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PRESBYTERIAN. THE

DECEMBER, 1870.

WE rejoice to see that a Presbytery, albeit it is of the other branch of the Church, has been formed in Manitobathe first of the new Provinces which will arise in the fertile plains of our great Canadian North West. The Presbytery comprises three ministers, and has already taken steps to establish a college. It is to our shame as the elder branch of the Church that Presbyterianism is so weak there. Although nine tenths of the Englishspeaking population are Scotch, but a fraction are Presbyterians. The Church of England has, to her credit be it said, cared for their spiritual interests when we did not, and now has a strong staff of clergymen there, including a Bishop and an Arch-deacon, both of Scottish birth, and both faithful men.

Our Synod appointed at last meeting a committee to ascertain whether with advantage a missionary could be sent to the Province, but we are inclined to believe that under present circumstances, in view of what we have stated, the field there is already fully occupied.

The population will, however, largely increase, and there will yet be room for us. But at present we think we ought not to go in unless sure of a territory which we can occupy without weakening the hands of the Presbyterian ministers now engaged in the work, and creating unnecessary divisions.

While on the subject we may remark that great misapprehension exists as to the character of the population of Manitoba. The impression has gone abroad that the people are chiefly French. This is a complete error. The majority, on the centrary, are largely Scotch. We are informed that the country is divided into parishes comprising populations of each origin, and that of these there are twelve Protestant and five Roman Catholic. We also see that Col. Dennis states in an official report, recently published, that the French halfbreeds constitute about one-fourth, or onefifth of the settlement.

Under these circumstances it is evident, in view of the large influx of settlement that will go into the Province, that the future of Manitoba will be mainly moulded by the influence of our common Protes-

In that future, we hope our Church will have its share, even if at present it should be found our duty to stand by and wait.

We invite the attention of the ministers and office-bearers of the Church to the acknowledgments to be found in this issue for the General Sustentation Fund. The work has been well begun but is yet far from completion. What has been done by a portion of the Church can also be done by all the remaining congregations. those who have not yet contributed to this most important fund bear in mind that with them now rests the entire responsibility. There is no use of temporizing. It is in vain to say that next half year we may hope to do better. That were an utter delusion. Unless the required amount is received for this half-year, there is no reason to entertain the shadow of a hope that our people shall be one whit more able or willing six months hence. If there is any enthusiasm at all about the matter now, and we believe that in many quarters there is, it will be their wisdom to strike the iron while it is hot. The comfort and consequent usefulness of a large number of ministers of the Gospel is perilled upon the issue of the efforts now being put forth to equalize the supplement to confessedly inadequate stipends. The credit of the Church, moreover, is at stake. What more need we say?

We are requested by the Chairman of the Ministers', Widows' and Orphan's Board, to call the attention of ministers, Kirk sessions and congregations to the injunction of the Synod requiring a collecrion to be taken up on the first Sunday in January, on behalf of this most interesting

and useful fund. There are now twentysix widows receiving aid from the fund (three since the meeting of Synod), and upwards of forty orphans; and if the fund is to go on prospering as it has done in the past, the large number of annuitants now drawing from it, in proportion to the number of congregations, makes it necessary that the contributions to it shall be increas-As the first Sunday in Janingly liberal. uary is New Year's Day, congregations cannot do better than celebrate the festival with a bountiful thank-offering for the benefits they receive from the hands of the Lord, by providing for the future comfort of the families of their ministers. scheme is so popular with congregations, however, that they do not need any great solicitation to prompt them to devise liberal things in reference to it; and when the facts are before them, we are convinced they will do their duty.

Owing to the publication of the Statistics in this number, which will be found of great importance, we have been compelled to leave over our ordinary current matter, communications, &c. In the January number we shall endeavour to overtake all arrears.

THE PRESBYTERY OF TORONTO. — This court will meet (D.V.) for general business on the 8th December, at two o'clock, p.m.

THE Essay on Union written by the Rev. R. Campbell, and which received the prize will be published by the 15th of the month by Mr. Grafton, Montreal.

