

It is requested that every Family of the Congregation
will take a copy of this Report and pre-
serve it for future reference.



Knox Church

STRATFORD.



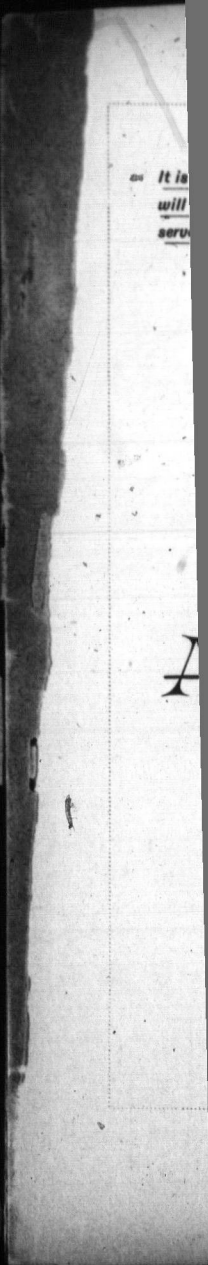
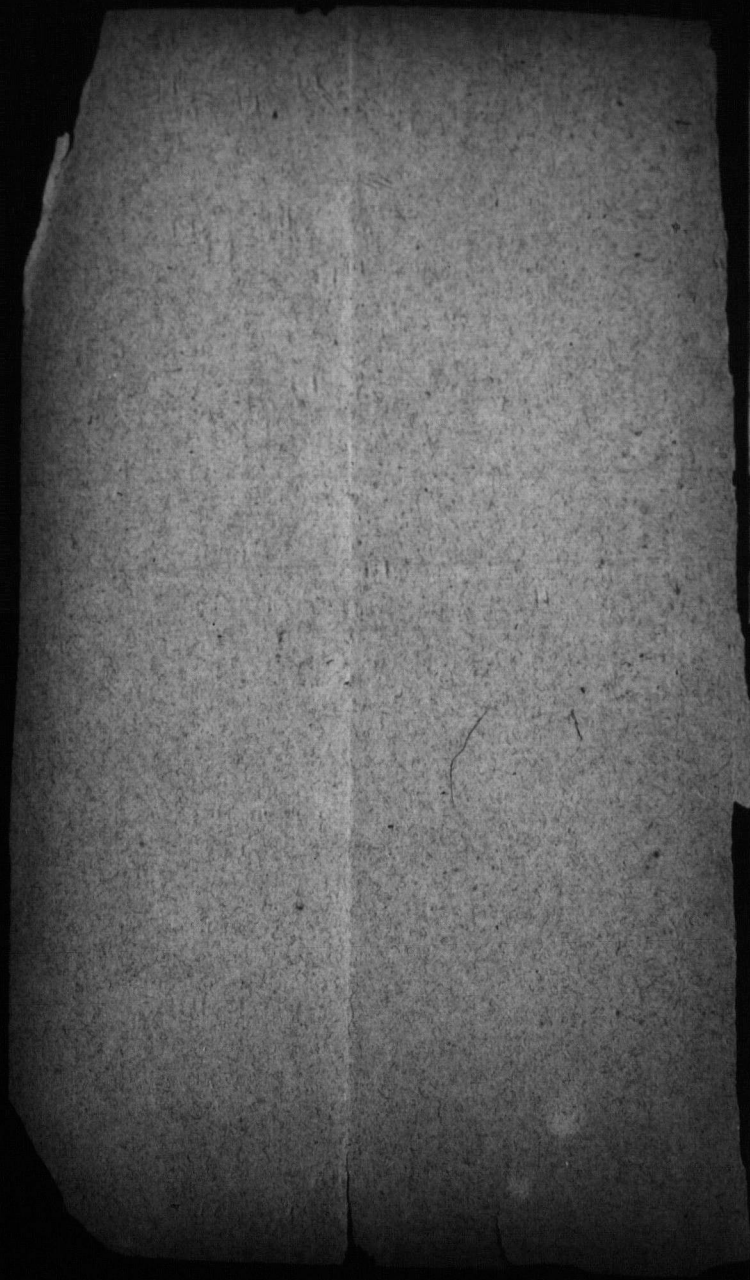
Annual Report



FOR THE

Year Ending December 31st, 1888.

