

ANNUAL REPORTS

OF THE

ST. JAMES SQUARE CONGREGATION

[PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN CANADA]

TORONTO.

1865

— 1883.

FORMERLY

The Gould Street Congregation

[CANADA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.]

TORONTO.

1895.

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PRE

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
GOULD STREET CONGREGATION

OF THE
CANADA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH,

TORONTO,

FOR 1865.

*This was the first "Report" printed.
[See Minutes of Meeting of Congregation, held Jan 15. '66.]*

*A printed "Financial Statement" appeared in
'64, & in '65.*

TORONTO:

PRINTED AT THE OBSERVER OFFICE, 79 & 81 YONGE STREET

1866.

OFFICE-BEARERS, FOR 1866 :

Members of Session.

(WITH DISTRICTS.)

REV. JOHN M. KING, A. M.

MR. GEORGE SMITH. | MR. JOHN REID.
MR. ALEXANDER GEMMEL | MR. WILLIAM KERR.
| MR. DAVID FOTHERINGHAM.

- DISTRICT 1. West of Yonge Street, and South of Elm Street ;
William Kerr, Elder, and Session Clerk.
- " 2. West of Yonge Street, and between Elm and Grosvenor
Streets ; Mr. Alexander Gemmel, Elder.
- " 3. East of Yonge Street, and South of Cruickshank Street ;
Mr. John Reid, Elder.
- " 4. East of Yonge Street, and between Cruickshank and
Wood Street ; Mr. George Smith, Elder.
- " 5. North of Grosvenor and Alexander Streets ; Mr. David
Fotheringham, Elder.

Committee of Management.

CHAIRMAN : MR. JAMES CAMPBELL.

SECRETARY : MR. THOMAS W. TAYLOR.

TREASURY : MR. THOMAS FOTHERINGHAM.

MR. JOHN DOUGLAS. | MR. ARCHIBALD McDONALD.
MR. DAVID KEITH. | MR. GEORGE WILLS.

Sabbath School :

SUPERINTENDENT : MR. WILLIAM KERR.

TREASURER : MR. JOHN REID.

VICE PRESIDENT : MR. ALEXANDER GEMMEL

LIBRARIAN : MR. ALEXANDER WILLS.

MR. W. KERR, Secretary and Treasurer of Missionary Society.

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MANAGERS REPORT.

It gives the Committee of Managers great pleasure to report that the financial affairs of the congregation are in a prosperous condition, as will be seen by the statement of the Treasurer to be afterwards submitted.

A few weeks after the last annual meeting, the Church was greatly injured by fire. At a meeting of the congregation held to deliberate on the steps to be taken under the circumstances, it was agreed that in connection with the repairs which the fire had rendered necessary, galleries should be erected to meet the rapidly increasing demand for sittings in the Church.

For these purposes the members of the Congregation subscribed liberally and cheerfully, almost all taking part. To one lady, a member of the church whom God has blessed with the means, and the heart to give of those means for his cause, we were indebted for a handsome donation, while considerable sums were given by those accustomed to worship with us, though not members of the Church.

The thanks of the congregation are due to the Trustees of the Elm Street Methodist Church, and to those of the Bond Street Congregational Church, for the offer of the use of their places of worship while our own was being repaired; but, the basement of our own Church being found suitable, the accommodation thus kindly proffered, was not required; also to the Mechanic's Institute for the loan of benches, remuneration for which was declined.

Our financial progress will be seen by a comparative statement of the revenue of the Congregation during the past three years, arising from the three following sources:—Weekly offerings, Sabbath Collections, and Pew Rents. The amount derived from these three sources was in 1863, \$1223, in 1864, \$1606, and in 1865, \$2038. It is probable that the increase for 1865 would have been even larger, but for the necessity of holding service for so long a period in the basement, where, during the hot weather towards the close the attendance fell off and as a consequence the collection declined.

In the erection of the galleries, the managers adhered to the instructions of the congregation, that no additional debt should be incurred. The whole amount, including insurance money, placed at their disposal, was \$2587, and the sum expended was \$2619, leaving an apparent balance of \$32 against them. To cover this however, they have to report as included in the above, an expenditure of \$120 on the basement, rendering it more in keeping with the style of the Church, and more comfortable for the Sabbath School, and week-day meetings held in it.

The thanks of the congregation are due to Mr. Douglas and the Choir for their gratuitous services in leading the Psalmody of the Church.

To the unwearied labours of our Pastor in and out of the pulpit, with God's blessing thereon, we owe much of the prosperity we enjoy. It becomes us to pray that he may long be spared to break the Bread of Life among us, and that God may continue to favour us with the light of His countenance, enabling us to dwell together in unity as brethren in Christ.

MISSIONARY REPORT.

In presenting the annual statement of the moneys collected for missionary purposes, we have, as at our last annual meeting of a similar kind, much cause for gratitude. The Report for 1864 shewed an increase over the previous year in the amount collected, of \$118 17. This year,—that is for 1865, we have to report the increase of \$68 45, over 1864. This is certainly very gratifying, but let none imagine we have reached the limits of liberality for purposes of a missionary kind. The total amount gathered during the past year by the Missionary collectors, is \$263 43, which with a donation of \$25 from a member of the congregation, for Knox College, makes a total of 288 33.—

In addition, several donations were received during the year by the Treasurer. It is believed that this rate of giving for extra-congregational objects will compare favourably with that which obtains in most of the congregations of the body, is indeed above the great majority. But we must do more, before we can earn the commendation, "they have done what they could."

