

Minutes of Annual Meeting.

The Annual Meeting of the congregation was held in the basement of the church on Wednesday, December 30th, 1896, at 2 o'clock p.m. The Rev. N. Campbell, pastor, in the chair. The minutes of last annual meeting were read and adopted. The reports of the societies and S. S. were read and were highly satisfactory. Messrs Jno. McCraig, Geo. Lyall and Angus McCraig were appointed Managers for three years.

Report of Session.

The Session of Guthrie Church desires to give thanks to Almighty God for His continued favors and blessings and calls upon the Congregation to join with them in praising the great King and Head of the Church for His goodness during the year 1896. The year has been one of steady progress in every department of the church's work, and the Session note with pleasure and satisfaction the growing interest manifested in the welfare of the church. The attendance and the Sabbath services was unusually large during the year, and the regularity shown by the families was highly commendable. The reports presented by the Societies and Sabbath School, at the annual meeting, assure us of the good work done in these, as they all speak of progress and interest never before manifested. Although the finances of the congregation do not come under the control of the Session, yet we may be pardoned if we express our gratitude at the healthy report presented by our Treasurer. It was the most gratifying report presented since the settlement of your present pastor over you. Some of you doubled your giving, while others increased materially over the previous year, and in this way the Treasurer was enabled to meet the demands made upon the treasury with more promptness and comfort to himself. You will feel all the better for what you have done, and we trust that you will not feel satisfied with the past but go on cheerfully in the work, knowing that He who sees every sacrifice we make will abundantly award you "God loves a cheerful giver." But what shall we say of those who could give but did not do so during the year. Remember the solemn injunction "Bear ye one another's burdens and so fulfil the law of Christ." The attendance at the Lord's table was always large. Few of the members were absent. The Communion was dispensed three times during the year and at each of these services we had the pleasure of receiving new members. The total members added to the Communion Roll was 15. The membership is now 94. There were 10 children baptized whose parents attend the services of the church. These were 12 deaths in the whole field during the year.

In concluding this report, we again call upon all the families who worship here to join heartily in all the departments of the church's work. God has placed us in this world and calls us by His grace from a life of worldliness and selfishness to a life of self-consecration to His service. Our time is short and soon the call will come for us to leave off the work here, and we trust when we are called away to the Home beyond that we may hear the joyous welcome "Well done good and faithful servant enter into the joy of thy Lord."