

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

The General Assembly met in the city of St. John, N. B., on the evening of the 14th of June, at half past seven o'clock. Dr. McVicar, principal of the Presbyterian College, Montreal, retiring Moderator, preached the opening sermon from the text, "He that goeth forth and weepeth bearing precious seed, shall doubtless come again with rejoicing bringing his sheaves with him."

After sermon the roll was called. Some presbyteries from the far West had a very small representation, the distance and expense rendering their attendance a burden, in many cases, too heavy to be easily borne.

Dr. Cochrane, of Brantford, Ontario, was chosen Moderator for the current year, several committees were appointed and the Assembly adjourned.

THURSDAY, June 15th.

Various committees were at work at nine o'clock, and the Assembly met at eleven. The first hour was spent in devotional exercise.

SPECIAL APPLICATIONS.

There were fourteen applications for admission to the ministry of our church, from ministers of other bodies, chiefly Presbyterian; five applications from students who had not taken a regular course of study but from special circumstance asked for license, and two, from ministers who had been deposed years ago, asking to be restored. These applications were referred to committees to examine and report.

REPORT ON STATE OF RELIGION.

Rev. T. Duncan, of Halifax, read the Report of the committee on the State of Religion. In some respects the returns are hopeful, in others, not so. The obstacles to religion, as gathered from Presbyteries' reports, are, worldliness, Sabbath-breaking, drunkenness, bad company, unsuitable marriages, immoral books, haste to be rich, pleasure, dancing, balls, strong drink, tobacco, &c.

The report was adopted after a short but interesting discussion.

REPORT ON SABBATH SCHOOLS.

Rev. Allan Simpson, of Halifax, gave in the Report of the committee on Sabbath Schools showing 88000 children under instruction, 9000 teachers and officers, and \$33,000 in contributions during the year. A lively discussion took place with regard to some of the recommendations of the report which was at length received, but not adopted.

FRIDAY, 16th.

REPORT ON STATISTICS.

Mr. Torrance submitted the report on Statistics from which the following facts are gleaned. There are in the church,

Pastoral charges.....	777
Vacancies.....	114
Ministers, including Professors.....	697
Churches and Stations.....	1509
Families.....	65,593
Communicants.....	116,687
Baptisms during the year,	
Infants.....	9721
Adults.....	644

Total.....	10365
Vols. in Libraries Cong. & S.S.	173,000
Sittings in churches.....	145,000
Missionary Associations....	361
Manse.....	433
Amount raised for pastoral support.....	\$1,074,962
Schemes of the Church....	\$255,962
Increase of Membership....	3,717

COLLEGE REPORTS.

Principal Macknight gave in the report of the Presbyterian College, Halifax, which has been already printed in our columns. The reports of the several colleges in the West were submitted and discussed.

HOME MISSIONS.

The Report of the Western Section was submitted by Rev. Dr. Cochran. Their work is progressing hopefully. The immigrants to the North West have been largely Presbyterian and as fast as possible they are being followed by the Gospel. The Church Building Fund for the North