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that every Family of the
Congregation will take a copy of this Report
and preserve it for fu-
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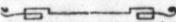


KNOX CHURCH,
STRATFORD.



ANNUAL REPORT
FOR THE

YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31st, 1889.



Stratford:
PRINTED AT THE BEACON OFFICE.

1890.

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ANNUAL REPORT

FOR THE YEAR

ENDING DECEMBER 31, 1900

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO
CHICAGO, ILL.

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Report of Session of Knox Church, Stratford, FOR 1889.

In presenting our annual report we are anew made conscious of the blank caused by the absence of our late Pastor and Moderator.

Rev P. Wright having accepted a call to Portage la Prairie, the pastoral tie was severed in July last, to the deep sorrow and loss of the congregation.

We in common with the congregation feel keenly the great loss we have sustained in Mr Wright's demission, but desire to express our gratitude to God for his sustaining and unifying grace, whereby the congregation have been knit together so firmly during the 5½ months of last year, when we were without a pastor. The Sabbath attendance during the whole year has been very good. The session, however, deeply regret to put on record that the attendance at the Wednesday evening prayer meetings is far from what it ought to be. If this be the pulse of the spiritual life of the Church, that life is not exuberant and full. It is hoped that the fellowship of this Church will come together in larger numbers at these devotional services and draw down upon the whole people the promised blessing of the Father of Lights. We commend most earnestly to the individual members of this congregation their duty and privilege in this regard.

During the past year the session has sustained a deep loss in the demise of Mr Robert Patton, who was a faithful elder in this church for many years. He is greatly missed in session and congregation but we trust that our loss is his great gain.

We would also express our heartfelt sympathy with three of our number who have been, by reason of bodily infirmities, prevented from meeting with us during the past year. We refer to Mr Dunn, Mr H. McDermid and Mr R. Donaldson.

The session would commend to your thoughtful kindness the "stranger that is within thy gates" and would ask each member to charge himself with the duty of extending a hearty Christian welcome to all new members.

We would not forget to bring to your grateful remembrance the good services of the choir, under the efficient leadership of Mr Freeland. Their services in leading the Praise, are only equalled in value by their Christian deportment and the cheerful spirit in which these services are rendered. Thanks are also due to the superintendent, teachers and office.

bearers of the Sabbath School for the faithful discharge of the onerous duties which pertain to this branch—second to none in importance—of the Church's work. We bespeak for this noble band of S. S. workers the hearty co-operation of Christian parents in their several homes

In November last a branch of the Y. P. S. C. E. was organized in this Church. Their meetings are growing in interest and profit and are already doing a much-needed and grand work. May they go on from "strength to strength."

There are now 684 names on the roll of church membership. Since last report 45 have been added, namely, 29 by certificate and 16 by profession of faith. During the same period 26 names have been removed from the roll, namely, 21 by disjunction and 5 by death.

The "Death Angel" has entered not a few homes in connection with the congregation during the year. Each time his dread shadow flits athwart our pathway the warning is repeated, "Watch, therefore, for ye know not what hour your Lord doth come."

The session cannot close this report without expressing their deep sense of obligation to the Moderator *pro tem.*, for his cheerfully-given and invaluable services. The smooth running of the Church work during the past months has been due in no insignificant measure to the wisdom and energy of Rev Mr Turnbull.

"Praise waiteth for Thee, O God, in Zion: and unto Thee shall the vow be performed." "Thou crownest the year with Thy goodness; and Thy paths drop fatness." Praise ye the Lord!

All of which is respectfully submitted.

A. STEWART,

A. B. WINCHESTER,

Session Secretary.

Acting Moderator.

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The Managers' Annual Report

For the Year ending 31st Dec, 1889.

In submitting the annual financial report the managers have much pleasure in being able to congratulate the congregation upon its continued prosperity.

When the pew rent system was adopted some two years ago, considerable doubt existed in the minds of some as to whether it was wise to abandon the envelope plan which in the past proved fairly successful.