Notwithstanding the explanations made in these columns a year ago, the financial position of the *Presbyterian* has undergone no improvement. While the cost of publication during the past year was considerably lessened, this has been more than counterbalanced by an increased and still increasing amount of unpaid subscriptions. Were the Committee of Publication to take an ordinary business view of the matter, and act accordingly, they would simply go into liquidation, stop the magazine, and so

rid themselves of a deal of work and anxiety. But, feeling that the interests of the Church would suffer by such a course, and, that at this particular juncture in the history of Presbyterianism, and of Protestantism, there is more need than ever for watchfulness and assiduity on the part of the press; remembering, too, the disinterested and unwearied labours of their predecessors during the past three-and-twenty years, they are resolved not to quit their post so long as a foot of ground remains for them to stand upon.

It pains us very much to be obliged to inform our readers that at a recent meeting of the Lay Association it was resolved, as a matter of necessity, to dispense with the professional assistance which the Committee has found to be very valuable to them in the past, and which our readers cannot fail to have appreciated for themselves, and without which, we may add, no magazine that aims at respectability can be expected very long to exist. Upon the members of the Publishing Committee, therefore, it will devolve, for a time at least, to supply the lack of service. In doing so to the best of their ability, they must necessarily throw themselves largely upon the indulgence of the readers of the Presbyterian.

The January number will be sent as usual to all whose names are on the despatch list; but, with the distinct understanding that those who do not wish to pay for the publication will be expected to give intimation to that effect, either by returning the *Preslyterian* to the office of publication, or, by letter, requesting it to be discontinued.

Along with this number subscribers in arrear will receive their accounts, which we hope will be promptly settled. If the statement above made is not sufficient to secure for the conductors of this journal the support which they think they have a right to expect from the members of our Church it were useless to attempt any further argu-If it is the mind of the Church that the Prasbyterian may now be discontinued without any detriment to the cause of which it has been the consistent advocate for nearly a quarter of a century, then, the sooner this is made known to those who are responsible for the publication, the better.

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QUEEN'S COLLEGE.

THEOLOGICAL SCHOLARSHIPS .- The matriculation examinations in theology for the present session resulted in the following award of scholarsbips:-

First Year.—Ebenezer D. McLaren, B.A., Komoka, Dominion Scholarship of \$50.

Second Year .- John F. Fraser, B.A., Kingston, Leitch Memorial, \$86, second year of tenure.

Third Year .- Peter S. Livingston, B.A., Dawn Mills, Colonial Committee (4) \$80.

ENDOWMENT FUND .- The Toronto subscription has been increased by \$500; Clifton by \$100; that of Dundas is now over \$700, and that of Thorah has been brought up to \$1,432. The last-mentioned still admits of considerable increase, as the subscribers form only a part of the congregation. A very gratifying circumstance connected with the effort at Thorah is that the canvassing was done entirely within the congregation, the minister having kindly relieved the deputation of this work.

DONATIONS TO THE LIBRARY .- Government of Canada, 2 vols.; Professor Murray, 1 vol.; Rev. S. Macmorine, Pittsburgh, 5 vols.; Glasgow University, 1 vol.; Edinburgh University, 1 vol.; John Rae, Georgina, 4 vols.; George Cumming, Rosemont, 1 vol., his own work.

MISSIONARY ASSOCIATION OF QUEEN'S COL-LEGE.—The annual meeting of the Missionary Association was held in the Theological Hall, on Saturday, November 12th. The following were elected office-bearers for session 1870-71.:-President, P. Stratton Livingston, B.A.; Vice.-President, Joseph Gandier; Cor. Secretary, J. F. Fraser, B.A.; Rec. Secretary, E. D. McLaren, B.A.; Treasurer, M. McGillivray; Librarian, A. H. Cameron. A. P. Knight and R. J. Craig, students in arts, were appointed to act with the above office-bearers on the Executive Committee.

J. F. FRASER, Cor. Sec.

QUEEN'S COLLEGE ENDOWMENT FUND.

Subscriptions for insertion in the Presbyterian will be made up here on the 15th of each month.

