

These columns speak as forcibly of progress in the most important points, than any remarks seem out of place. In regard to the number of Ministers, of communicants, and attendance on the means of grace, the increase is most gratifying. An increase in the number of elders of 153, and of baptisms 811, as compared with last year, is also exhibited. The additional attendance at prayer meetings is not so great as appears on the face of the Return, from all week day meetings being included in one column, instead of two as formerly.

The attendance on the Lord's Day ministrations is only an approximation obtained by first adding together the numbers given under "Forenoon, Afternoon, Evening," and then deducting about one-third to account for the same persons attending two diets, as is the case in towns and cities.

The attendance of the meeting of the Supreme Court being of importance, from pointing out the degree of interest taken in its proceedings, the following table which exhibits progressive improvement is herewith appended.

Year.	Place of Meeting.	Ministers Present.	Elders Present.
1856.	London.	78.	50
1857.	Kingston.	85.	41
1858.	Hamilton.	99.	61
1859.	Toronto.	109.	58
1860.	Hamilton.	112.	58

Your Committee next beg leave to submit the following Financial Table, and crave for it the special attention of Members of Synod.

PRESBYTERIES.	Stipend.	Arrears.	Synod Fund and Buxton Miss.	Foreign Mission.	Widows' and Orphans' Fund.	Presbyteries' Home Mission.	Other Contributions.	Total Congl. Contributions.	Value of Church Property.	Debt on Church Property.
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Montreal.	11586 00	1004 71	218 67	115 32	200 77	467 10	6231 23	23589 49	102680 00	13555 00
Ottawa.	4210 00	176 00	219 79	73 44	46 00	105 02	543 68	5277 53	10310 00	1640 03
Brockville.	4858 75	321 00	111 08	64 15	72 55	79 25	1827 09	6799 91	21300 00	1293 35
Kingston.	6981 00	457 62	37 03	19 65	65 47	269 00	4618 16	9213 51	41500 00	7156 00
Cobourg.	7380 00	1834 67	35 17	10 81	85 48	296 34	2118 37	9306 00	49200 00	9634 00
Toronto.	9390 00	913 67	127 12	122 13	155 75	740 24	3935 18	24127 93	84032 00	29582 10
Hamilton.	19371 63	1184 69	253 42	216 95	268 43	265 00	12306 88	32932 59	136210 00	42691 00
London.	13965 87	3363 74	197 22	156 69	158 50	564 00	11213 66	23813 51	45030 00	4457 00
1860.	76153 28	9275 30	1154 60	849 01	1045 37	2726 48	47444 06	134830 50	490292 00	101742 48
1859.	61837 00	9281 42	1352 30	953 69	968 08	2568 61	55458 95	111821 00	400000 00	74291 30
1858.	55434 00	8372 00	1080 00	1305 00	830 00	1997 00	62967 00	128286 00	360000 00	61816 00
1857.	55610 00	4156 00	1684 00	2488 00	1235 00	662 00	79886 00	148148 00	300 000	00
1856.	55912 00	5136 00	1820 00	2361 00	1426 00	3168 00	49930 00	129522 00	350000 00	00

The number of Mansees this year 41 against 40 of last year. The Presbytery most favored in this respect is Montreal, and two, Brockville and Kingston, possess none of those useful, and it may be said, necessary edifices.

STIPEND.

The Stipend Fund, which is so closely connected with the comfort and success of the ministry, continues to improve generally, notwithstanding the antagonistic influence of the commercial difficulties of the country. And, while every other fund has considerably decreased since 1856, the stipend has steadily increased, the difference of \$21,331 between 1856 and 1860, when divided by 33, the increase in settled charges of 1860 over 1856, gives an average salary of \$643.

The gross sum of \$76,443, divided among the ministers, (120) who have sent in Reports, gives an average of more than \$637, as stipend promised, a sum that would constitute a fair income, provided a sustentation scheme were adopted. The sum actually paid amounts to upwards of \$67,000, and affords an average salary of \$560. The average contribution of each communicant for stipend purposes, shews \$3 85 when taking the stipend promised as a basis, an apparent increase of more than 30 cents; but, when all the arrears are deducted, this increase dwindles down to a slight decrease. But as they extend over previous years, there will be an increase if only the arrears of this year were deducted. And in marked contrast with this apparent improvement, your Committee regret to have to report that, though some ministers are assisted out of the Home Mission Fund, more than 82 ministers, against 69 last year, have received less than \$600 a year; of this large number, 17 have received less than \$300; 13 between \$300 and \$400; 36 between \$400 and \$500; and 20 between \$500 and \$600. When the rise that has taken place during the past few years in all the necessities of life is taken into account, Congregations should be stirred up to greater liberality. The next column, containing the arrears, your Committee regard with pain, as evincing a degree of covetousness, carelessness and indifference, most hurtful to the prosperity of our Zion. The sum is however, scarcely so large comparatively as last year, constituting about an eighth of our ministers' income, instead of one sixth last year. And this proportion would have been still smaller, had there not been included in this year a considerable portion of the arrears of previous years. There is also an improvement in some Presbyteries, especially that of Kingston. Your Committee would call particular attention to the Presbytery of London, where Congregations owe their ministers about one-fourth of their stipends. Without specifying any names, the number of indebted Congregations is given for each Presbytery—Montreal, 14; Brockville, 3; Ottawa, 2; Toronto, 8; Cobourg, 6; Hamilton, 11; London, 16. It thus appears that no fewer than 60 Congregations are indebted those who break to them the bread of life, in various sums rising from a few dollars up to \$700, and in some cases extending over several years. And this number would amount to between 70 and 80, if the defaulting congregations had given in returns. "Will a man rob God, yet ye have robbed me, saith the Lord."

In regard to the various schemes of the Church, as the period embraced within our financial year is different from that employed by the Agent, the items given by him must differ from those entered on the foregoing table, though the same general conclusions may be drawn from both.

Next to the stipend stands in importance our Theological Institution. This year the returns shew a decrease, as compared with last year. The average contribution from each communicant is 25 cents—5 less than in 1859; and an examination of the returns shews, that an institution, so essential to the very existence of our Church, does not meet with a cordial and harmonious support, especially from our rural congregations, but is dependent on a few of the larger, and more liberal City Churches.

The following table is subjoined:—

In 1856,—17	Congregations failed to contribute to the College.
" 1857,—21	do. do. do.
" 1858,—18	do. do. do.
" 1859,—15	do. do. do.
" 1860,—21	do. do. do.

1860. IN PRESBYTERY OF MONTREAL.—Metis, St. Sylvester, Winslow, Cornwall, Durham, English River, Laguerre, Williamsburg (Metis and Winslow have contributed. Agent)..... 8

OTTAWA.—None that have reported.

TORONTO.—Brock and Reach, along with some Vacant Congregations..... 1

BRACKVILLE.—All, except Westport and North Augusta, which is newly settled..... 2

COBOURG.—Baltimore and Coldsprings, Keene and Westwood, Bethesda Church and Alnwick. The last is newly settled..... 3

HAMILTON.—Walpole and Jarvis, Port Dover and Simcoe, Garfraxa, Brantford..... 2

LETON.—Ingersoll, Kincardine, and Paisley..... 1

KINGSTON has sent Contributions from each Congregation.

Total..... 17