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ST. JOSEPH STREET

Presbyterian Church,

MONTREAL.

ANNUAL REPORTS

For the Year 1876.

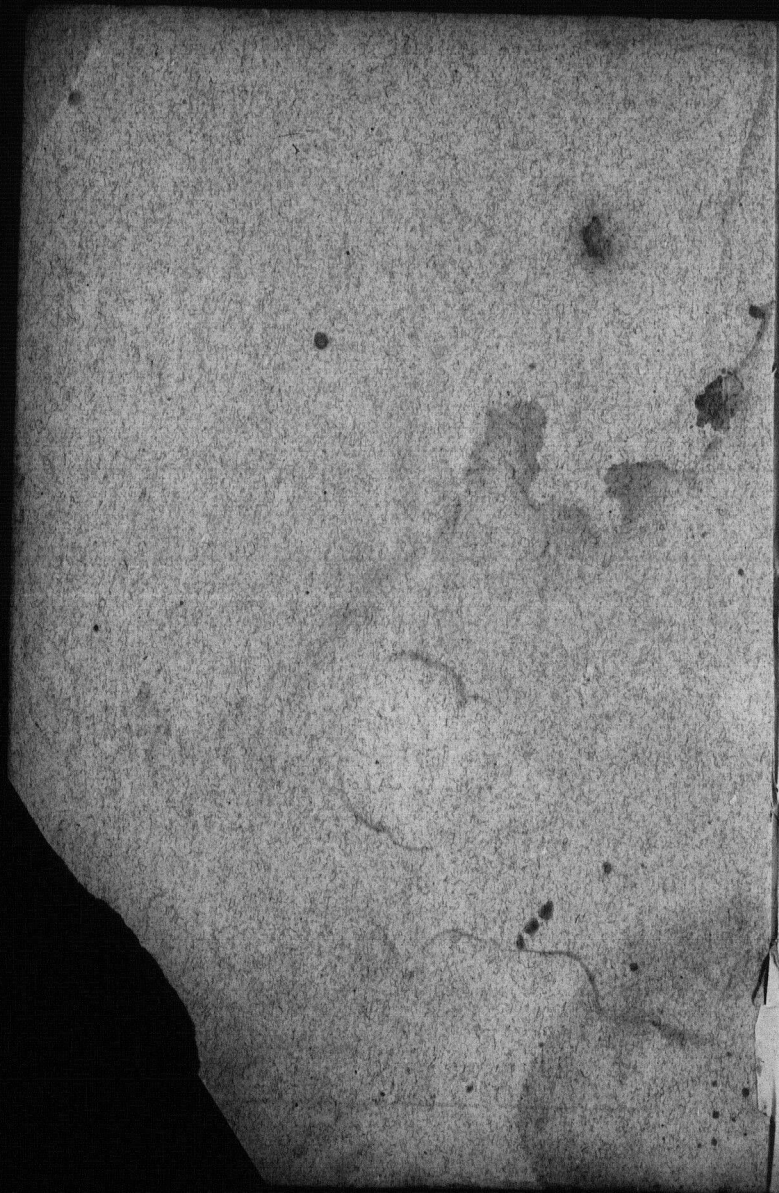
Pastor :

REV. JOHN SCRIMGER, M. A.

Montreal :

PRINTED BY D. BENTLEY & CO., 304 NOTRE DAME ST. R.

1877.



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MEMORANDA.

PUBLIC WORSHIP every Sabbath at 11 a.m., and 7 p.m.

SABBATH SCHOOL AND BIBLE CLASS at 8 p.m.

BAND OF HOPE, Tuesday at 7.30 p.m.

CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER MEETING, Wednesday at
8 p.m.

YOUNG MEN'S PRAYER MEETING, Thursday at 8 p.m.

TANNERIES DISTRICT PRAYER MEETING on alternate
Thursdays at 8 p.m.

PRACTICE OF SACRED MUSIC, Friday at 8 p.m.

SESSION meets second Monday of every month.

COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT meets first Monday of
every month.

MISSIONARY SOCIETY'S COLLECTIONS made first Wed-
nesday of every month.

