I must ask you to insert this note in the next number of the *Record*. I regret that our contributions for 1868 are less than for 1867, and I regret to have to state that this result is due, in part, to the fact that our people found that the efforts of wealthy neighbours were not commensurate with theirs. A full exposition of all the facts may do good to both.

I am, yours very truly,

N. McKAY.

St. John, N.B., Sept. 11, 1869.

[The average rate of a class of congregations is not and does not profess to be the rate of each congregation taken separately. It is only by referring to the Table that an ordinary reader of the *Record* could ascertain what were the two congregations alluded to, and any reader who took the trouble to make this reference would observe at the same time that the rates of the two congregations are \$13 68 and \$10 04 respectively. If Mr. McKay's people are influenced in part, as his letter intimates, by a comparison of their doings with those of their neighbours, let us hope that they will extend their idea of neighbourhood beyond the limits of their own city. The rate of contribution in the neighbouring cities of Halifax and St. John, Nfld., is just about double what it is in St. John, N.B.; the average of the four congregations being \$27.19 per family.

It appears that a contribution of \$23 for the supplementary fund was omitted in the return from Annapolis. Adding this item, the rate per family is \$22.02. A. McK.]

Colportage.

We publish this month the Report of Rev. H. B. McK McKay, which in conjunction with Rev. Mr. Baxter's report, given in our last, will furnish a very full view of colportage operations as conducted in connection with our Church. To place good

sound books within reach of our people—to persuade them to buy such books—to circulate tracts among the destitute—is to do work the results of which may be met for scores of years to come. We hope therefore, that the liberal will devise liberal things in connection with colportage operations.—The following certificate was inadvertently omitted in publishing Mr. Baxter's Report:—

"We have seen the Agent's books, heard his report, examined the above summary of accounts and find it correct.

JAMES BYERS.

ROBERT SMITH."

Editorial Notice.

We have been requested to publish from the *Eastern Chronicle* a series of letters on the Scriptural authority for making permanent provision for ministerial education by raising an endowment, the annual interest of which shall pay our professors. The correspondence presents some of the arguments on both sides of the question, and we should be happy that all our readers should have the perusal of it, and judge for themselves; but as it embraces now some five or six letters, its publication in the *Record* is simply impossible. While our present number shews that we are not yet done with the discussion of Hymnology the Moderator's sermon, ordered by Synod to be printed, we regret to say, awaits publication for want of room; and we have learned from experience that if Synodical papers and reports, accounts and statistics must all appear in our pages, besides Missionary intelligence and Presbyterian notices, that it must of necessity be closed as a general rule against controversial matter however interesting or important the subject may be.

Summary.

MIDDLE MUSQUODOBOIT.—During the past season a very large Presbyterian church has been erected here, which, when finished, will be quite an ornament to the community and a credit to the adherents of our cause in this locality.

SHEET HARBOUR.—The small church erected here many years ago, has become entirely too small to accommodate the