

1889

PRESBYTERY OF LONDON.

REPORT

— ON —

STATISTICS AND FINANCES.

YOUR Committee, in presenting their Annual Report on Statistics and Finances, beg leave to submit the following summary. In doing so, they would not fail to acknowledge the good hand of God towards us during the year, in the measure of success that has attended our efforts as a Presbytery. Numerous additions were made to the roll of membership, and our people in general manifest a sustained interest in the support of ordinances at home and abroad. It is to be regretted, however, that not a few of them habitually shrink from bearing anything like a proportionate share of the financial burdens of the Church. It is to be hoped that the revived attention now given to the subject of systematic beneficence may serve to bring these delinquents into line with the recommendations of the Church anent this important duty. The Presbytery of London is composed of 33 pastoral charges, 15 of these consisting of one and 18 of two congregations each; making in all 53 congregations. Of this number 2 have made only a partial report, while 8 have made no report. The last named, however, were vacant at the time. Such omissions, no doubt, account largely for apparent deficit in several departments of finance. Two thousand seven hundred and two families are reported, and 298 single persons not connected with families. There are 5,082 communicants, of which 661 were added during the year—478 by profession and 183 by certificate. Such numbers indicate an advance over the previous year. Baptism was administered to 279 persons during the year, of which 67 were adults. There are 168 elders and 281 other office-bearers, which leaves an average of 18 families to each elder, and 9 to the other office-bearers. Nearly one half of the members