

Report of the Book Committee.

To the Conference of 1869.

DEAR BRETHREN,—Your Committee have pleasure in presenting you with their annual report. It will be seen from the balance sheet attached, (which sheet has been examined by an audit,) that after paying the working expenses of the establishment, and appropriating \$100 to the Institute, there is a balance in favour of the Book Room; and though that balance is not very large, it is such as to prove that the business is a paying one, and therefore such as to warrant its continuance. We are thankful for the patronage which has been extended to us, and trust to merit a continuance and extension of that patronage. The Book Steward has been anxious to secure a large and well assorted stock, and his efforts in many respects have been attended with success, for it is admitted by competent judges that the stock is as well assorted and kept up as any other Book concern in Toronto. Your Committee, along with your Steward, would however like to be in a position to add largely to the theological department of the Stock, so as to make it worth the while of the Ministers of the Body to purchase solely of the Book Room: in fact, we are anxious that all the literature of the Connexion shall be obtained from the Connexional Book Room. Our Sabbath Schools are doing this in great part, and are proving that they are doing as well, and in some respects better than elsewhere: it is our intention to serve them well and liberally in the future; and hope both Ministers and Superintendents of Schools will use their influence to induce the managers of the schools to obtain all their requisites from us.

It is hoped the efforts of Rev. J. Davison to induce the English Book Room to allow us the Hymn Books and Magazines at a slight advance on manufactured cost may be successful: this accomplished, then the price of the Hymn Books can be reduced; but we can hold out no hope of any reduction as long as the present arrangement exists: the price of the Magazines, under any circumstance, must remain as it is, for little is made by the Book Room after paying the freightage and per centage on them allowed to Ministers. The Book Steward has striven to keep down the working expenses to the smallest possible amount, consistent with the efficiency of the concern.

Hoping to present you with as favourable, if not more favorable Report next year, if spared, this statement is now presented.

WM. ROWE, SECRETARY.