STRATFORD :
The Herald Book and Job Printing House.
1889.



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Report of Session.

IN reviewing the work of the past year the Session find few features of such distinctive interest as to call for special mention in their annual report. The ordinary work of the church has been carried on, though not with such results as can satisfy any earnest soul, yet in such a way as ought to inspire us all with fervent gratitude: We gladly acknowledge that in the services of the church tokens of the Divine Presence and blessing have not been withheld. The attendance on the Sabbath services has been large, especially when we consider the long distances that many of our people have to travel, and yet it may not be out of place to remind many, both in city and country, of their duty and privilege in this regard. Some places in the pews have been emptied by death. We trust their former occupants fill higher and better places in the Father's House, from which those who loved them most would not wish to call them back again. We believe they have gone from the earthly to the heavenly temple, and their eyes now behold the King in His beauty. As our seats in the sanctuary will soon be vacant for the same reason, all the more cause is there to use well and wisely all the appointed means of preparation now.

The prayer meeting is not large enough for the size of the congregation. It seldom reaches two hundred, and frequently falls below one hundred and fifty, whereas the lecture room should be filled at every devotional service. We hope and desire to see the spiritual life of the congregation so intensified as to reflect itself in more largely attended prayer meetings and in their greater warmth and spiritual power.

In view of the increasing population of the city, the Session view with feelings of anxiety the question of accommodation, as only very few desirable sittings in the church remain unallocated. We can now only express the hope that the cause of Presbyterianism in this city will not be allowed to suffer from any unwillingness on the part of our people to make provision commensurate with the need. Meanwhile we commend to your thoughtful kindness the strangers who from Sabbath to Sabbath drop in to worship with us. Welcome them in the Master's name and let them share with us the best we have.

The Session would record with gratitude the indebtedness of the congre-

gation to the choir for their efficient services in leading the praise. The Christian spirit and demeanor of the choir under the able leadership, now of Mr. Freeland and formerly of Mr. Foote, are worthy of the most cordial commendation. Thanks are due also to the superintendent, teachers and other office-bearers of the Sabbath School, for their invaluable services in the religious instruction of the young.

There are now 665 names on the roll of church membership. Since last report 64 have been added—namely, 34 by certificate and 30 by profession of faith. During the same period 32 names have been removed from the roll—twenty-six by letter of disjunction and six by death. The accompanying list of deaths during the year will strike a mournful chord in many hearts and to each one of us it says "Prepare!"

Respectfully submitted by

P. WRIGHT,

MODERATOR OF SESSION.

In Memoriam.

1888.

NAME	DIED	AGE
MRS. DAVID HISLOP	MARCH 3	58
RICHARD CAWSTON	JUNE 17	72
MRS. W. RUTHERFORD	JUNE 28	83
ALEX. ROBERTSON	AUG. 22	70
MRS. R. KINCADE	OCT. 12	45
MRS. J. R. STUART	DEC. 14	26
GEORGE N. DOW	APRIL 14	10
JOHN BAXTER	APRIL 23	4
DAVID STEWART	MAY 2	11
ROSANNA BOWN	MAY 13	19
DUNCAN DEWAR	JULY 13	25
JOHN NEWELL	SEPT. 29	30
CHARLES DAWSON	NOV. 27	42
INFANT BARTON	MAY 15	2 WEEKS

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Managers' Annual Report

For the year ending 31st Dec, 1888.

The managers in presenting their report for the year 1888 beg to congratulate the congregation upon the degree of prosperity with which it has been favored during the year.

As you are aware the revenue has been from the 1st of January to the 14th of February raised by the envelope system, which had been in vogue for several years, and for a time worked very satisfactorily, but of late years the managers found that quite a number of contributors had greatly reduced their former subscription. The managers, therefore, in conjunction with the Session, resolved to adopt what is known as the pew rent system. The price of a sitting was placed at the nominal figure of four dollars with a supplementary subscription of such additional sum as each subscriber felt able or willing to give. Upon the adoption of this plan the congregation was canvassed by members of the Session and Board of Managers for the purpose of ascertaining the number of sittings required by each family and the amount of supplementary that could be obtained from the more wealthy members of the congregation. The amount subscribed, as a supplementary to the four dollars per sitting, was only \$375, while we were most sanguine of getting \$1,000 at least. When sittings were put at four dollars it was entirely with the view of placing them within the circumstances of any member of the congregation. We regret to have to report that many in easy and comparatively independent circumstances could not be prevailed upon to give a dollar beyond the nominal four dollars per sitting.