Local Treasurers and others are particularly requested, when making up their detailed statements of remittances to the College Treasurer, to follow the mode of entry adopted below.

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Statistics of the Presinterian Church of Canada in connection with Church of Scotland for 1869—Continued. COMMUNICANTS. Net decre'se <u>e</u>; 79 Set increase 86.55.55 662 1189On the Roll. 216 <u>Ş</u> 55 SCHOOL. Bible Class හසු පසු . ಕಲ್ಪಡ್ಡ ಕಲ್ಪಡ್ಡ ಕ \overline{x} <u>20</u> Уо. Теасие<mark>та</mark> SUNDAY 27 45 No. of Families in Congregation. Duncan Morrison, M.A...... James McEwen, M.A..... Hamilton Gibson..... MINISTERS John Forguson, B.A. William Barr..... Donald Fraser, M.A....David Camelon..... John Rannie, M.A.... Joseph S. Enkin. B.A. Alex. Hunter, B.A.... M. W. McLenn, B.A 7:|North Dorchester.....James Gordon, M.AJames George, D.D William Bell, M.A James A. MurrayJames Sieveright John M. Mucleod 4 Mount Forest 5 Kincardino 6 Leith & Johnson SAUGEEN LONDON Westminster.... Owen Sound & Dorby Pricoville..... North Ensthope .. Hencoo..... Chatham Leith & Johnson. 4 Wawanosh.... 10. Goderich.... Kippen.... London Enst Oxford Southwold

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63	Montreal:	James Patterson	1682	88	1462	174	252	3053	130	20
8	Glengary	Alexander McKay, M.A	1264	87	644	7.	80 20 20	1582	7.0	7
4	Porth	William Bain, M.A.	833	43	658	00	68	1317	89	10
3 2	Ottawa	William Anderson, M.A	898	98	298	98	52	1050	72	18
9	6 Renfrew	Peter Lindsay, B.A	478	30	311	90	35	648	10	:
7	7 Kingston	W. M. Inglis, M.A	663	34	779	68	101	872	77	53
80	Toronto	John Barclay, D.D	1602	6 8	1170	115	159	2087	88	19
G	9 Victoria	Robert Dobie	817	34	472	47	44	948	120	:
9	10 Hamilton	Robert Burnet	1038	57	1027	16	22	1792	155	2
Ξ	11 London	James Gordon, M.A	961	45	929	75	216	1180	00	25
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REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 1869.

As the Statistics of the Church have not been published since 1866, your Committee have delayed presenting this Report until now, in order that by correspondence with Presbytery Clerks and representatives of Congregations every available means should be exhausted for obtaining information, at least reliable, and as com-

plete as the nature of circumstances permitted.

It was reported to the Synod of 1870 that only seven out of twelve Presbyteries had made returns of their Statistics, more or less complete, and that from five Presbyteries no data had been received. Since then, Presbyterial Reports have been received from Glengary, Ottawa, and Sangeen. No official Reports have reached as from the Presbyteries of Quebec and Hamilton; from Three Rivers, Valcartier, Sherbrooke, Point Levi, and Quebec, however, Congregational returns have come to hand. The only statistical document received from the Presbytery of Hamilton is the single Congregational Report of Dundas, which, to your Committee, is perfectly inexplicable, inasmuch as the Report transmitted by the Clerk of that Presbyterv for 1868 was one of the fullest and most carefully prepared of all that were received. As the only method open to your Committee of approximating the Statistics of this Presbytery for 1869 they have given the figures as they stand reported for 186°, with such few alterations and additions as are mentioned in the feet notes. A large number of supplementary Congregational Reports have also been received from Presbyteries that have previously made partial returns. The only non-reporting Congregation in the Presbytery of Toronto is the large and important one of Scarboro. In like manner Thorah, in the Presbytery of Victoria, stands alone. But for these, and some of the vacant charges, your Committee have supplied figures from the report of 1866.