DORCAS SOCIETY meets during season on Thursday
afternoon at 2.30 o'clock.

PASTOR remains in Vestry after Sabbath evening Ser-
vice for consultation.

THE ORDINANCE OF BAPTISM is publicly dispensed on
the last Sabbath of each month.

THE ORDINANCE OF THE LORD'S SUPPER is dispensed
quarterly, on the first Sabbaths of March, June,
September and December.

SITTINGS may be obtained by application to the Finan-
cial Secretary after any of the services.

THE FUNDS of the Church are raised by voluntary
weekly subscriptions. Information as to the
mode of payment, &c., may be obtained from the
Financial Secretary.

ELDERS' DISTRICTS.

No. 1.—Point St. Charles, east of Seigneurs Street.

MR. JAMES GRAY, *Elder*.

No. 2.—Point St. Charles, west of Seigneurs Street.

MR. ALEXANDER ANDERSON, *Elder*.

No. 3.—Between St. Joseph Street and Canal, east of Chatham St.

MR. FORREST LOCKE, *Elder*.

No. 4.—North of St. Joseph Street, and east of Chatham Street.

MR. HUGH SYM, *Elder*.

No. 5.—Between Railway Track and Canal, west of Chatham St.

MR. G. S. SPENCE, *Elder*.

No. 6.—North of Railway Track and west of Chatham Street.

MR. JAMES DAVIDSON, *Elder*.

No. 7.—Tanneries West.

MR. THOMAS DAVIDSON, *Elder*.

SESSION.

REV. JOHN SCRIMGEE, M. A., *Moderator.*

MR. JAMES DAVIDSON,
" FORREST LOCKE,
" JAMES GRAY,

MR. HUGH SYM,
" THOMAS DAVIDSON,
" ALEX. ANDERSON,

MR. GEORGE S. SPENCE, *Clerk.*

Annual Report of the Session

For the Year 1876.

The Session desires as usual to take advantage of the Annual Meeting to make some statements as to the general work of the Congregation under its care, and in doing so, feels bound to express its gratitude that the year just closed has been one of continued progress and success in every respect.

The most important event in the history of the Session itself, has been the addition of three new Elders to its roll, greatly increasing its efficiency, and rendering possible a much more thorough organization of the Congregation. The Session is confident that the effect will be seen in the increased spirituality and activity of all the members of the Church.

Coming to the active work of the Congregation, the Session notes with satisfaction that all the services hitherto held have been regularly maintained, and that two additional meetings have been instituted, showing that the interest in spiritual things has not declined, but rather increased. The attendance at most of these services, while not all that could be desired is nevertheless very encouraging.

The regular diets of worship on the Sabbath have been especially well attended, and the interest in them has evidently been great. The usual quarterly Com-

munions have been observed, and were felt by many to be solemn seasons and times of blessing.

The Sabbath School, as will be seen by the Special Report of that department to be given in, has continued to flourish as in former years with an efficient staff of Teachers, and still maintains its position as the largest Presbyterian Sabbath School in the city. It is also noted with pleasure that a larger proportion of the Teachers engaged therein are members of this Congregation than ever before, showing its increased interest and activity in the training of the young of this district of the city.

The Bible Class has met regularly every Sabbath, but at a later hour than formerly, on account of a French Service which was held in the Church during the greater portion of the year, under the auspices of the Board of French Evangelization. The French Congregation having now being provided with a building of their own in the vicinity, the class has been resumed at the former hour of 3 o'clock.

The weekly Prayer Meeting on Wednesday evening has been maintained as formerly, but the Session would take occasion to urge upon the members of the Church a more regular attendance at this service, which is of so much importance to the spiritual well-being of the Congregation. It is gratifying, however, to notice that two additional Prayer Meetings have been organized during the past few months; one in the Church for young men, conducted entirely by themselves, and one in the Tanneries District, conducted by the Elder of the district. It is hoped that both of these will be continued, and that others of a similar nature may be organized during the coming year. Meetings of this description are necessary to keep up a healthy spiritual life among the people, and valuable as drawing them into closer sympathy with one another.