The managers are, however, enabled to present a report that will financially compare favorably with any year in the previous history of the church. We have to depend largely upon the Sabbath collections as an important source of revenue and we are pleased to find that under the pew rent system they have largely increased, amounting for the year to \$1,257 87, being an average of \$24.19 per Sabbath. Under the envelope system from the first of January to the fourteenth of February the average was \$14.09, and the average of the balance of the year was \$25.76 (10½ months.) The increase of the Sabbath collections compared with last year under the envelope system is very gratifying, but when divided by the

the praise. The leadership, now the most cordial mt, teachers and able services in

bership. Since d 30 by profes- removed from The accom- nful chord in

IF SESSION.

average attendance, morning and evening, it amounts only to about three cents to each, which to a large congregation is but a small Sabbath offering. Under the present system the managers as stated have to depend largely on the Sabbath collections, as the four dollars per sitting is far from being sufficient to meet the obligations of the congregation.

Receipts from envelopes from 1st of January to the 14th of February were \$315.99; from pew rents since 14th of February, \$2,202.47; supplementary subscriptions, \$375; arrears of 1887, \$144.11; floating debt, \$113; poor fund, \$35.65. From these different sources of revenue, including Sabbath collections (\$1,257.87,) we have realized \$4,444.09, being some \$400 in excess of the revenue of 1887.

The arrears of past years, which amount to several hundred dollars, are not included in this year's statement of assets. The Treasurer will, however, notify all in arrears of the amount of their indebtedness, and the Managers hope that all these claims will be promptly paid.

The net floating debt on the 1st of January, 1888, was \$662.17, which was reduced \$286.21, leaving the net floating debt at the end of the year \$376.96. This reduction in the floating debt is due to the supplementary subscriptions received from a number of the more liberal of our people.

Toward the end of the year the Treasurer reported that a very considerable number of pew-holders were in arrears, whereupon a circular was issued asking payment before the close of the year. It was also stated in the circular that the Board intended to publish in their annual report the names of all subscribers with the amount promised, amount paid and amount of arrears, if any. This appeal, the Managers are pleased to say, met with a prompt response, and the arrears by the end of the year was reduced from some \$700 to about \$250.

The Managers would recommend that the names of all subscribers to the church revenue be published as referred to, and would submit the matter to the consideration of the congregation. The custom is common and practiced by many of our best churches and is found to produce very satisfactory results.

The financial statement contains a full report of all disbursements made during the year, and as they are of the usual character and fully explain themselves, we deem it unnecessary to specify any in particular.

The retiring members of the board are Messrs. Dow, Hamilton and

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Brownlee. There is also a vacancy to be filled caused by Mr. Adair leaving the city. All of which is respectfully submitted.

R. DONALDSON,

J. P. MACDONALD,

SECRETARY.

CHAIRMAN.

*Financial Statement of Mr. R. Myers from January 1st to
February 14th, 1888.*

Receipts.

To Cash on hand, January 1st, 1888	\$487 83
" Collected by envelopes	315 99
" Sabbath Collections	98 65
" Arrears of 1887	89 19
" On floating debt	100 00
	<hr/>
	\$1091 66

Disbursements.

By reduced note at Bank of Montreal	\$100 00.
" Mr. Wright, (stipend)	400 00
" James Dewar, salary	24 75
" Fuel	9 00
" Gas account	57 00
" Miscellaneous	4 70
" Interest on Mortgage 1887	457 25
" Interest Bank of Montreal	14 25
Cash balance to Mr. Donaldson, treasurer	24 71
	<hr/>
	\$1091 66

*Financial Statement of Mr. R. Donaldson, from February
14th to December 31st, 1888.*

Receipts.

To cash balance from Mr. Myers	\$ 24 71
" Pew rents	2202 47
" Supplementary subscriptions	375 00
" Collected on arrears of 1887	54 92
" " on floating debt	13 00
" Refund, error on coal	1 78
" Poor fund collection	35 63
" Sabbath collections	1150 22
	<hr/>
	\$3866 75

Disbursements.

