

CHURCHWARDENS' REPORT.

EASTER, 1885.

To the Vestry and Congregation of St. James' Cathedral :

The Churchwardens beg to submit herewith their accounts for the year ending 28th February last, together with the Auditors' Report thereon.

The following points appear to be worthy of remark :

The Congregation has raised by direct collections in the Church, and by contributions from its members during the year, upwards of \$15,000, all but about \$2,000 of this being of the nature of regular annual contributions. The figures substantially correspond to those of last year.

Part of the amount was contributed for special objects, prominent among them being the Protestant Episcopal Divinity School. An apparent decrease in the amount collected for this object as compared with last year is accounted for by the circumstance that some large contributions were not handed over until after the year's account was closed. The actual amount contributed by members of this congregation towards that object remains substantially the same. It is cheering to know that the difficulties with which this church is struggling have not led to any falling off in its liberality towards that important allied institution ; whose foundation is in a large measure due to, and its continued support dependent on, the public spirited zeal of this congregation.

Turning to the proper expenses of the Church and the means applicable thereto, by separating items of usual expenditure from the figures in the statement, it appears that the ordinary maintenance of our church establishment including interest on the debt is costing in round figures from \$12,000 to \$13,000 per annum. A corresponding abstract of the figures on the other shews that our ordinary income including the \$787 derived from rents of the Church property, falls short of the above expenditure by about \$2,500. By comparison with the reports of former years since our income from the lands in litigation has been in suspense, it appears that the above annual deficiency is substantially a constant sum.