- 2. The Sunday School, the Ladies' Working Society, and the Schemes of the Synod were never before so well supported by us, but as special reports are published on these, nothing need be said here. The condition of the Sunday School calls for special gratitude. The interest taken in its work and teaching by so many of our best men and women is a good augnry for the future. Any member of the Church who wishes to see with his own eyes what is doing, should step into the basement some Sunday morning about 10 o'clock. He is likely to see so much doing, so much order and enthusiasm combined, that the question will probably arise in his mind, 'why am not I here as teacher or scholar?' Is it a great grief and a great loss that all the children and all the young men and women of our congregation are not in the Sunday School; for though not intended to take the place of parental teaching, it is surely a help to the best Home School, and besides, it is the only place where the minister can become acquainted with the young people as they grow up.
- The only religious meetings held regularly during the year on evenings other than Sunday have been the Monday evening Bible Class for both sexes, the Wednesday evening prayer-meeting at 7.30—not at all as well attended as it should be, the S. S. Teachers preparation meeting on the same evening at 8.30, and two district meetings, one at at Tower Road on Thursday, and one in City Street Mission building on Friday evening. Very likely one-half of the congregation does not know of the existence of those meetings for instruction, devotion, and mutual edifying. At least from their non-attendance at any of them, so it may be supposed. Is it seriously believed now-a-days by any that religion ought to be manifested only on Sundays, or that their religious life is so strong and assured that it needs no helps of Bible study, conference, and common prayer through the week. Four or five hours of an evening are given uncomplainingly by professing Christians to social gatherings at which the Lord's name is never mentioned, but one hour seems to be too much to spare for calling upon His name, provoking one another to love and good works, and for strengthening the things that remain but that are ready to die. There is great inconsistency here, a great discouragement to all earnest Christians who are bound up with us in the same bundle of congregational life, great injury inflicted on our own souls, and a bad example set to our children. Is it too much to ask of all the members and adherents of the church, that they should attach themselves to one or other of these week day meetings? Some good they are sure to get by merely attending, and more good by taking an active part in them. And where this is done, the minister will be encouraged to try such new schemes for quickening spiritual life, and developing greater unity among the members of the church, as are sure to be suggested in a time of zeal and among a people who are in earnest.
- 4. During the past year. Dr. Gordon and Mr. Montgomery resigned their position in the eldership. This fact, along with the death of Mr. Watt, and the departure of Mr. John McLean to labour as a catechist in Cape Breton, is enough to suggest the necessity for an addition to our present number at no distant date. The attention of the members of the congregation should be directed to this, so that when called upon to elect men to the office, they may not be at a loss, but be ready to select the most fitting men.
- 5. Our City Missionary having gone to Cape Breton, we were able to respond to an application from the North-end City Mission for help. The minister, and the elder of the district having satisfied themlseves that that mission was doing good work, and that it could not be sustained in the meantime without our assistance, it was agreed to co-operate in it until we could find a suitable successor to Mr. McLean. But if we are to have a City Missionary of our own, our subscriptions must be largely increased; for we need not expect to get another man at the salary we paid Mr. McLean.
- 6. The table appended shows what our liberality has been during the past year, as a Church. Of course we do not report anything as to the revenue of