By Reduced discount Bank of Montreal.....	\$ 100 00	
" Mr. Wright (stipend)	1900 00	
" Interest on Mortgage for 1888.....	456 75	
" Mr. Foote, salary	162 00	
" Mr. Freeland, salary	62 00	
" Mr. Donaldson, salary.....	412 50	
" Poor Fund.....	26 63	
" Insurance.....	31 50	
" Gas account.....	73 60	
" Printing and stationery.....	42 19	
" Organ rent.....	56 00	
" Fuel.....	126 50	
" Repairs to property.....	190 62	
" Miscellaneous	23 97	
" Pulpit supplies	14 60	
" Assistance at preparatory services.....	7 30	
" Assembly fund	25 00	
" Interest Bank of Montreal.....	32 55	\$3743 71
Cash on hand.....		\$ 123 04
Total receipts for ordinary revenue for 1888, including proceeds of \$500 note in Bank of Montreal....		\$4933 70
Total expenditure for 1888, including interest on mortgage for 1887 (\$457.25).....		\$4810 66
Balance on hand		\$ 123 04

Statement of Assets and Liabilities.

Church property and furniture	\$20000 00	
Cash on hand.....	123 04	
Arrears of 1888.....	250 00	
		\$20373 04
Mortgage debt.....	\$7500 00	
Bills payable at Bank of Montreal.....	500 00	\$ 8000 00
		\$12373 04

We hereby certify that we have examined the account of Mr. Myers, late treasurer of Knox church, from the 1st January, 1888, to the 14th of February following; and also those of the present treasurer, Mr. Donaldson, to the 31st December, 1888, and found them correct.

JAMES MACDONALD } Auditors.
ANDREW JOHNSTON }

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Sabbath School Report

For year ending Dec. 31st, 1888.

The work of the Sabbath School has been going on quietly and steadily during the year. The teachers have been faithful to their trust and we have reason to believe that much good has been accomplished. Several members of the Bible class and of the more advanced classes of the school have united with the church during the year, so that now a large majority of these classes are professing Christians. We trust they may prove faithful soldiers of the cross and so live as to win many others to the Saviour.

The school has sustained a severe loss during the year, in the departure of our late superintendent, Mr. A. A. Adair, to take the position of Crown Attorney for the districts of Muskoka and Parry Sound. For several years he had been our superintendent and in that capacity was of great value to the school and much beloved both by scholars and teachers.

An effort has been made within the last few weeks to render the library more useful by the addition of several hundred new books. Seven years ago about six hundred volumes were added, but these have long since become stale, and many of them are quite dilapidated. We are happy to say that our present effort has been fairly successful. The sum of \$152 has already been collected for this purpose and is about to be expended on the purchase of about 400 carefully selected volumes. These with the best of the old stock will form a library of about 700 volumes, which will be catalogued and ready for use in a week or two at longest. We much desire to procure at least one hundred volumes more specially for the use of the primary class, and we shall be happy to receive donations for this purpose from any who feel disposed to confer in this way a benefit on our school. We have upwards of 400 pupils enrolled, a number which taxes to the utmost the accommodation at our disposal. During the year the managers have expended a considerable sum of money in painting and ornamenting the basement and rooms used for Sabbath school purposes, and this has contributed much to the comfort and cheerfulness of all concerned. All of which is respectfully submitted.

GEO. HUNTER,
SUPERINTENDENT.

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*Financial Report of Sabbath School for the year ending
Dec. 31st, 1888.*

Receipts.

Balance from 1887	\$ 115 71
Sabbath Collections, 1888	235 30
Mission Boxes, 1888	24 96
Social in February	21 51
Contributions for new library	152 27
	<hr/>
	\$549 75

Expenditure.

Sabbath School papers, Jas. Bain	\$ 84 00
" " C. B. Robinson	15 00
" " supplies Jas. Bain	5 50
French Evangelization	50 00
Foreign Missions	100 00
Sundries	5 10
	<hr/>
	\$250 60
Balance of Ordinary Fund	137 88
Balance of Library Fund	152 27
	<hr/>
	\$549 75

GEO. GARDEN, Secretary.