It would serve no good purpose to expend words of unavailing regret over the remissness of such Ministers and Congregational managers as year after year utterly refuse to comply with the Synod's injunction to forward their statistics to their Presbytery Clerks, or over the procrastinating tendencies of some who leave this matter to the eleventh hour, and yet others who, after repeat-

ed solicitations, favour your Committee with "skeleton reports" at the twelfth hour.

It affords your Committee much gratification to present this Report, such as it is, both because it is more complete than appeared at the time of the meeting of Synod at all possible, and because

it affords unmistakeable evidences of life and progress.

The comparison, so far as it can be drawn, between the statistics of 1866 and 1869, is both interesting and suggestive. In the first place it appears, plainly enough, that we are not an aggressive We had 107 Ministers in charges in 1866; in 1869 we had 113. Then, we had 126 Congregations on the Roll of the Synod, now we have 129—a very modest increase for three years. The number of families in connection with the Church in 1866 was 10,653; in 1869 we number 11,433—an increase of 780 families in three years. At the former date we had 8,393 Sabbath School Scholars with 981 Teachers, latterly we report 9045 Scholars and 998 Teachers—increase of 652 Scholars and 17 Teachers. number of communicants has increased in like proportion, from 14,850 in 1866, to 15,847 in 1869. Taking into account the natural increase of our population, we have done little more than to maintain our position; but it is something to have done even this in the face of so many Christian rivals in the field—active, aggressive rivals-friendly rivals though many of them be. We had 19 vacant charges in 1866, at the present time there are 15. total number of Ministers on the Roll is 130, of whom eleven are on the list of retired Ministers, five are Professors in Queen's College, and one a Professor in Morrin College.

Important changes have transpired among us since the publication of last Report. Venerable Fathers in the Church, middleaged men in the midst of their years and in the days of their greatest usefulness, young men. full of Christian life and zeal eleven Ministers in all—have been removed from us by death. Four received the sanction of the Synod to retire from ministerial work; twelve demitted their charges, of whom four are now in Scotland, (Messrs. Bell, Law, Paton and Lamont); two are in the United States, (Messrs. Mair and Evans); two connected themselves with other churches, (Messrs. J. K. McMorine and Dawson); one was elected a professor in Queen's College; three are still with us as ordained missionaries (Messrs. Nicol, Alex. McLennan and McLaren). During the same period nineteen students of Queen's and Morrin Colleges have received licenses to preach, and have been ordained and inducted to charges. Two ordained ministers came to us from Nova Scotia, one from New Brunswick. while seven, formerly on the list of ordained missionaries, became the pastors of settled charges, (Messrs. McLeod, McDougall, J. S. Burnet, Spencer, McNish, Anderson, Miller.) The number of ordained Missionaries is eight, (Messrs. Black, Borthwick, Nicol. McLennan, Hutchison, Paul, McLaren, Kidd); and the number of Licentiates not engaged in the work of the Church, four (Messrs. Douglas, McQuarrie, Jamieson, Hart).

The number of Elders reported to your Committee is 542; seven hundred and thirty couples were united in marriage by ministers of our church in 1869; eighteen hundred and eighty little ones were received into the visible church by the sacrament of haptism, and six hundred and forty-one funeral services were conducted during the past year.

Turning to the Financial Department, it is refreshing to find such a very decided, and, indeed unprecedented manifestation of increased liberality pervading every portion of it, as calls for thankfulness and bids us take courage. Although the failure of the Commercial Bank, in October, 1867, occasioned the loss of more than \$100,000 to the Church and College, and was followed by the discontinuance of the annual Government grant to our University of \$5000, these occurrences would seem but to have awakened the dormant energies of the Church at large, to have provoked its membership to love and good works, and infused a spirit of self-reliance which cannobfail to be beneficial. The College difficulty has already been got over by the institution of a voluntary Endowment Fund, exceeding \$100,000, while, on the other hand, the creation of a general Sustentation Fund has been resolved upon by the Synod, and bids fair to make up for the losses sustained by the Temporalities' Board.

