

on account of Building Fund, \$3 750. Total, \$9 776 62. Leaving a balance on hand of \$27 90. The treasurer's report concluded as follows:—The debt upon the Building Fund now amounts to \$19,000, bearing interest at six per cent. per annum, and there are subscriptions upon the books of \$2,000 payable in 1884. It is greatly to be desired that the reduction of the debt to \$15,000, which was aimed at, should be accomplished during the current year. Mr. H. W. Darling reported on behalf of the Committee on Instrumental Music. The report concluded by recommending the re-appointment of the Committee with instructions in conjunction with the managers to proceed with the erection of an organ, as soon as subscriptions are obtained to cover the entire cost. Mr. J. Y. Reid, the treasurer, moved that the matter of the organ be left in abeyance for the present. He thought the first thing the congregation should do was to pay off the church debt before going into anything of that sort. Mr. Archibald McDonald seconded Mr. Reid's motion that the report should remain in abeyance. Mr. Reid then worded his amendment as follows:—"That the matter of the report on the organ be left in abeyance till the debt on the church is reduced to \$15,000." After a little friendly discussion the chairman ruled the amendment out of order and the report was adopted. Managers and other office bearers having been elected, the meeting adjourned.

THE congregation of Old St. Andrew's Church held their annual meeting in the church last week. Tea was served in the lecture-room by the Ladies' Association between six and eight o'clock, after which the members and adherents of the congregation repaired to the auditorium to hear the annual reports read. There was a large attendance, the body of the church being comfortably filled, showing a fair representation of the strength of the congregation. The chair was occupied by Rev. Mr. Milligan. The report of the Sabbath school work showed a total membership of 300 pupils, with an average attendance of 200. Two Bible classes were conducted during the past year, one being in charge of Rev. Mr. Milligan and the other under Mr. John Winchester. All the classes, and especially the infant class, had increased last year. The total collections of the school amounted to \$107 99. Mr. Arch. MacMurchy, M. A., read an interesting report showing the amounts contributed toward the schemes of the Church, as follows:—Total amount of contributions, \$1,720 87. Disbursements—French Evangelization, \$68; Home Missions, \$856 56; Foreign, \$300; Colleges, \$150; Aged and Infirm Ministers' Fund, \$100; Widows' and Orphans', \$150; Assembly Fund, \$20; Presbytery Fund, \$150 8; Manitoba, \$61 25. The sessional report showed an increase to the membership of the congregation of seventy three. There were twenty-seven removals, giving a clear gain of forty-six members. The total membership of the congregation now amounted to 337 persons. During the year there were twenty-seven baptisms, all of them being infants. There were five removals by death. The report of the treasurer of the congregation showed net receipts amounting to \$348 70, and a balance on hand of \$55 63. The Church Managers' report submitted that notwithstanding an increase of \$400 to the annual revenue there was a deficiency for the year amounting to \$307 82 owing to an increase in running expenses of \$1,020 94. In order to provide means for increasing the revenue and wiping out the above deficiency the report recommended that an additional twenty-five cents per quarter be charged on all pews in the body of the church. The report, with the above recommendation, was adopted. The annual statement of the receipts and expenditures was presented, and exhibited a balance on the debit side of \$301 76. The report of the Building Fund Committee showed a total cash receipt of \$3,215 for the purpose of the fund during the year. Mr. MacMurchy, in presenting the final report of the Building Committee, handed over in the name of the committee, to the Board of Managers, the church building, expressing as he did so the fervent hope that the building would always be kept sacred, simply and purely for the worship of God. Officers were then elected for the ensuing year. After votes of thanks had been passed the meeting adjourned.

