

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE MAINTENANCE OF THE THEOLOGICAL DEPARTMENT OF MANITOBA COLLEGE. 1888-9.

To the Synod of Manitoba and the North-West Territories :

Your committee beg to report that in order to meet the amount required for the Synod year now closing, they issued, in July, 1888, a circular to all the ministers and missionaries in the Synod. It was estimated that, to meet the debt of \$244, from the preceding year, to pay Dr. King's salary, and necessary expenses of the Committee, the sum of \$3,300 would be required.

The request for the interest on endowment, which the Committee was authorized by the Synod to make, came before the Manitoba College Board. It was granted by the Board, and the amount of \$459.53 has been paid over to the Committee by the Treasurer of the College. On account of changes in investment, the interest from endowment was more than \$100 less than that received by the Committee in the preceding year, and this has made some difference in the calculations of the committee. The several Presbyteries have taken up the matter of collections with commendable vigor, and in three out of the six Presbyteries the amounts of congregational contributions have exceeded those of the preceding year.

The following is a table of the number of families in the several Presbyteries, the amounts obtained from collections and subscriptions, and the averages per family:

PRESBYTERY.	NO. OF FAMILIES.	COLLECTIONS AND SUBSCRIPTIONS.	AVERAGE PER FAMILY
Winnipeg	1628	\$1513 06	93c.
Rock Lake	542	314 80	58
Brandon	1660	389 85	24
Regina	944	124 05	13
Calgary	325	46 50	14
Columbia	498	191 00	38

By a reference to the appendix it will be seen that Winnipeg Presbytery, has, in congregational collections, exceeded the preceding year by \$96.86 raising in all \$1513.06; Rock Lake by \$83.80, raising \$314.80; and Columbia by \$40, raising \$186. Much credit is due for the faithful work of conveners in these Presbyteries, and the generous response to their requests. In Brandon Presbytery there has been a considerable falling off. It is not easy to account for this. The Convener has pressed the matter upon congregations, but it is somewhat remarkable that, while some of the congregations have fully maintained their previous record, a considerable number have diminished to fifty or sixty per cent of the givings of the previous year. The suggestion that it is on account of the failure of crops in some districts from frost, hardly explains it, when in Rock Lake Presbytery, which suffered quite as seriously, the amount raised is ahead of that of the previous year. Regina is less by \$15.65, raising \$124.05, while the Presbytery of Calgary has reached nearly the amount of the previous year, raising \$46.50; yet, the table in the appendix shows the blanks to be about double the places contributing. This, surely, need not be. A collection might be taken up in every place. If this were done, the amount asked from Calgary Presbytery would