The voluntary subscriptions for stipend in 1869 exceed those of 1866 by \$9632, while the average stipend paid from all sources has risen from \$750 in 1866 to \$780 in 1869. During the same period the arrears of stipend have sensibly diminished. The sum grimly chronicled under the heading of "arrears" for 1869, is \$2749 less than the similar black list of 1866, and \$8299 less than what was then deliberately estimated to be the actual amount due. The existing sum, \$5622 is, however, sufficiently large to demand the attention of Presbyteries, whose peculiar function it is to see that such irregularities are "stamped out." After a close scrutiny of the separate items of arrears, it appears to your Committee that instances may be cited in which the figures have assumed a chronic form-in other words, that arrears are acknowledged in these columns, the chances of which being liquidated during the incumbent's life-time are so very slender as to raise the question whether it would not be better for all concerned that a portion at least of the sum should at once be "written off" as a very bad debt, that old contracts be cancelled, fresh arrangements entered into between the Minister and his Congregation, and that thereafter business should re-open de novo, just as if nothing had happened.

Another marked feature of importance is the increase observable in the ordinary Sabbath collections, equal to 40 per cent. i. e. the collections for 1866 were \$11,772; for 1869 they were \$16,316—increase \$4544, A like gratifying result is noticed in the contributions to the schemes of the Church, all of which are larger than those reported in 1866, with the exception of the French Mission Fund, which remains at the same figures, \$800. The in-

creased payments to the other schemes are as follows,—Widows' and Orphans' Fund \$257; Bursary Scheme \$319; Synod's Home Mission Scheme \$1741. The whole sum contributed for Home Missionary purposes during the year 1869 was \$12,547 37 namely, \$9,962 74 by congregational contributions to the Temporalities' Fund; \$445 63 from private individuals to the same, and \$2,166

as here reported for the Presbytery's Home Missions.

The sum of \$2,797 was last year added to the invested capital of the Ministers' Widows' and Orphans' Fund, which has now risen to nearly \$60,000. The number of annuitants is at present 30 widows and 33 orphans. There was contributed for local Presbytery Missions the sum of \$2166, and for the Juvenile Mission to India \$605. At the same time, as numerous blanks in the columns for the Schemes testify, there are many congregations whose love for this or that particular scheme has cooled down to zero. To be exact, twenty-eight congregations only out of one hundred and thirteen have made entries in each of the clumns for the Schemes of the Synod and the Presbytery's Home Mission.

The reported contributions for "all purposes" amount to \$137, 986 being \$14,894 in excess of the sum similarly reported for 1866. Respectable though the amount be in itself, your Committee feel well assured that it falls far short of the actual expenditure of the year, in proof of which it need only be mentioned that while the sums reported as having been paid to the Endowment Fund of Queen's College during the year 1869 amount to \$35,511, the aggregate acknowledged by the College Treasurer to the 15th of December is \$40,453. Another palpable omission occurs in the congregational return from Three Rivers, in which it is stated that "the total expenditure for all purposes amounts to \$728," whereas your Committee know certainly that during the past year some \$3000 of debt upon the Church property was paid off in the most handsome manner, and they are happy to have it in their power to publish the fact in this way. Nevertheless as the figures stand in this Report, the average contribution of each communicant for the past year was \$8.70: a similar calculation applied to the figures for 1866 yields only \$6.27 per communicant.

The number of Manses is 83 against 77 in 1866; a net increase of six. There are still 47 congregations—too large a proportion by far, who have not yet provided a home for their Minister.

The total value of Church Property is represented by the goodly sum of \$845,620, which, were it divided equally among these 129 congregations would invest each with freehold property to the value of \$6500. Included in this gross amount is the valuation put upon 3250 acres of Glebe lands, worth, at a liberal estimate, \$20 per acre, leaving in round numbers \$750,000 worth of insurable property. Negotiations are at present under consideration between a Committee appointed by the Synod and the Queen Insurance Company whereby—for a valuable consideration—it is proposed to recommend that the Insurance upon the whole of the Church Property be effected with this Company. The Committee

having fully satisfied themselves as to the standing and reliability of the Company there remains only the difficulty of inducing the large number of parties interested to fall in with an arrangement that, if carried out, would yield an annual revenue to the Church of \$2000, at the same time that the Church Property in question would be insured against all risks from fire at as low a rate as can be effected with any other respectable Company. In the opinion of your Committee, it will be a great mistake if the Church does not fall in with the proposal.