The special subject of Temperance has been kept before the young by the meetings of the Band of Hope, every week during the winter months.

The following table indicates the changes that have taken place in the roll of membership during the year:—

Number on Roll last year.....	218
“ added by Certificate.....	18
“ “ “ Profession.....	30
Total.....	— 48
Number removed by death.....	2
“ “ “ Certificate... ..	24
“ “ otherwise.....	8
Total.....	— 34
Net increase.....	— 14
Total number now on Roll.....	232

It will be observed that there has been considerable progress even as to numbers, notwithstanding the large number of removals, and the general depression of trade. Let us hope that there has been even greater corresponding growth in grace.

The following are the statistics of the Church Register during the year:—

Baptisms.....	31
Burials.....	19
Marriages.....	10

The Session cannot conclude its statement without expressing its gratitude for the measure of harmony which has marked all the work of the Church during the year, and prays that it may continue, also, that all other graces may be added unto us to the glory of God's great name.

JOHN SCRIMGER,

Moderator.

Trustees of Church Property.

Mr. THOMAS DAVIDSON,	Mr. ROBERT COWANS,
" JAMES GRAY,	" JAMES CLELAND,
Mr. PETER LYALL.	

Committee of Management for 1877.

	Mr. JAMES CLELAND, <i>Chairman.</i>	
	" ROBERT COWANS, <i>Treasurer.</i>	
	" HUGH MCARTHUR, <i>Rec. Sec.</i>	
	" THOMAS BRADY, <i>Fin. Sec.</i>	
Mr. PETER LYALL,		Mr. PETER GOW,
" HUGH CAMPBELL,		" JOHN COSTIGAN,
" A. M. KERR,		" ROBERT MELDRUM,
" WILLIAM MOORE,		" JAMES SCOTT.

Report of Committee of Management

For Year ending December, 1876.

The Committee of Management of St. Joseph Street Presbyterian Church, in presenting their Annual Report, pertaining to matters entrusted to their care, would return thanks to the Father of Mercies, for the blessing so graciously vouchsafed, and for the large measure of success achieved during the past year.

The number of sittings at present allocated is 301; number of new sittings allocated during the year, 29; number of regular subscribers at present on the books, 114; the yearly average amount paid by each subscriber is \$11.42½.

Your Committee believe that the number of regular subscribers, should, during the coming year be greatly augmented, as there are many now, who attend the Church from Sabbath to Sabbath, who have not as yet applied for sittings.

Your Committee would also suggest that the contributions of many who now hold pews in the Church, should be increased, as your Committee are of opinion that the lowest yearly average contribution per subscriber, ought to be at least \$15.00.

The arrears at present due the Church, amount to \$200, all of which is considered good. The Committee hope that this amount will be paid in without delay, as certain repairs and improvements will have to be made during the year.

During the summer, a great improvement was made in the lighting of our Church. This improvement was undertaken by the Choir, who by a series of entertainments, have, we believe, been able to pay off the expense incurred.

The Annual Pic-Nic of the Congregation was held on the 1st of July, at St. Hilaire, which was well attended, and financially proved a success. The Committee hope that more of the members and adherents of the Congregation, will in future avail themselves of such an opportunity.

On the 27th of November last, the Treasurer of the Board of City Missions, made a demand for the amount due by this Congregation on the Church property, viz: \$1,600, with accrued interest, amounting in all to \$1,864. Your Committee at the time had not the necessary funds in hand to pay the interest, but the amount was advanced by several members of your Committee. The full amount of \$1,864 was paid over to the Treasurer of the Board of City Missions.

A subscription list was afterwards opened to pay off the amount advanced by members of your Committee, which was very liberally responded to by members and adherents of the Congregation ; and your Committee are happy to state that the Church is now entirely free from debt of any kind.

At the last regular monthly meeting of your Committee, a Sub-Committee was appointed to act with the Session in drafting a Constitution for the Church, and which would be submitted for approval at the Annual Meeting.

In conclusion your Committee earnestly trust that the ensuing year, may be one of even greater blessings to the Church, both temporally and spiritually.

