

COURTESIES OF SOCIETIES.

The Quebec Young Men's Christian Association and the Literary and Historical Society sent letters inviting the members of Assembly to make use of their rooms during their stay in the city. The thanks of the Assembly were tendered to these Societies.

HOME MISSION REPORT.

The Rev. John Laing read the Report of the Home Mission Committee. Thanks were given to the Committee, and specially to the Convener, and the recommendations of the Report referred to a special committee to frame a deliverance. The report shows an increase of 6 mission fields, 40 preaching stations, and 425 families. The Students' Missionary Society of Knox College had done a good work. There are connected with the missionary operations of the Church 101 mission fields and 56 congregations, at an expenditure of \$14,000. The stations and congregations raise among themselves, besides boarding the missionaries, nearly \$30,000, and the gospel is preached occasionally to over 20,000 souls. The contributions have increased during the year by \$796. The expenditure has also increased by \$1,073, so that the balance on hand is reduced to \$4.13. A gratifying increase is observed in the Presbyteries of Toronto, Hamilton, Montreal, Chatham, Kingston, Ottawa, Stratford, London, Cobourg, and Ontario, to a total amount of \$716. Mission stations received \$6,736; supplemented congregations, \$5,228. Toronto pays \$1,070 more into the fund than it receives; Hamilton, \$943; Paris, \$380; Guelph, \$342; Stratford, \$197. Some congregations are remiss in contributing, and in many the contributions are much smaller than they ought to be, and the report urges a greater liberality. The number of missionaries is increased, being 90 as against 76 last year, and the report favors the employment of missionaries for a term of years when practicable. The mission work is extending in many parts of the Church, and the Presbytery of Manitoba affords evidence of progress. An effort is being made not only to maintain a common school, but to establish a collegiate institution; another missionary is required immediately, and a professor to superintend the higher studies. The supply of vacancies by probationers is attended with many difficulties, and the attention of the Presbytery is called to the matter.

The deliverance adopted by the Assembly empowered the Committee to establish stations, and conduct missionary operations directly in places in the Dominion not within the bounds of any Presbytery; to engage missionaries to occupy, for a term of years, destitute fields, at a salary in excess of that usually paid to missionaries; to ascertain and report on the additional amount required in order to secure to the ministers of the Church a minimum salary of \$600 per annum; to suspend payment of supplements to congregations falling in arrears; to supplement the salaries of ordained ministers engaged in missionary work in cities beyond the amount fixed by the Home Mission regulations. It also required that Presbyteries should send in a quarterly return of vacancies; that the distribution of Probationers should rest with a sub-committee appointed from the H. M. Committee; that ministers desiring to return to the probationers' list, after having been engaged in a secular calling, must have permission, in order to do so, from the Assembly, as also ministers resigning their charges oftener than twice; that irregularities be reported to the Assembly; that two additional missionaries and a catechist be sent to Manitoba; that a professor in the Collegiate Institution there be appointed; that the Rev. W. Fletcher and the Professor of the Manitoba College be authorized to raise money for its endowment; that increased salary be given to the missionaries in Manitoba; that the H. M. Committee be authorized to seek aid for the work in Manitoba from the Home Churches; that an effort be made, in view of increased operations, to raise at least \$15,000 for Home Mission purposes; that the Fund be divided into two equal parts—one for the mission work proper, and the other for supplementing weak congregations; that the resolution in regard to a mission agent be laid on the table, to be taken up at next Assembly.