

FOURTH ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

**MONTREAL**

**SABBATH SCHOOL ASSOCIATION,**

IN CONNECTION WITH THE

**CANADA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.**

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MONTREAL :

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1865.

## OFFICE-BEARERS, A.D. 1865.

ELECTED, FEB. 28th, 1865.

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### President.

F. W. TORRANCE.

### Vice-Presidents.

LAIRD PATON AND WILLIAM ROWAN.

### Treasurer.

JAMES WALKER.

### Corresponding Secretary.

WILLIAM GREIG.

### Recording Secretary.

THOMAS ROBIN.

### Committee.

THE OFFICE-BEARERS

THE SUPERINTENDENTS OF THE SCHOOLS OF THE ASSOCIATION.

A REPRESENTATIVE FROM THE TEACHERS OF EACH SCHOOL.

THE PASTORS OF THE 3 CHURCHES.

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The Committees meet on the last Tuesday Evening of every month at 8 P.M., and oftener, if need be.

The Quarterly Meeting of the Association is held on the second Tuesday of February, May, August and November.

The Annual Meeting takes place in the month of February in each year.

## FOURTH ANNUAL REPORT.

Your Executive Committee have the honour of submitting the following report. In the providence of God, the Association has arrived at the end of the fourth year of its operations.

A year ago (February 1864,) the condition of our schools were as follows :—

SCHOOL.	TEACHERS.		SCHOLARS.	
	ON ROLL.	AVERAGE ATTENDANCE.	ON ROLL.	AVERAGE ATTENDANCE.
LAGAUCHETIERE ST.	32	28	185	132
COTE STREET.	30	29	182	155
ST. GABRIEL STREET.	10	9	120	94
MILE END.	18	16	173	123
GRIFFINTOWN.	12	11	91	64
PETITE COTE.	6	6	39	29
QUEBEC SUBURBS.	14	13	100	65
ST. JOSEPH STREET.	19	17	199	138
	141	129	1089	800

forming a total of 141 Teachers, and 1089 Scholars on the roll as shewn by the returns for the quarter ending January 1864, being an increase of 30 Teachers and 156 Scholars, with an average attendance each Sabbath of 129 Teachers and 800 Scholars.

The statistics for the quarter ending 31st January, 1865, are as follows :—

SCHOOLS.	TEACHERS.		SCHOLARS.	
	ON ROLL.	AVERAGE ATTENDANCE.	ON ROLL.	AVERAGE ATTENDANCE.
LAGAUCHETIERE ST.	33	27	187	136
COTE STREET.	32	29	199	155
ST. GABRIEL STREET.	10	9	122	91
MILE END.	19	16	121	98
GRIFFINTOWN.	10	8	91	64
PETITE COTE.	6	5	43	35
QUEBEC SUBURBS.	11	9	60	48
ST. JOSEPH STREET.	22	20	207	148
	143	124	1030	778

which is an increase of 3 Teachers over the previous year, and a decrease of 59 Scholars below the numbers of the previous year.

The number of Schools remains the same.

As regards their condition, the greatest absolute progress has been in St. Joseph Street School, which shows an increase in the average attendance of Scholars of 20 in the year, the attendance having steadily improved from month to month.

The greatest decline has been in the Mile End School, which shows a falling off in the average attendance of 25 Scholars. The falling off in the Mile End School, is doubtless owing to the establishment of the Schools of other denominations in the locality. In the Quebec Suburbs School, there is also a falling off of 17 in the average attendance of the Scholars; and in St. Gabriel Street, a falling off of 3. Cotè Street School has been stationary, while Petite Cote shows an increase of 6; Lagauchetière Street of 4, and Griffintown of 3.

#### MISSIONARY COLLECTIONS.

They are as follows, from January 31st, 1864, to January 31st, 1865.

