

the year, and the diminution had been 3,533, leaving a gain of 2,314, or 141 more than last year. The baptisms had numbered 4,703, including those of 123 adults. The number in the Sabbath schools was 35,020, and in Bible classes 9,269; the elders were reported at 1,987; other office-bearers at 3,891; and Sabbath school teachers at 4,094. Of 103,707 volumes in libraries, no less than 86,658 belonged to Sabbath schools. Sittings in church numbered 143,575, and missionary Associations 165; while 40 churches and 20 mansees had been built or repaired during the year; the total number of mansees being 193. The stipend promised was \$229,885, and that actually paid \$237,901.25, an increase over the amount paid last year of 16,619.51. The average per minister was \$700, against \$702 last year. Arrears of stipend amounted to \$4,301, the only Presbyteries in which there were no arrears being Kingston, Hamilton, Paris, Chatham and Huron. The amount raised for building churches and mansees had been \$155,876. These sums, with \$89,540 expended in other ways, made a total of \$477,981 raised for strictly congregational purposes, being an increase of \$14,591 over that obtained last year. The total amount contributed for the schemes of the Church was \$55,993.124, a considerable falling off from last year. The sum returned as raised for College buildings was \$28,645, and for various benevolent objects, \$24,448. The total contributions for all purposes amounted to \$619,359.30, or an increase over the sum reported last year of \$34,998. The report pointed out several evident errors in the Presbyterian returns, and concluded with the following recommendations: 1st. That Presbyteries be enjoined to procure from congregations and forward to the Convener of the Committee on Statistics their annual returns at the dates specified in the blanks furnished. 2nd. That vacant congregations and mission stations be required to forward full and accurate reports, as well as those having settled pastors, and that Presbyteries see to it that these be sent in. 3rd. That Presbyteries be enjoined to take the earliest opportunity of dealing with those congregations that are in arrears for stipend."

The Assembly received the report and adopted the recommendations. The thanks of the Assembly were given to the committee, especially to the convener for the diligence manifested in this matter.

#### HOME MISSION REPORT.

The Home Mission Report was presented on the evening of Wednesday, 3rd. It was read by Rev. W. Cochrane, the chairman, and was a carefully prepared and interesting document. It stated that the amount contributed by the several Presbyteries had been \$20,581 against \$19,022 last year, showing an increase of \$1,558. The receipts mentioned included \$844 from Sabbath Schools, \$272 in donations, \$486 for Manitoba, from the Free Church of Scotland, and \$206 from Manitoba College. Besides this, \$2,385 had been received from Knox College Missionary Society; \$1,009 from the Montreal College Missionary Society, and \$445 from mission stations in Manitoba. The total sum received was \$24,430, as against \$21,242 for 1872-3. The Presbyteries which contributed the largest amounts were, Toronto, \$2,801; Montreal, \$2,723; Hamilton, \$1,996; London, \$1,333; and Paris, \$1,277. The report contained statements of considerable length and interest in reference to the working of the various missions. The British Columbia mission asked the General Assembly to raise its grant towards the minister's salary from \$1,000 to \$1,200, and to make good the deficit of \$137 in the amount of \$600 promised to be raised for that purpose by the congregation. The report from Manitoba was most encouraging. The committee, in reference to this Province, recommended that the salaries of missionaries