THE annual meeting of the congregation of St. Andrew's Church was held last week, Rev. D. J. Macdonnell, pastor, in the chair. There was a good attendance. The report of the Board of Managers showed that the total receipts of the church during the year

from all sources amounted to \$15 896 84. The sale of the Humber property, authorized by the congregation, was reported to have been completed in June last, the payments received on account amounting to \$5,299, the balance of purchase money being \$15,750, secured by mortgage on the property and payable within six years from May 1st, 1883. The managers reported that they had been notified of the legacy of \$4,000 bequeathed the congregation by the late Mr. Jas. Michie, the money to be applied to the reduction of the debt on the church. With regard to the Augmentation of Stipends Scheme, the Board reported that the congregation had subscribed \$2,244 at a collection taken up on the 2nd of December last, and had also raised an additional \$500 since. The total debt on the church was reported to be \$30,451. Eight years ago it was \$80,000, the church then being a new structure, and the managers congratulated the congregation upon having effected a reduction of \$60,000 in so comparatively short a time. The three retiring managers were re-elected. The committee appointed to arrange for a memorial window to the late Mr. James Michie, reported that the design prepared by Mr. Storm had been adopted by the committee. It consists of three windows of stained glass, the centre one of which will illustrate the parable of the good Samaritan, and will be the memorial window proper. A presentation was made by the Board of Managers to their treasurer, Mr. Russel Ingles. It consisted of a very handsome electro-plated tea service, bearing an inscription. The reports of the several Sunday schools in connection with the church were next read. That of St. Andrew's school showed an average attendance of 220, with 24 teachers; the collections for the year amounted to \$279 50. The library was said to need new books. Total receipts for the year, \$208 44; total expenditure, \$245. St. Mark's mission school reports an average attendance of 98; collections for the year, \$34 06. Total receipts, \$112 80; expenditure \$112. The Dorset Sunday school also showed satisfactory progress through the year. The chairman read the report of the Women's Association, which showed that the 80 ladies engaged in the work of this body have been very active during the year. Funds for the prosecution of their work, have been raised in various manners, amounting in all to \$1,934 72. The various other organizations connected with the congregation in their respective reports made a most satisfactory showing. The statement of the Kirk session, read by the chairman, showed the communicants' roll at the beginning of the year to contain 630 names, an increase of 22 over the previous year. There has been 32 baptisms and 22 deaths during the year. The chairman congratulated the congregation upon the prosperous condition of their church, expressing the hope that it may continue, and the proceedings then terminated.

PRESBYTERY OF HAMILTON.—This Presbytery met on the 15th January. The evenings of the 15th and 16th were devoted to conference on the State of Religion and Sabbath Schools. Although the attendance was not large the conference was earnest, animated and practical. Provision was made for the supply of Wellandport by Mr. Cruickshank, catechist, and of Kilbride by students from the college. Nelson was allowed to find its own supplies. A petition from Crowland for the sanction of the Presbytery to closing the church was received, but action was delayed until enquiry should be made. The committee on Augmentation of Stipends reported, and deputations were appointed to visit the several congregations. The congregation of Beverly had already taken action by which they hoped to donate their contribution for Home Missions. Rev. Dr. McLaren was unanimously nominated for moderator of next General Assembly.—JOHN LAING, *Pres. Clerk*.

PRESBYTERY OF STRATFORD.—This Presbytery met in Stratford on Tuesday, January 15th. Among other items of business it was agreed to hold a conference on Temperance, Sabbath Schools, and the State of Religion, at next meeting. The Presbytery, following a course of visitation of the congregations within the bounds, had determined to visit Knox Church, Stratford, but the necessary arrangements not having been made, through the absence of the pastor, the Presbytery agreed to postpone the visitation until next meeting. Dr. Cochrane addressed the Presbytery in the interests of the Augmentation of Stipends. Thereafter it was agreed to thank Dr.

Cochrane for his lucid exposition of the scheme, to commend it to the congregations within the bounds, and to appoint a committee to visit the congregations now giving less than \$700 per annum. Messrs. Hamilton, Wright and Tully were appointed the committee in the interests of the fund. The next meeting is to be held in Knox Church, Stratford, on Tuesday, March 11th, at ten o'clock a.m.—W. A. WILSON, *Pres. Clerk*.