Cotè Street,.....	\$128 16
Lagauchetière Street,.....	84 60
St. Gabriel Street,.....	22 88
St. Joseph Street,.....	45 28
Mile End,.....	37 63
Griffintown,.....	30 00
Quebec Suburbs, .....	23 92
Petite Cote,.....	6 16
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	\$378 63

The previous year they were as follows :—

Cotè Street,.....	\$123 28
Lagauchetière Street,.....	40 87½
St. Gabriel Street, .....	32 00

St. Joseph Street,.....	35 08
Mile End, .....	33 00
Griffintown, .....	25 00
Quebec Suburbs,.....	16 36
Petite Cote,.....	7 00

\$312 89½

Which shows an increase of \$65 74½.

LIBRARIES.

The attention of the Association was last year called to the most important subject of the improvement of the Libraries, by which an incalculable amount of good, spiritual as well as intellectual, may be done to the young.

At the close of 1864, the state of the Libraries were as follows:—

Lagauchetière Street. - - - - -	200 vols.
Côtè Street, - - - - -	524 "
St. Gabriel Street, - - - - -	150 "
Mile End, - - - - -	150 "
Griffintown, - - - - -	115 "
Petite Côte, - - - - -	60 "
Quebec Suburbs - - - - -	70 "
St. Joseph St., - - - - -	470 "

1,819 vols.

Their present condition may be stated as follows:—

Côte Street, - - - - -	800 vols.
Lagauchetière St., - - - - -	585 "
St. Gabriel St., - - - - -	255 "
Mile End, - - - - -	277 "
Griffintown - - - - -	270 "
Petite Côte, - - - - -	150 "
Quebec Suburbs, - - - - -	222 "
St. Joseph St., - - - - -	610 "

3,169 vols.

Your Committee would remind the Association of a special effort made during the year to supply books to the four mission schools, viz: Griffintown, Mile End, Petite Cote, and Quebec Suburbs, which resulted in an addition of 730 books to their libraries, at a cost of \$169,97. Additional outlays for books were made in the following Schools, viz: St. Joseph Street, \$52; Petite Cote \$28; Lagauchetière St. \$100; Cotè St. \$100. The expenditure on libraries amounted in all to \$350,47 during the year for the 8 schools. Your Committee would respectfully press upon the members the importance of making new efforts during the coming year, to place the libraries of the Church Schools in a still more efficient condition.

#### GATHERINGS OF THE CHILDREN OF THE ASSOCIATION.

In the month of May last it was proposed to assemble the children together on a Sabbath, when they might be addressed by friends on such religious topics as would be attractive and also of value to them. A most interesting meeting was accordingly held on the last Sabbath of May, when the 8 Schools assembled, with the exception of the St. Joseph Street, and Petite Cote Schools, which were prevented by the distance from taking a part. The result of the meeting, which was a mere experiment, was so gratifying, that it is respectfully suggested that a similar gathering in May would be highly desirable.

St. Joseph Street Church merits a special notice in more ways than one. During the summer large additions have been made to it, doubling the accommodation, both for hearers in the Church, and scholars in the School.

The School has made very encouraging progress during the past year, the number of teachers and scholars having increased, their attendance improved, and contributions been more liberal. During the past year this School has supported itself and required no assistance from the Association. We trust this prosperity

may continue, and that through the blessing of the Lord, much good may be done in that neighbourhood.

#### FINANCES.

The financial statement for the year ending the 31st January, 1865, is appended to the Report of your Committee. From this, it appears that the expenditure for the year amounted to \$216,14, against \$352,65 of the previous year, being a falling off of \$136.51. But in this expenditure no account is taken of the special effort by which \$152.47 was contributed by the liberality of friends towards the Mission School Libraries, and the \$28.50 raised by Petite Côte for the same purpose, amounting in all to \$180.97. The greatest expenditure was in Quebec Suburbs School, which amounted to \$63.95.

