

less than last year, the total being \$309.

The report of the Committee on Young People's Societies in the Synod showed that there were 222 societies, bearing twenty-two different names. The total membership is 10,295, an increase of 869 over last year. Of these 6,211 are active members, and 3,295 associate. The committee were surprised to find that there were 1,073 young people engaged in Christian work who were not church members. The sum of \$1,350 has been contributed to the running expenses of these societies, and \$2,698 have been given to congregational objects. There has been devoted to Home Missions \$1,007, Augmentation \$14, French Evangelization \$37, Foreign Missions \$1,184, Colleges \$71, Widows and Orphans' Fund \$1, and to other objects \$1,381; total, \$7,519. 108 societies have adopted the plan of study for 1897. Collecting for Schemes of the Church, distributing tracts, conducting mission bands, visiting the sick, helping in Sabbath work, assisting to support missionaries, etc., is some of the work done by the societies.

In presenting the report the Rev. Mr. Fraser, of Bowmanville, paid a touching tribute to the memory of the late Mrs. Ewart, in her connection with missionary work.

The report of the Committee on Sabbath schools was read. The total number of scholars and teachers enrolled is 42,873; the number of families belonging to the Synod, 27,711, an aggregate almost the same as the reported average attendance at Sabbath schools and Bible classes. About 14,276 of those who attend regularly memorize portions of the Scripture; a somewhat larger number study the short catechism. 14,741 scholars are regularly in their places in the church, 1,139 for the first time during the year joined the Church.

The report on Church Life and Work shows that there is a genuine interest taken in regular Sabbath services. The attendance at the weekly Wednesday night prayer meetings is not what it should be. The general tenor of the report on the Sabbath observance question is encouraging.

FOURTH DAY.

After the usual devotional exercises the Synod proceeded to business.

The committee appointed to strike standing committees reported as follows:

Committee on Church Life and Work—Rev. S. H. Eastman (convener), Mr. W. L. Symons, Dr. Wallace and Mr. George Duff, with the conveners of Presbytery committees.

Sabbath Schools—Rev. W. R. McIntosh (convener), Mr. D. A. Ferguson, Meaford, Mr. J. S. Scott, Ingwood, D. M. Clure, Brampton, together with the conveners of Presbytery committees.

Young People's Societies—Rev. J. A. Turnhull (convener), Mr. C. Tower Ferguson, Toronto; A. T. Armstrong, Owen Sound, and Prof. Hyde, Kingston, together with the conveners of Presbytery committees.

Augmentation Committee—Rev. Dr. Somerville (convener), Rev. W. G. Wallace, Rev. W. Fairclough, Mr. R. S. Gourlay and Mr. D. Ormiston, together with the conveners of Presbytery committees.

Synodical Conference—Rev. John Hay (convener), Rev. Mr. Gilchrist, Rev. C. S. Lord, Rev. Dr. Smith, and Messrs. Clark and Neil McNaughton.

Aged and Infirm Ministers' Endowment Fund—Rev. James Cumberland, Rev. C. S. Lord, Rev. D. D. Strachan, Rev. Mr. McAuley (Whitby), Rev. Alex. McMillan, Rev. Mr. Crozier (Strangerville), Rev. J. M. Cameron, Rev. Dr. Warts, Rev. J. A. Ross, Rev. J. M. Aull, Rev. John Rennie, Rev. John McGregor, and Rev. Mr. Roxborough (Norwood).

The committee, composed of Rev. Dr. Milligan and Rev. Dr. Parsons, appointed to bring in a minute of Synod relating to the death, which recently occurred, of Mrs. Ewart of Toronto, reported as follows, and the resolution recommended was adopted: The Synod desire to place on record their sense of the great loss sustained by the Church in the death of Mrs. Ewart, late President of the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society, and the deep sympathy with those especially bereaved by her departure. Her devotion to the cause of Foreign Mis-

sions, and to her increasing and persistent fidelity in the general oversight of the work among the women of the Church is largely due the splendid results accomplished by the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society. Her memory will long be cherished in the circle of noble women who shared with her the great responsibilities and cares of the work under their charge. She will also be gratefully remembered by the large number of workers in the foreign field who were ever the objects of her increasing sympathy and prayers. Mrs. Ewart was also largely connected with and greatly interested in many charitable and benevolent institutions. In all these relations, as well as those of a more private and tender nature, she was deservedly appreciated and will be held in affectionate remembrance by all who know her.

She attained to the great age of four-score years, and as a fitting close of a consecrated life was permitted to preside at the last annual meeting of the society whose work for many years was so much upon her heart. Like ripe fruit she dropped from the tree of time and was gathered to the heavenly store.

"Life so sweetly ceased to be,
It lapsed in immortality."

The case of Mr. Wallace Baillie of Port Credit, who had appealed to the Synod against a decision of the Presbytery of Toronto by which he was removed from the office of trustee, was concluded. The committee appointed to report on the case sustained the action of the Presbytery. Mr. Baillie appealed against the decision to the General Assembly.

Among the votes of thanks passed was one to Rev. J. W. McMillan, pastor of the Lindsay Presbyterian Church, to the congregation and the good people of Lindsay who had extended the members such a cordial welcome.