As will be seen by the Treasurer's Report,
 the total receipts for the year, including
 the balance on hand from last year of
 \$19.05, amount to..... \$2,259 44
 Disbursements..... 2,251 41
 Balance on hand..... \$8.03

All of which is most respectfully submitted.

PETER LYALL,

Chairman.

St. Joseph Street Presbyterian Church, in Account with Robert Cowans, Treasurer.

Dr.

ANNUAL STATEMENT.

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1876.	To Paid Pastor's Salary	\$1,500.00	—By Balance	\$19.05
	" " Miss Thompson	56.00	" " Cash	120.21
	" " A. Syms' Account	15.13	" " "	145.10
	" " Gas Account	95.40	" " "	130.32
	" " Repairs' Account	54.03	" " "	121.66
	" " Supply	12.00	" " "	160.85
	" " Taxes	50.90	" " "	75.23
	" " Presbytery Fund	15.00	" " "	94.66
	" " Sabbath School	55.00	" " "	206.08
	" " John Jenkins	18.00	" " "	188.33
	" " Insurance Account	40.95	" " "	225.31
	" " Interest Account	264.00	" " "	139.87
	" " Fuel Account	75.00	" " "	672.76
	" " Balance	8.02		
		<u>\$2,250.44</u>		<u>\$2,250.44</u>

Audited and found correct.

W. M. MOORE,
HUGH CAMPBELL.

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Constitution of St. Joseph Street Presbyterian Church.

The following was adopted as the Constitution of St. Joseph Street Church, at the Annual Meeting held January 16th, 1877.

1.—The Congregation shall be known as the St. Joseph Street Presbyterian Church, in connection with the Presbyterian Church in Canada.

2.—The Congregation shall hold an Annual Meeting each year, in January, of which meeting, due notice shall be given from the Pulpit, on the Sabbath immediately preceding.

3.—All the members, male and female, in the full enjoyments of their privileges, and they only, shall be entitled to vote at this meeting, or other meetings of the Congregation.

4.—The management of the secular affairs of the Congregation, including the care of the property, the ordering of repairs or alterations thereon, the allocating of pews, the collection of the rents, or of other contributions for the support of ordinances, the payment of the Pastor's salary, allowances to Door-keepers, etc., and other expenditure shall be committed to the charge of twelve Managers, who shall be bound to regulate their administration of the matters committed to their charge by these rules; and also, to observe any special directions, which may from time to time be given to them by the Congregation.

5.—One-third of the Managers shall annually retire from the management by rotation, and their places, ~~with the places of any who may die or vacate their office during the year,~~ shall be filled up at the Annual Meeting.

The retiring Managers shall be eligible for re-election.

Any vacancy or vacancies occurring in the Board of Management during the year, shall be filled by the remaining members of the Board, and the party or parties so appointed shall hold

Revisions
adopted
Nov 18 1886

Calvin

on all questions
regular contributors
to the funds of the Church
shall have the privilege of
voting on any
question of finance

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Office until the next annual meeting

6.—Out of the Managers, the Congregation shall annually elect a Treasurer. They shall also annually elect two persons, members of the Congregation, as Auditors of Accounts, who shall, previous to the next Annual Meeting, examine the Treasurer's Books and Vouchers for the current year, and report thereon to said meeting.

7.—Should any Manager be suspended, or cut off from privileges by the Session, or leave the Congregation, he shall cease to be entitled to act as a Manager.

8.—The Managers shall hold regular Monthly Meetings, and oftener when found necessary.

These meetings shall be called by the Secretary, either by intimation from the Pulpit on the Sabbath preceding, or by personal notice to the individual Managers; and the Secretary shall be bound to convene a meeting, whenever required to do so, by one third of the Managers.

9.—Members of Session shall have the right to be present at any of the Meetings of the Committee of Management, and deliberate on matters brought before the Committee.

10.—At these meetings five Managers shall form a quorum. The Chairman shall not have a deliberative vote, but in case of an equality of votes on any matter, he shall have a casting vote.

11.—The Treasurer shall keep a regular Book of Debit and Credit; and shall produce the same, with the Vouchers, at the Annual Meeting, audited by the Auditors appointed by the Congregation, or failing therein, by a Committee of the Managers.

