

the Central Church will be such, that ultimately no difficulty will be experienced in discharging them.

Since our last annual meeting we have to deplore the loss of our then Pastor, Mr. McLaren. With the circumstances attending his removal all are familiar. It is unnecessary therefore to allude to them now. We may be permitted however to say, that his removal was not only a loss to ourselves, but to the whole City as well. Occurring at that particular time, when engaged in a work which was taxing our resources to the utmost, it was felt with especial severity, and the lapse of time has only deepened our regrets. At the same time we cannot but rejoice, that in our loss the Church has gained, and that he now occupies a position, for which by his abilities he was peculiarly fitted, and where his influence and labours will be widely felt.

We sincerely trust that ere long a worthy successor of our former Pastors may soon be found—one who will prove able and energetic in building up a prosperous congregation, and diligent and faithful in the cause of our great Lord and Master.

In conclusion, your Committee would earnestly pray that to their successors in office the Divine guidance may be granted, and that their hands may be strengthened for the faithful discharge of their labors in building up the temporal prosperity of our beloved Church.

All which is respectfully submitted.

ROBERT BLACKBURN,
Chairman.

JOHN HENDERSON, *Secretary.*