The Session recommend the following appropriation of the moneys thus collected.

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Home Missions.....	\$150 00
Knox College.....	\$ 90 00
Foreign Missions.....	\$ 30 00
Synod Fund.....	\$ 13 33
Presbytery Fund.....	\$ 5 00

Before closing, let us record our heartfelt thanks to the collectors for their labours, and the hope that many will be added during the present year to their lists as contributors, serving at once to encourage them and to please the Master. If any members of the congregation or adherents, desirous of taking part in these monthly contributions, have been overlooked, they are requested to give in their names and address to Mr. Wm. Kerr, or to the Pastor.

SABBATH SCHOOL REPORT.

The past year has been fraught with many encouraging features in connection with the different interests affecting the school.

We had to report at last annual meeting, that the total number of scholars' names on the roll was, Boys 48, Girls 76, total 124; being then an increase on the whole of 31 over the year preceding; this year we have to report a further increase; the number at present on the roll being, Boys 63, Girls 95, total 158; shewing an increase of 34 over 1864.

The number of Teachers on the roll at last report, was 8 Male and 12 Female, an increase then on the previous year of 6; this year the number on the roll is 9 Male and 20 Female, being an increase on the whole of 9.

The average attendance of both Teachers and Scholars has been good during the year, varying somewhat from various causes, inclement weather, holiday seasons, and, as during the last month, when sickness was very prevalent amongst young people especially.

The general department of the scholars has been very commendable.

The Scheme of Lessons used by the Bible Classes has been the same as in former years, namely that published annually by the Edinburgh Sabbath School Union.

The Library is in good condition in almost every re-

spect, the only drawback being the want of some more books. As a general thing the Scholars avail themselves systematically of its benefits.

The number of volumes at present on hand is 600.

The Children's Paper has been distributed monthly to the Scholars.

The amount collected for Missionary purposes during the past year was \$37 77, being an increase over the preceding year of \$2 77. It has been agreed to devote \$12 50 of this amount to the French Canadian Mission, and \$12 77 to the Muskoka Mission, and \$12 50 to the Calabar Mission.

The collection made by the Congregation in aid of the Sabbath School during the past Summer amounted to \$25 33, leaving a balance still due the Treasurer.

The Annual "Pic Nic" of the School took place in the Month of July last and was well attended. The usual amount of enjoyment was experienced by all present.

The weekly meeting of the Teachers has been held as in former years, immediately after the Prayer Meeting, for the consideration of the Bible Lesson for the following Sabbath, devotional exercises, and other business connected with the Sabbath School. The monthly meeting has also been regularly held, on the first Sabbath evening of each month, when interesting and profitable papers have been read and considered, and devotional exercises engaged in.

In concluding this report, we ask ourselves as Teachers, has all been accomplished that might have been, or even that which has been done, performed in the most satisfactory manner; we trow not. We err in judgment as we lack in zeal, we are faithless oftentimes, because we believe not:—It is no easy matter to conduct a Sabbath School, or to be a faithful and successful Sabbath School Teacher. Let us endeavour yet to prove ourselves faithful stewards, and workmen needing not to be ashamed. Conscious of many short-comings in the past, still let us as the children of many mercies, endure the good fight of faith, and doing all in the name of Christ, be not weary in well doing, knowing that in due season we shall reap if we faint not.

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TREASURER'S STATEMENT.

COLLECTED.

Seat Rents &c.....			378	68½
Weekly Offerings.....			1050	20
“ Collections.....	655	72		
Less Col. for Gallery.....	55	28	610	44
Soiree.....			155	00
FOR CHURCH REPAIRS & GALLERY				
Subscriptions.....	1246	62		
Insurance.....	1000	00		
Bazaar.....	275	94		
Old Carpet.....	10	00		
Collection at opening of Church...	55	28	2587	84
			4782	16½
Balance on hand.....			17	22

EXPENDED.

Balance due Treasurer Jan. 1st 1865.....	80	06½
Repairs & Gallery.....	2619	80
Interest.....	409	92
Mr. King's Stipend.....	1000	00
Ordinary Expenses.....	399	90
R. Murray's Salary.....	102	00
Sabbath School.....	25	33
Poor of the Congregation.....	16	00
Widows' Fund..	52	00
Sundries.....	59	93
Balance.....	17	22
	4782	16½

FINANCIAL SUMMARY FOR 1865.

Received by Managers.....	\$ 4782 16
“ Missionary Society.....	288 33
“ S. School Missionary Association.....	37 77
“ For Sabbath School purposes....	5 33
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	\$ 5133 59

STATISTICS.

The number on the Communion Roll in May 1863 was—159.

Year.	Added by certificate.	On Profession.	Total.	Removed	Increase
1863.	18	13	31	7	24
1864	50	21	71	17	54
1865.	47	25	72	21	51

Number on the Roll—January 1864 129

“ “ January 1865 183

“ “ January 1866 234

Number on the Roll of Bible Classes.....90

“ “ of Sabbath School.....158

Number of Teachers &c.....29

Total Annual Income	for 1863.	\$4023 62
“ “ “	“ 1864.	\$4019 11
“ “ “	1865.	\$5133 59

