

have been taken off the list, leaving the present number 506; of those whose names have been struck off four have died, viz.:—Edward Janes, Howard McLean, Geo. McDonald and W. B. Fairbanks—the latter a life member.

The Committee regretting the decrease in the membership, beg to state that this decrease is to be accounted for from the fact that in view of the Association expecting shortly to remove to their new Building now in course of completion, they considered it necessary to make a thorough inquiry as to the standing of the membership, and in doing so found a very large number of names on the Books of whom after inquiry had been made, no account could be had, most of them being over three years in arrears. The Committee considered it for the best interests of the Association to remove them from the list. They would also draw attention to the fact that whilst last year there were only 50 additions to the Association, this year there have been 74—showing an increased interest in its prosperity.

This Committee have also to report that a number of the members of the Association have been induced to coöperate with them in inviting those who seldom visit the rooms to take a more active interest in its working. This movement has met so far with considerable success—and the Committee would commend this movement to their successors.

Your Committee would also suggest, that printed cards of invitation with the address of the Association be procured for the use of the members, so as to call the attention of young men and strangers to the rooms.

H. P. BURTON, *Chairman*.

TRACT DISTRIBUTION.

The Committee have nothing new to announce. The tract distributors have been enabled to discharge their duties as in former years. Every wharf from the Gas Works to the Dockyard has been visited on the Sabbath morning from May to December, and almost every seaman on board the vessels has been offered a tract.

At the gate of the Cemetery, where the open air services are held, a number of small books have been distributed at the close of the meeting.

The Committee are unable to estimate the exact number distributed during the past summer and fall, but they will amount to many thousands. The thanks of the Committee are due to the governors of the Presbyterian Theological Hall, and to the British and American Book and Tract Society; both which institutions gave supplies of Tracts.

The Committee in closing would recommend this portion of your Association's work to all workers for the cause of Christ. Much good has resulted to the church and the world from the giving away of a single tract. We are content to labour on that the fruit may appear to the glory of the Great Redeemer—though it may be many days hence.

JAMES FARQUHAR, *Chairman*.