Knox Church Missionary Association.

Your committee are pleased to state that the income for 1888 exceeds by about \$75 that of the previous year. We are glad to note this slight increase of liberality toward the Mission Schemes of the church, and we trust it is but the earnest of a greatly increased interest in the future. The committee have to express their indebtedness to the collectors for the regularity and fidelity with which they have performed their duties.

Receipts.

Balance from 1887	\$ 146 05
Monthly collections (May excepted) ..	247 53
Special collection in May	187 65
Received for Records	41 75
Interest on Deposits	6 52
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	\$ 628 50

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Expenditure.

Home Mission	\$ 100 00
Foreign Mission	70 00
French Evangelization	35 00
Augmentation	135 00
Knox College	60 00
Manitoba College	50 00
Records, Mr. Jas. Croil	43 75
Making Draft	15

	\$ 493 90
Balance on hand	134 60
	\$ 628 50

W. DONALDSON,

TREASURER.

*Report of Knox Church Auxiliary of the***Woman's Foreign Missionary Society**

FOR THE YEAR 1888.

This Society has held its meetings regularly the first Friday of every month; average attendance eight. There has been the death of one member, and one member left the city.

The greatest discouragement this Society has to contend with is the small attendance which is to be hoped time will overcome. Present number of members, twenty-six.

RECEIPTS.

Contributions for the year	\$ 72 53
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EXPENDITURE.

\$1.50 for leaflets, and \$1.00 to help pay freight on goods to Northwest	2 50
Amount paid to Presbyterian Treasurer	70 00
Balance on hand	03
	72 53

OFFICERS FOR THE YEAR 1889.

MRS. (REV.) MACPHERSON, Hon. Pres.
" HISLOP, President.
" RANKIN, 1st Vice President.
" KAY, 2nd " "
" W. BROWN, 3rd " "
" HOSSIE, Secretary and Treasurer.

Report of Knox Church Mission Band.

We have to report an increased interest in our work, meetings made in interesting and profitable by reading and discussing the monthly leaflets. Membership the same as last year, about 40.

Members of band made two quilts, which were sent, along with clothing to the value of \$13, to the Indians on the Bird Tail Creek Reserve, Manitoba.

Our contribution to the W. F. M. Society was \$59.

NAMES OF OFFICERS FOR PRESENT YEAR.

MISS MODERWELL, President.
MISS GARDEN, 1st Vice-President.
MISS DUNCAN, 2nd Vice-President.
MISS F. HAMILTON, Secretary.
MISS L. BROWN, Treasurer.

Knox Church Young People's Association.

This association has been well sustained during the year. Its beneficial influence is felt in drawing the young people more closely together in the bonds of Christian friendship. Several very successful public meetings have been held that were fruitful both in profit and pleasure. Financially too it has accomplished a little for the common cause. The chief sources of revenue are: a membership fee of 10 cents and a small entrance fee at special public entertainments. In this way we have been able to pay the balance due on frescoing church, to decorate the church grounds with flowers and to give a donation for one of the schemes of the church. We desire to express our gratitude to all the kind friends outside of our association who have enriched our programme from time to time by music, readings, recitations and essays. While thanking the older members and adherents of the congregation for their sympathy and support in the past, we would express the hope of seeing even larger numbers of them at our meetings in the future, and we assure them that we shall leave nothing undone to merit their approval, and enhance in every way the interest of our beloved church.

COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT.

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Financial Report of Young People's Association.

RECEIPTS.

Balance from 1887	\$ 19 72
Membership fees	7 50
Proceeds of lecture by D. W. Campbell	44 25
" four entertainments	68 00
" parlor concert	14 50
" garden party	27 00
From sale of flowers	1 20

\$182 77

EXPENDITURE.

Balance on frescoing church	\$ 57 02
Donation to Manitoba College	30 00
Flowers for adorning grounds	20 00
Paid Water Works Company	5 00
Expenses of four entertainments	24 14
Paid D. W. Campbell for lecture	11 00
Donation to Mr. Donaldson	5 00
Music for Glee Club	3 20
Expenses of garden party	17 23

\$172 59

Balance on hand

10 18

\$182 77

MARY S. MILLER,

TREASURER.