#### SCHEME OF LESSONS.

The Scheme for the present year is the third series of the "Selected Scripture Lessons" of the Rev. William Arnot, D.D., late of Glasgow, now of Edinburgh, Scotland. This is a departure from the Scheme of the last year, which was supplied by the Edinburgh Sabbath School Union. The change was necessitated by the failure to obtain from Scotland the Union Scheme before the end of the year. Your Committee think that the Scheme furnished by Dr. Arnot is harmonious and logical, supplying a connected series of topics, and observing a proper chronological order. It may be well to use the Scheme of the "Union" issued for the present year in our schools next year, and carefully to secure the issue of a Scheme as early as the month of October.

#### SINGING.

The matter of singing has not been overlooked during the past year. Some progress, it is believed, has been made by teachers and scholars in these delightful vocal exercises, by which praise is given to God. Bateman's Hymns are still in use.

## VISITATION OF SCHOOLS.

In last year's Report, favourable mention was made of the gratifying results arising from the visitation of the schools, and the reports made thereon at the quarterly meetings of the Association by the visitors. We regret to say that this profitable work has been neglected during the year, to the detriment, we believe, of the best interests of teachers and scholars.—“To provoke unto love and good works,”—*Heb. x. 24*, is a blessed and scriptural precept, which can be most faithfully observed by the comparisons and observations of zealous visitors, and their periodical reports of their visitorial labours.

## QUARTERLY ADDRESSES.

We have had a second year's experience of our Quarterly Addresses, and have no reason to regret the institution of the custom. It is to be hoped that the practice will be continued with greater emulation among the members, for the honour of being selected as the speakers of the evening. The following addresses were delivered during the year:—

In May, “Senior Classes,” by Mr. Robin.

In August, “The End of all Knowledge, especially Religious Knowledge,” by Mr. Williamson.

In November, “Encouragements with which our work as Sabbath School Teachers are attended,” by Rev. Dr. Taylor.

In February, 1865, “The Sabbath School Teacher's Work” by Mr. Robin.

## SOCIAL MEETINGS.

It was thought advisable to try the experiment of a Social Meeting and Soiree at our last quarterly meeting, a fortnight ago. The company assembled spent a very pleasant evening together, but the enjoyment was diminished by the absence of many of our members, who should have exhibited their deep interest in the noble work in which they are engaged, and their



sympathy with their fellow teachers in that work, by cheerfully giving their countenance and contributing the aid of their conversational and social resources to the company that assembled on that occasion; "where your treasure is, there will your heart be also." We are assured that the glorious work of our blessed Lord and Master, Jesus Christ, is subserved and prospered by such "assembling of yourselves together." The meetings are peculiarly those of the godly and believing, and by such associations, greater opportunities are afforded of advancing that cause so dear to every believer's heart: the kingdom of our Saviour on this earth.

Before closing we would draw your attention to the want of teachers, which is frequently experienced in many schools. The good work might be much furthered and more efficiently carried on, were there more labourers.

The whole nevertheless respectfully submitted.

Dr. *Canada Presbyterian Church S. S. Association in account with Treasurer.* Cr.

	1864.			1864.		
	April 1st.	To Treasurer of Board of Missions,	\$58 10	February 1.	By Balance from last year	\$19 93
	June 22	" " "	23 98	1865.		
	July, 28	" " "	33 41	April 12.	Paid during year to date for	
	Augt, 29	Rent of School, Quebec Suburb,	2 00		Quebec Suburb School -	87 10
	Sept. 29	Treasurer of B. of M. - - -	28 00	"	Griffintown,	46 56
	Decr. 8	" " " "	23 00	"	Petite Cote	58 15
	1865.			"	Mile-End,	77 18
22	Febry. 2	To Treasurer of Board of Missions,	43 00	"	Printing	16 50
	April 5	" " " "	86 00			
	12	" " " "	4 51			
	"	Balance due Treasurer, - - -	3 42			
			<u>\$305 42</u>			
						<u>\$305 42</u>

Montreal, 13th April, 1865.  
E. & O. E.

JAMES WALKER.  
*Treasurer.*

N.B. The Treasurer's statement is brought forward to a later date than is mentioned in the report, owing to the termination of the connection of the Association with the Board of Missions.