12.—The Secretary shall keep a regular Minute Book, accessible to the Managers at all times, wherein all the minutes of the Meetings of the Managers, and of the Congregation, shall be faithfully entered; and these shall be signed by himself, *and the chairman of the meeting.*

13.—At each Annual Meeting of the Congregation, the Managers shall report their whole proceedings and management during the year, and shall also lay before the Congregation an abstract of the receipts and expenditure during the year; with a statement of the pecuniary affairs as they then stand; and shall

8. V at the first meeting after their election. Meet from their names in a drawing for number, Secretary and Treasurer & Secretary for the Session of Year.

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afford all information which may be required thereon; after which the Congregation shall proceed to the election of Managers for the next year, as before provided for.

14.—The Managers, on obtaining the concurrence of the Session, shall have the power to call Meetings of the Congregation for special purposes, when they deem it necessary, which meetings shall be duly intimated as above provided for, the purpose of the meeting being at same time notified.

15.—The Managers shall have no power to contract debt on the security of the property, or for which it may be attached, without the special authority of the Congregation, given either at the Annual Meeting, or at a special Meeting called for the purpose.

They shall not make any repair or alteration in one year exceeding the value of \$500, nor shall they alter the salary of the Pastor without such authority.

16.—All real estate owned by the Congregation, shall be held by five Trustees, who shall continue to hold office during their life time, or during their connection with the Congregation. Said Trustees must be members in full communion of the Church.

Should a vacancy occur in the number of Trustees, through death or otherwise, the Congregation may at a Special Meeting called from the Pulpit, two Sabbaths previous, appoint by the votes of a majority of the Members of the Congregation, in full communion then present, a new Trustee or new Trustees, to fill any vacancy or vacancies caused as aforesaid.

17.—When a proposal for any alteration of these rules is made, it shall not be competent to adopt it at the meeting at which it was first proposed; but, if entertained, it shall lie over to be decided upon at the next Annual Meeting, or at a Special Meeting to be called for the purpose, not earlier than three weeks after being so entertained; and before taking effect, it shall be submitted to, and receive the sanction of the Presbytery.

male
 A such notice being given, a two-thirds vote of the members present will be necessary for its adoption —

It is necessary to give notice of such alterations at the annual meeting or a special meeting called for that purpose.

Missionary Committee for 1877.

REV. JOHN SCRIMGER, *President.*
MR. JAMES CLELAND, *Vice-President.*
" HUGH McARTHUR, *Sec. Treasurer.*

MR. THOMAS BRADY,
" R. BURRY,

MR. THOMAS DAVIDSON,
" ANDREW SYM.

LADY COLLECTORS.

MISS JANE DAVIDSON,
" MARY DAVIDSON,
" SYM,
" BRADY,

MISS GOW,
" CATTO,
" MUNRO,
" McARTHUR,

MISS GUY.

REPORT OF THE MISSIONARY SOCIETY OF St. Joseph Street Presbyterian Church FOR THE YEAR 1876.

The Committee of the Missionary Society beg leave to present the Annual Report of the past year, to the Subscribers, and to congratulate them on the continued prosperity which has attended its efforts during the year.

As formerly, the active work of the Society has been done by the Lady Collectors, who have faithfully performed their duties, and to whom hearty thanks are due for their diligence and earnestness in carrying out the objects of the Society.

The Church Record containing full information as to the Schemes of the Church, has been distributed, by

*Be necessary
to give notice
of promotion of
such collection
at the annual
meeting or a
special meeting
called for that purpose*

them, monthly, to the families of the Congregation, and thereby the general interest in the Church's work has been maintained. In addition to this, addresses have from time to time been given at the Wednesday evening meetings on Missionary subjects. We also had a visit from Rev. J. Fraser Campbell, previous to his departure for his sphere of missionary labour in India.

The Collectors also received the monthly subscriptions and handed them over to the Treasurer.

The total amount collected during the year is \$251.75, a considerable increase over any previous year. A portion of this however, \$22.50, is due to a special subscription, which was taken up to meet the large deficiency in the funds of the Home Mission Board.