After an experience of about two years of the new rent system it will be noticed that although the revenue from this source is not quite so large, the difference is more than supplied by the very large increase in the Sabbath collections. Under the envelope system the Sabbath collections averaged about twelve dollars (\$12) per Sabbath, whereas they averaged this last year \$27.13 per Sabbath. The revenue derived from pew rents during the year was \$2,348.63, from Sabbath collections \$1,411.30 and from arrears \$147.35, while \$344.19, derived from other sources detailed in the financial statement, foot up \$4,251.47, the sum total of the receipts of the year.

The expenditure during the year amounted to \$4,189.52, which left us with a cash balance on hand of \$61.95. Our overdraft at the bank at the beginning of the year was \$500, which you will observe has been reduced to \$150.00. This is, we think, the smallest floating debt known in the history of Knox church.

We regret to be under the necessity of showing so large an amount of arrears standing on the treasurer's books year after year. Last year it was suggested that the names of all subscribers to the revenue of the church be published in the annual report with the amount subscribed, amount paid, and arrears (if any). As no instructions were given to the managers in reference to this matter no action so far has been taken. This brief reference to the question of arrears will, we hope, be sufficient to induce all who now owe for pew rent to call on the treasurer and discharge this important obligation.

Although the financial statement shows the congregation to be in a prosperous condition, it would be well to bear in mind that our expense has been somewhat less this year than in the past. Pulpit supply has cost less by a few hundred dollars than if we had a stationed pastor, at the usual salary. The expenditure on improvements and repairs on the church have also been less than usual.

The managers feel that at no very distant date improvements and repairs will have to be made that will involve a very considerable outlay.

It must be apparent to all churchgoers, particularly to the ladies, that the erection of a vestibule in front of the church and the removal of those dilapidated steps is an absolute necessity. The re-shingling or slating of the roof will also in the near future have to be undertaken and provided for by the congregation. The only funds at the disposal of the managers are the voluntary contributions of the people and these at present require very economical handling to meet the ordinary expenditure of the congregation. In view, then, of the necessity of the improvements and repairs referred to, the managers hope to see a large increase in the Sabbath collections. In a congregation of this size the collections should at least average \$40, and unless greater liberality is shown in this department of revenue the managers fear that the price of sittings will have to be increased beyond the nominal figure they were placed at two years ago.

There are 695 sittings now let in the church out of an available 868. The revenue derived from 695 sittings during the year was \$2,348.63, being a little less than \$3.40 per sitting, and the Sabbath collections only amounted to about four cents each Sabbath including both services. As managers we can only hope that the future will be marked by increased liberality on the part of all whose duty and privilege it is to contribute to the schemes of the church. There have been 344 meetings in the church during the year. The expenditure for fuel and gas has been very small considering the very large number of meetings held. For this the congregation is indebted to the economical management of Mr Donaldson, the sexton, who has always taken a praiseworthy interest in obligingly attending to the wants and providing for the comfort of all those attending the various meetings held during the year.

The retiring members of the board are Messrs Andrew Johnson, W. W. Fortune and F. D. Hamilton. All of which is respectfully submitted.

R. DONALDSON,

J. P. MACDONALD,

SECRETARY.

CHAIRMAN.

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Knox Church Financial Statement for 1889

RECEIPTS.

To Cash on hand January 1st, 1889	\$ 123 04
" Pew rents	2348 63
" Collected on arrears of 1888	147 35
" Sabbath collections	1411 30
" Preparatory services	30 80
" Poor fund collection	67 25
" Anniversary services	108 10
" Revival services	15 00
	\$ 4251 47

DISBURSEMENTS.

By Overdraft Bank of Montreal	\$ 4 12
" Reduced discount Bank of Montreal	350 00
" Rev P. Wright's stipend to August 1, 1889	1342 00
" Mr Freeland's salary	300 00
" Mr Donaldson's salary	450 00
" Pulpit supplies	691 50
" Poor fund account	47 46
" Insurance	60 00
" Gas account	122 20
" Printing and stationery	49 84
" Fuel	27 00
" Property repairs	84 21
" Miscellaneous	55 10
" Present to Miss Scott	50 00
" Presbytery fund (1888)	47 34
" " (1889)	28 25
" Interest Bank of Montreal	22 75
" Interest on Mortgage	456 75
	\$ 4189 52
Cash on hand in bank	\$ 61 95

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES.

