ipon debate

Committee.

APPENDIX E.

REPORT OF THE SYNOD COMMITTEE ON SUNDAY SCHOOLS.

TO THE RIGHT REVEREND THE LORD BISHOP, METROPOLITAN OF CANADA, AND THE SYNOD OF THE DIOCESE OF FREDERICTON.

The Committee of Synod on Sunday Schools beg to report,

That the work of Sunday Schools during the past year gives promise of much good fruit for the Church in the Diocese.

Your Committee had hoped to be in a position to present to the Synod at this Session such a table of statistics as would have shewn at a glance the present condition of our Sunday Schools, but, owing to the fact that several Missions have not as yet given the requisite information, they have thought it better to postpone their intention for another year, and to endeavour to draw up a complete return of statistics, which will include all Sunday Schools at work throughout the whole Diocese.

In order to bring about this result they recommend that returns should be made each year to the Chairman of the Sunday School Committee according to a form to be supplied by the Committee, either by the Clergyman of the Missions or Parishes, or by the Superintendent of Sunday Schools, with a view to bring before the Synod the whole work of Sunday Schools in the Diocese.

From the Report of the Diocesan Church Society for the year 1884 your Committee gather that 48 Parishes or Missions have returned 74 Sunday Schools, with an attendance of 435 Teachers and 3,700 Scholars. They find from the same source that 16 Parishes or Missions have made no returns, but they would estimate that had such returns been made, 25 Sunday Schools, 50 Teachers, and 500 Scholars might have been added to these figures, making in all 95 Schools, 485 Teachers and 4,200 Scholars.

It is evident that such a statement cannot fairly represent what ought to be done in the way of imparting religious instruction to the young; and this becomes a greater certainty from the fact that while the Deanery of St. Andrews returns an average of 59 Scholars to a Parish, the Deanery of Chatham shows an average of only 42 Scholars to a Parish. This comparison is not made by your Committee to the disparagement of the latter Deanery, but only to prove the inefficiency of our present system of Sunday School work, and to place before the clergy and laity of the Church the great need of more complete organization.