The Synod of Toronto and Kingston having concluded its labors adjourned to meet next year in Cobourg.

The meeting closed with a few pleasant remarks from the Moderator, Rev. J. M. Cameron, and the pronouncing of the benediction.

MONTREAL NOTES.

One of the most active and useful religious institutions of our city is the Young Men's Christian Association which claims to be the oldest organization of its kind on this Continent. The forty sixth annual meeting was held on the 15th inst. and the report shows that it has not grown decrepit through age nor weary in well doing but is ever increasing its sphere of influence and putting forth efforts in new directions. The religious aims of its existence are never overlooked and religious services of various kinds both for instruction and for spiritual impression are steadily maintained the year round. But in addition to this it aims at interesting and helping young men in every legitimate way that is open to it. The gymnasium, swimming bath and recreation rooms furnish wholesome amusement for them at all times and are abundantly used. The educational work has now attained large proportions the evening classes during the past winter having been attended by 463 persons and instruction given in thirteen different subjects. The circulating library and the reading room furnish interesting reading for a much larger number. The social side of the work is not neglected. Many clubs have been formed among those having like tastes and a number of receptions helped to introduce strangers to friends who might be disposed to make them feel at home. The total membership of the Association has increased to a little over 2,000. The entire cost of the work done for the year has been less than \$11,000. With its present facilities the work of the Association has probably reached about its highest limit, but if branches could be opened in different sections of the city remote from the present building there is no doubt a much larger number of young men could be reached and influenced for good. The authorities of the Grand Trunk Railway have taken the matter upon their own account and provided accommodation for an association at Point St. Charles. In the near future they propose to do the same at other divisional points along the line.

The Rev. A. J. Mowatt of Erskine church has been in Toronto this week attending the meeting of the Foreign Mission Committee. Before leaving he was authorized to offer to the Committee on behalf of his church a guarantee for four years' salary and out fit on condition that Dr. P. C. Leslie be appointed as a missionary to India. Dr. Leslie is a son of the late A. C. Leslie and has grown up in the church. He completed his medical course a year ago and since that time has been on the indoor staff of the Montreal General Hospital. On the expiry of his engagement there he offered himself to the Committee as a medical missionary. For years past he has been active in all kinds of Christian work especially among his fellow students and has every qualification to point him out as a useful missionary in that or in any other field to which he might be sent. So soon as his intention was known an appeal was issued to the congregation to furnish his support. Within ten days and almost without anything being done in the way of personal solicitation the entire amount necessary was pledged and will be forthcoming when called for without in any way diminishing the contributions of the congregation towards other missionary objects.

The congregation of Cote des Neiges at a meeting held on the 17th inst gave a call to the Rev. D. J. Graham, a member of this year's graduating class in the Presbyterian College. The salary offered is \$750 and a manse. This amount is smaller than that given to the presiding minister owing to the fact that the station of Norwood, nine miles distant, has at its own request been separated from the congregation and connected with Petite Cote to form a new mission charge. The call will be laid before Presbytery at a special meeting to be held a fortnight hence when Mr. Graham will no doubt give his answer. The field is a hopeful one if efficiently worked as owing to the new electric lines connecting it with the city there is likely to be a considerable increase of population in the near future.

The Rev. T. C. McWilliam of the American Presbyterian church has been absent from his pulpit since the beginning of the present month owing to illness. His place is being taken by the Rev. Prof. Ross, whose services are much appreciated.

GENERAL.

On the evening of May 11th, a pleasant social entertainment was given in the Presbyterian church, Plantagenet. The occasion being the presenting of an address and cane to the Rev. W. W. Hardie, who is leaving for another field.

Word was recently received from Tientsin China, stating that Rev. Kenneth McLenon is ill and on the way home, and asking that another missionary be sent to the field immediately. The work in Honan has been opening up so rapidly that the loss of a man at this time will be seriously felt by the mission.

A meeting was recently held of the congregation of Melville Presbyterian church, Eganville, presided over by the Rev. G. A. Woodside, of Cnisk River, for the purpose of calling a minister to the charge of the church, this step being necessitated by the re-organization of the charge: Scotch Bush having been separated from it, and the Melville church having passed out of the mission list of congregations into that of an augmentation one. The congregation was unanimous in calling the Rev. Jas. Rattray, their present pastor.

The annual meeting of the congregation of the Carleton Presbyterian church, St. John, N.B. was held on May 11th, Rev. Mr. Burgess presiding. There was a large attendance, and very encouraging reports were received. During the past year over \$700 worth of repairs had been put on the church, and great improvements made to the edifice. The expenses have all been met, and the financial showing is very good, only a few liabilities, amounting to hardly one hundred dollars, remaining. The good showing is largely due to Rev. Mr. Burgess, who has been an indefatigable worker, and he received the thanks of the congregation for his energy. The following were elected trustees: Messrs. Wm. Riddock, E. S. Brodie, Wm. J. Watson, Andrew Cooper, Samuel Dalzell, Fred Burridge and James Alston. Mr. Charles Morrison was elected congregational secretary.