Church property and furniture	\$20,000 00
Cash on hand in bank	61 95
Arrears of 1889	563 48
	\$20,625 43
Mortgage debt	\$ 7500 00
Bank of Montreal	150 00
	\$ 7650 00
	\$12,975 43

We hereby certify that we have examined the books of accounts and vouchers of R. Donaldson, treasurer of Knox Church for 1889, and found them correct.

JAMES MACDONALD }
CHARLES SCOTT } Auditors.

Knox Church Sabbath School.

OFFICE-BEARERS.

- Mr G. Hunter, Superintendent.
- Mr W. Ireland, Assistant Superintendent.
- Mr G. Garden, Secretary-Treasurer.
- Mr W. Neil, Assistant Secretary-Treasurer.
- Messrs D. Hamilton and M. Huber, Librarians.
- Miss McLennan, Organist.

TEACHERS:

- | | | |
|--------------------|-----------------|--------------------|
| Mrs Johnston, | Mrs Hislop, | Miss B Orr, |
| Miss E. Garden, | Miss Duncan, | Miss J. Duncan, |
| Miss Hunter, | Miss McIntosh, | Miss T. Cassels, |
| Miss Grant, | Miss Hyde, | Miss Johnston, |
| Miss M. S. Miller, | Miss Kyle, | Miss Smith, |
| Miss McLennan, | Miss M. Miller, | Miss Ballard, |
| Miss M. Macdonald, | Miss Young, | Miss Hamilton, |
| Miss Fortune, | Miss Forbes, | Miss L. Macdonald, |
| Miss Patterson, | Miss Stevenson, | Miss Stevenson, |
| Mr Ireland, | Mr A. Stewart, | Mr A. F. Hamilton, |
| Mr W. A. Myers, | Mr D. McLennan | Mr G. Garden. |

Financial statement for 1889.

Jan 1, 1889.	RECEIPTS.	
To Balance on hand		\$ 137 88
" Library fund		151 19
" Sabbath collections		243 97
" proceeds Garden party		3 00
" " Social in March		16 05
" Mission barrels		7 03
" bank interest		5 82
		\$ 564 94
	DISBURSEMENTS:	
By James Bain & Son, class books	\$	1 50
" hymn books		2 50
" N. T. Wilson, papers		73 50
" Paid for libraries		151 19
" Pratt & Tracy cards		5 00
" Dingman Bros		5 50
" County convention		3 09
" Provincial convention		7 80
" C. N. Robinson, papers		20 00
" Foreign Missions		181 00
		450 99
Balance on hand		\$ 113 95

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Knox Church Missionary Association.

Financial Report for the year ending December 31st., 1889.

1889.

RECEIPTS.

Jan. 1	To Balance on hand.....	\$ 134 60
"	Returns from Collectors.....	44 75
Feb.	" ".....	22 15
Mar.	" ".....	17 25
April	" ".....	24 75
May	Special collection.....	140 35
June	Returns from Collectors.....	17 50
July	" ".....	17 65
Aug.	" ".....	19 25
Sept.	" ".....	13 55
Oct.	" ".....	23 94
Nov.	" ".....	19 50
Dec.	" ".....	20 75
	Received for records.....	17 00
	Interest on deposit.....	3 99
		\$ 536 98

EXPENDITURE.

Home Missions.....	\$ 160 00
Foreign Missions.....	25 00
French Evangelization.....	24 00
Augmentation.....	100 00
Knox College.....	50 00
Manitoba College.....	40 00
Records, Mr Jas Croll.....	48 43
Printing hand circulars.....	1 00
	\$ 448 43
Balance.....	\$ 88 55

WM. DONALDSON,
Sec. Treas.

Report of Knox Church Auxiliary of the

Woman's Foreign Missionary Society

For the year 1889.

The number of members of this Society is 31. Average attendance 8.	
Amount sent to Presbyterial treasurer.....	\$ 66 42.
Value of clothing sent to the Northwest.....	60 ⁰⁰ / ₁₀₀

\$ 137 88
151 19
243 97
3 00
16 05
7 03
5 82
564 94

450 99
113 85

OFFICERS FOR 1890:

Mrs (Rev) Macpherson, Hon. President.