PRESBYTERY OF TORONTO.—This Presbytery met on the 15th inst. and transacted *inter alia* the following business. A letter was read from Rev. J. Alexander, stating that his absence from recent meetings had arisen from a severe accident he had incurred three months ago, by which also he had been laid aside from pastoral work. The Presbytery recorded their deep sympathy with Mr. Alexander, and instructed the clerk to assure him of their willingness to afford him any necessary help. Rev. D. Mackintosh submitted facts connected with his own sphere of labour, as also connected with some of the spheres adjoining, and tendered the resignation of his pastoral charge. On motion of Rev. W. Meikle, it was resolved to lay the resignation on the table in the meantime, and appointed as a committee Revs. A. Gilray, Dr. Reid, J. Dick, D. J. Macdonnell, J. Smith, and Mr. J. Harvie to visit the churches referred to by Mr. Mackintosh, especially for the purpose of conferring as to new arrangements, and report to next ordinary meeting. A call from Lake Shore and Leith to Rev. Dr. Fraser, transmitted to the Presbytery of Owen Sound, was brought up and disposed of. After the papers were read, and parties were heard, the Presbytery, agreeably to Dr. Fraser's leaning, agreed to grant the translation, and adopted a minute expressive alike of their regard for their brother, and of their sympathy with the attached people he is about to leave. The call from Charles Street Church to Rev. W. R. Cruickshank having been declined, Rev. Dr. Gregg was authorized to moderate in another call. Leave also was given to Rev. E. D. McLaren to moderate in a call from Streetsville. On application made leave was granted to the congregation of Shelburne to mortgage their manse property to the extent of \$1,490. A letter was read from Rev. W. Amos, tendering the resignation of Aurora and East King, and in statements made by him, he assigned as his main reason for this step the heavy work connected with the field. On motion made by Rev. D. Camelon, seconded by Principal Caven, it was agreed to lay this resignation also on the table, and to appoint Revs. H. M. Parsons and J. M. Cameron to visit the people and confer with them on this matter, and report to next ordinary meeting. On report of a committee, Mr. J. R. Campbell was ordered to be attested as a student of theology to the Senate of Knox College. In consequence of several examiners having recently gone to other bounds, a new staff was appointed as follows:—Latin, Rev. J. Match; Greek, Rev. E. D. McLaren; Hebrew, Rev. W. G. Wallace; Philosophy, Rev. R. P. Mackay; Systematic Theology, Rev. J. Kirkpatrick; Church History, Rev. J. Carmichael; Personal Religion, Rev. R. Wallace. As interim moderator of Caledon East and Sandhill, Rev. P. Nicol submitted and read resolutions of said congregations, looking towards a union with the three congregations under Rev. A. Tait, provided that the student supplying the two former shall alternate with Mr. Tait in supplying two of the three latter, and that a supplement be got of \$75. A resolution was also read from representatives of Mr. Tait's stations, approving of the foresaid proposal. On motion made by Rev. A. Wilson, a committee was appointed, consisting of Revs. P. Nicol, A. Gilray and R. D. Fraser, to visit the various congregations concerned, and report as to the possibility of union to next ordinary meeting. Rev. D. J. Macdonnell submitted and read arrangements of a committee for the visiting of congregations in the Presbytery on Augmentation of Stipends, as also for the furtherance of missions. The next ordinary meeting was appointed to be held on the 4th of March, at eleven a.m., and at three p.m. of that day. Commissioners are to be appointed to the next General Assembly. An adjourned meeting is to be held on the 29th inst., at eleven a.m., mainly to receive report on the moderation of a call from Orangoville.—R. MONTEATH, *Pres. Clerk*.

WHEN you speak to a person, look him in the face. Good company and good conversation are the very sinews of virtue.