Out of this amount, the Committee has had to pay the sum of \$25 for Records, leaving \$226.75 to be allocated for Missionary purposes proper.

In the month of September, an appeal was made to the Congregation through the Presbytery, to raise the sum of \$42, in order to assist in clearing off a debt on the Home Mission Fund of the Church. As stated above, a portion of this was raised by special subscription, and the balance was paid out of the ordinary funds of the Society.

In the beginning of December, the Committee made a grant of \$15 towards payment of the salary of the Presbytery's City Missionary. It is hoped that these grants will meet with the approval of the subscribers.

The amount still remaining in the Treasurer's hands for allocation, is \$169.75.

The Committee beg leave to make the following recommendations for the ensuing year:—

1st.—That the collections be made on the first Wednesday of the month, instead of the last as hitherto.

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2nd.—That in addition to the subscriptions paid monthly, the collections appointed by the Assembly for the various schemes, be also taken up in the Church, the proceeds to be added to the funds of the Society.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

HUGH McARTHUR,

Sec. Treasurer.

NOTE.—The following distribution of the balance in the Treasurer's hands, was made at the Annual Meeting.

Home Missions.....	\$60 00
College.....	50 00
French Missions.....	40 00
Foreign Missions	10 00
Aged and Infirm Minister's Funds	5 00
Widows' and Orphans' Fund.....	5 00

Sabbath School Report.

STATISTICS 1876.

Roll—Teachers.....	27	Scholars.....	301
Average attendance....	23	Do.	214
Total Collections for Missions.....		\$160.07	

This our fourteenth Report is again one of marked progress; twenty more scholars on the roll, and fifteen more in attendance; thirty dollars increase in collections; our working expenses have been \$104, of which the Church provided \$50, as agreed.

Visitation was well carried out during the early part of the year, and resulted in improved attendance, but in summer many of our Teachers were absent, and we had an unusually large list of absentees amongst the scholars, from which we have not altogether recovered.

The "Dorcas" has been doing its usual quiet but effective service.

We have had our usual Quarterly Reviews, a sermon to the children on the last Sabbath of the year, our New Year's Day Gathering in Erskine Church, our Thanksgiving Service in St. Paul's Church, and our Thirteenth Annual Soiree last January.

The Children's Papers have been distributed every month as in former years, and we study the same lessons in the Bible (The International Series) that are now used nearly all the world over. Our Service of Praise, as some call it, is still a very prominent feature;

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we have found, as many others, that the children's hymns have much power for good. Our library has not been increased for three years, and is not in a satisfactory condition,—we are now engaged in raising some money for the library; we require a good many books, as to lend each scholar one book takes about 250 volumes, if we leave out the Infant Class. The Infant Class is in a very satisfactory condition, and its teacher certainly deserves much commendation for her persevering earnest labor of love. In Mission Collections, there is increase; the average, however, does not exceed 75c. per scholar, which is not remarkably large. Giving seems almost as much a matter of education as of ability,—let us hope in later years the benefit of such training may be seen.

Our Staff of Teachers rises a little year by year, one comes, another goes; at present, two-thirds are members of this church, and I may be allowed to add, I remember some twelve of them as scholars in this school.

In conclusion, the School asks the Church to help it yet more with its means, its sympathy and its prayers, that both may grow together unto the praise of Him from whom all blessings flow.

D. T. FRASER,

Superintendent.

Abstract of Reports for 1875.

As the Annual Reports for the year 1875 were not printed for distribution, the following brief statement is here added for reference.

The *Session* reported the following changes in the Communion Roll.

No. on Roll at beginning of year	196
“ added by Certificate	24
“ “ Profession	23
	— 47
“ Removed by death	1
“ “ Certificate	24
	— 25
Net increase	22
Total number on Roll	218

The *Committee of Management* reported that during the year 68 sittings had been allocated, that their total receipts were \$2,150.54, and total disbursements, \$2,131.49, leaving a balance in hand of \$19.05.

The *Missionary Society's* Report showed the total amount collected during the year to be \$218.45, which was allocated to the various schemes of the Church.