“ Hislop, President.

“ Rankin, 1st Vice-President.

“ Kay, 2nd, “ “

“ A. Jeffrey, 3rd Vice-President.

“ Hossie, Secretary-Treasurer.

KATE HOSSIE,

Secy. W. F. M. Society.

Knox Church, Stratford.

Report of Knox Church Mission Band

For the year 1889.

The Mission Band has had a prosperous year, and are pleased to report, not only an increase in the amount contributed, but also a larger attendance at the monthly meetings, and a much greater interest in Missionary work, on the part of the members. The names of about a dozen families in the North-West were supplied by one of our missionaries, and to these are sent a weekly paper, chiefly the Montreal Witness and Canada Presbyterian.

A special contribution of \$8 was raised to purchase articles to send to the Indian Children on Cote's Reserve.

Members at present about 40. Amount contributed to W. F. M. Society \$68, being an increase of \$9 over last year.

OFFICERS FOR 1890:

President, MISS MODERWELL.

Vice-Presidents, MISS GARDEN and

MISS JESSIE DUNCAN.

Secretary, MISS MCFADDEN.

Treasurer, MISS IRELAND.

Y. P. S. C. C.

Knox Church Young People's Society of Christian Endeavor was organized on Nov. last and has a membership of 62, divided as follows:

Fifty active members, who are pledged to attend the meetings and take part either by prayer, testimony or by giving some thought on the topic of the meeting, and twelve associate members, who are not so pledged but are privileged to take part if so disposed.

The object of the Society is the spiritual development of the young people of the church, and we are pleased to state that testimony has been given to the good work done in that direction.

The work of the Society is done through Committees.

Through the Look-Out Committee all the young people of the Church are called upon and invited to attend the meetings of the Society.

The Prayer meeting Committee has charge of the prayer meetings and appoints the leaders. It is desirable that each active member should in turn lead, and this object has been attained so far.

Many of the young people who had no previous experience in leading meetings have done so since the organization of the society, with marked benefit to themselves and to all.

The name of the social committee explains itself.

We hope soon to have our missionary committee at work. Their duty is to circulate tracts and missionary literature to be obtained by voluntary offerings.

A. F. HAMILTON,
President.

Knox Church Young People's Association.

The year just closed has been one of the most successful since the formation of this Association.

Our objects as set forth in the "Constitution" are: "The cultivation of a friendly intercourse among the members, their mutual improvement by means of essays, debates, readings, recitations, lectures, music and social meetings, seeking out and welcoming to the church and Association other young people, especially those who may be strangers in the city, and the advancement of the general interests of the church."

These objects we have endeavored to carry out as far as lay in our power by providing entertainments, lectures, socials, &c., both instructive, edifying and attractive, and we are glad to say that the meetings during the year have been well attended both by the young and the older people.

As will be seen from our financial statement we have been able to

decorate the grounds adjoining the church with flowers and to make a considerable donation to Manitoba College. We rejoice that a Christian Endeavor Society has been formed in the Church and trust and hope that our Association may be a very useful agent in seconding its noble and Christian efforts.

COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT.

Financial Statement for 1889.

RECEIPTS.

Balance from 1888.....	\$	10	26
Membership fees.....		5	45
Proceeds of lecture by Rev Peter Wright.....		11	10
“ five entertainments.....		115	64
“ lawn social at Mr John Brown's.....		58	24
	\$	200	69

EXPENDITURE.

Stratford Water Supply Co.....	\$	5	00
A. Campbell, flowers for Church grounds.....		20	00
Herald printing dodgers, programmes, etc.,.....		32	75
Expenses other than printing in connection with entertainments.....		40	76
Donation to Manitoba College.....		35	00
Expenses, Rev P. Wright's lecture.....		2	29
Expenses re Mr John Brown's lawn social.....		38	66
Postage, Stationery, &c.,.....		5	75
Donation to Mr Donaldson.....		10	00
	\$	190	21
Balance on hand.....		10	48
		200	69

JOHN C. GARDEN,
Secretary.