The debt resting upon this large amount of Church property is only \$54,346, which is less by \$29,080 than the encumbrance upon the very much smaller amount of property held in 1866; and it is within the knowledge of your Committee that with two or three exceptions the debt of 1866 has been entirely liquidated, and that the present indebtedness results from the election of a number

of costly new churches within the last few years.

The last column of the statistical table shews that the sum of \$24,421 was expended during 1869 in the building and repairing of Churches and Manses. In this it is manifest that the reconstruction of St. Andrew's Church, Montreal, is not included, as the sum of at least \$40,000 must have been incurred in restoring it to its original beauty. But as this was done by the Insurance Company—which probably did not belong to the Presbyterian Church of Canada in connection with the Church of Scotland—a place could not easily be found for it in the admirable report of the Convener of Statistics for the Preshyrery of Montreal. It is noteworthy, however, as at least one instance—and several others might be added—of the risk to which Church property is liable from fire. even when entrusted to the ever-watchful eye of a "care-taker," and also of that wisdom which insures such property to as nearly its full value as possible.

One admission your Committee desire to make before concluding their report. It is this: that the preceding array of figures, at the best, represent very inadequately the real amount and nature of the work that is being done by the Church. Much of that work is of a kind that cannot be subjected to arithmetical computation. The all-important work goes on silently and unseen. "The Day" alone will reveal it; and could christian ministers at all times feel this to be true it would be a source of great encouragement to all who "preach the Word" to "be instant in season and out of season," "always abounding in the work of the Lord."

Even the outward and material work of the Church does not, by these statistics, sufficiently appear. It would require larger limits than your Committee propose to themselves for this report, as well as more extensive information than they are possessed of to traverse the whole scope of the Church's operations during the by-gone three years. For the present it must suffice to state that since 1866 your Committee are cognizant of the building of twenty-four new churches (exclusive of St. Andrew's, Montreal), that a number of others have been enlarged, embellished, and thoroughly reno-

vated, and that the old time-worn barn-order of church architecture is rapidly giving way to graceful and appropriate designs after the early English Gothic styles. For this visible improvement in the form of new churches we are indebted to the following congregations in the Province of Ontario:—to Nelson, Dunwich (Glencoe), Kippen, Chatham, Stratford, Derby, Uxbridge, Mono, Erin, Nottawasaga, Gwillimbury, Fenelon, Seymour, Williamsburgh, Lochiel, Dalhousie Mills, Carleton Place, Bishop's Mills, Mainsville and Hawkesbury. In the Province of Quebec:—to St. Paul's and St. Mark's, Montreal; Dundee and Ormstown. That of St. Paul's, Montreal, is worthy of special mention, not only because it is the largest and most beautiful of our new churches, but because of the influence which the erection of such an edifice has upon the architectural taste of the whole community. This church which cost about \$80,000 was opened for worship in 1868, and has already served as a model in the designing of several other smaller and less costly ones. Those at Stratford, Dundee and Ormstown are also beautiful structures, and cost about \$10,000 each. the churches enlarged and renovated are those at Dundas, London, Owen Sound, Peterboro', Whitby, Cornwall, Lachine, and St. Andrew's, Montreal.

Congregations that in 1866 were oppressed by a load of debt have since then rid themselves of the incubus and assumed a respectable position on the roll of Synod. Others that were then weak—depending chiefly upon external aid for the maintenance of religious ordinances—have become strong; not only self-supporting congregations, but also liberal contributors to the Schemes of the Church.

Your Committee are thus led to the conclusion that, from whatever point of view the statistics of 1869 are regarded, they afford evidence of a healthy tone pervading the Church, and of satisfactory progress being made.

All which is respectfully submitted,

JAMES CROIL, Convener.

Montreal, 1st October, 1870.

N.B.—The number attending the Quebec Sabbath School should appear as 200.