

ries were agreed upon. The duties of the Superintendent of Missions were defined. Rev. A. B. Baird, minister at Edmonton, the extreme outpost of our church in that region, briefly addressed the Assembly on the progress of the work.

AGED AND INFIRM MINISTERS' FUND.—The Report of the Western Section was presented by Rev. J. Middlemiss, showing that there were 38 on the fund. For the year now current there will be, say, 45 on the fund. Expenditure, \$7,756. In consequence of Mr. Edward MacKay's bequest of \$4,000 the income exceeded expenditure by \$5,055. There was also a donation of \$1,000 from Rev. John Dunbar. Were it not for these two sums the receipts would have been \$250 short of actual expenditures. The report was approved, and its recommendations were either adopted or ordered to be sent down to Presbyteries.

STATISTICS.—Rev. R. TORRANCE submitted the report on this subject. We glean a few facts: Pastoral charges, 753; ministers, 683; vacant charges, 113; mission stations, 117; churches, 1,436. Increase last year, 50. Families reported, 65,165; communicants, 114,602. Added during the year, 11,395. The total amount promised as stipend, \$586,266, and of this Manitoba Presbytery shows \$13,302. The total amount paid by congregations alone was \$577,844. The total amount of salaries received from all sources was \$566,934, being an average of nearly \$800 to each pastor, but an average of between \$300 and \$400 to each church or station supplied. Total for all Congregational purposes, \$1,170,095. Total to all schemes of the church, \$185,695. Total for all purposes reported, \$1,453,534.

Closing (Ninth) Day.

THE Aged and Infirm Ministers' Fund, Eastern Section, was reported by Mr. Sinclair. The fund is prosperous, its capital being increased by \$20,000 through the bequest of the late Mr. Macleod. The Widows' and Orphan's Fund also are in a satisfactory condition. There are 52 annuitants on the Western Fund and 35 on

the Church of Scotland Fund. The Eastern Report was presented by Mr. McCurdy. \$20,000 bequest had been received from the estate of Mr. Macleod. The report of the Presbyterian *Record* showed a circulation of 36,000. The Assembly expressed its desire that a copy should be in every family in the church. Mr. Pitblado reported for the Church and Manse Building Fund. Subscriptions, \$95,000. Paid in, \$32,000. 25 buildings had been aided during the year. Very great good had been accomplished already by the fund, and its early completion is earnestly desired. The fund was commended to the liberality of the church.

The most interesting incident of the closing day was the reception of a large deputation from the Church of England Synod of the Diocese of Toronto. Archdeacon Body was at the head of the deputation, and conveyed to the Assembly the cordial fraternal greetings of the Synod. Hon. Edward Blake addressed the Assembly, asking its coöperation in securing the religious instruction of the young. The deputation was most cordially received and a suitable resolution was adopted. The Assembly appointed a deputation to the Synod, Principal Grant, convener. The Assembly passed a resolution in favor of religious instruction in public schools. A small edition of the Book of Forms is authorized. Dr. Laing was appointed convener of the Revising Committee. A resolution was adopted approving of a more judicial, patriotic and charitable spirit in dealing with the politics and government of the country. The question of consolidating the colleges was referred to the committee appointed on the College fund. Reports on ladies' colleges—Brantford and Ottawa—were received and approved. Loyal addresses to the Queen and the Governor General were adopted. The nomination of next Moderator of Assembly was committed to the previous moderators, Dr. MacLaren convener. Mr. Charlton's bill making seduction criminal was endorsed. A deputation was appointed to press upon the Government the duty of legislating to prevent Sabbath desecration. The usual votes of thanks were passed. The annual collections were appointed. After praise and prayer the Assembly was dissolved at 6 o'clock p. m.