

REPORT
OF THE
DEACONS' COURT
OF
COTE STREET CHURCH
(CANADA PRESBYTERIAN.)

1866.

PASTOR,—REV. D. H. McVICAR,
674 LaGauchetiere Street, (west of Radegonde Street).

MONTREAL:

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ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
DEACONS' COURT OF COTÉ STREET CHURCH,

For the year ending April 20th, 1866.

The number of members added to the Church during the past year is 67, making a total membership after deducting removals by death and otherwise, of 566, of whom nearly 500 reside west of Coté Street.

There are at this date 838 sittings let and allocated. The amount raised from Pew Rents and collections at the Church door is \$3660.17. The condition of the various funds is exhibited in the statistical statement hereto appended.

IMPROVEMENTS, &c.

Considerable expense has been incurred during the past year in making improvements and in attending to the necessary repairs of the building. The roof of the Church has been re-painted, the windows on the east side, and the doors have been re-varnished, new steps have been made to the side entrances, and in compliance with the City bye-law the doors of the Church have been made to open outwards.

In the basement, the new class and library rooms have been completed, the vestry has been cleaned and re-papered, and a want long felt in our church has been supplied, in the addition of a minister's room, and the congregation have to thank certain ladies for their attention to the details in having the room properly

furnished, and for their liberality in adding to the furniture supplied by the Deacons' Court. By the addition of the coal stoves in the gallery and the carrying out of a system of ventilation through the ceiling, the comfort of the congregation has been considerably increased.

CONGREGATIONAL LIBRARY.

The library after being closed for some months was re-opened in November last for the use of the Congregation. To render the library more efficient and useful, the Deacons' Court voted a sum of money for its enlargement, in consequence of which, a number of new and popular works have been added to it, the books have been re-arranged and classified, and a new catalogue has been printed in both an Alphabetical and Classified form, copies of which may be had on application to the librarian. The leading British religious Magazines are supplied every month. There are at present 60 readers, the majority of whom are regular, while the others are only occasional, and the Deacons' Court would in this way express their desire to see the library more largely used by members and adherents of the Congregation, as it is free to all, and open every Wednesday evening. The thanks of the Deacons' Court is tendered to Mr. D. A. P. Watt, for a valuable donation of 10 vols., which he has kindly contributed, the total number of books at present in the Library is 479. Donations of money or books are respectfully solicited from the members and adherents, so that Coté Street Church may rank in a first class position in relation to a Library, and that Library prove, as it ought to do, a powerful auxilliary to the Pastor and Kirk-Session for the increase of the intelligence and the advancement of the moral and spiritual condition of the Congregation.

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YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN INSTITUTE.

The Institute which was carried on with considerable spirit has during the spring and latter part of the winter from various causes not been so well attended, and in consequence it was considered advisable to close the session rather sooner than usual. As however it has been the means of doing good service in stimulating many of its members to habits of reading, and to the right application of their moral energies, it is to be hoped that on re-opening in the fall of this year, the Institute will resume its operations with all its accustomed energy and enthusiasm.

MISSIONARY FUND.

The mission fund of the Church compared with last year shows a small diminution, but this is only apparent, not real, as several sums fall to be collected yet, having been overlooked in consequence of a disarrangement of the Collectors. The greater part of the fund so collected, in agreement with an arrangement between the three Congregations of the C. P. Ch. in this City has been paid over to the Treasurer of the Board of City Missions, and has by that Board been devoted to several City schemes of great importance and interest, a report of which has already been printed and placed in your hands.

As a project is in contemplation to relieve the Mission Board of some of the expenses connected with City Schemes, it is to be hoped that the subscriptions to this fund will not only be sustained, but considerably increased. The Deacons' Court has no hesitation in saying, that in the present circumstances of the Church, at least double the amount now subscribed ought to be raised, and they would seek to impress upon members and adherents, not only the necessity of contributing themselves, but of training up the young of

their families to acts of self denial, and contributing of such monies as may come into their hands to this fund, explaining to them frequently, the privilege in so contributing, of thus coming to the help of the Lord, to the help of the Lord, against the mighty. Children's small contributions become powerful for good, when perseveringly made, as, witness the Mission ships built and repaired and sent forth, bearing the treasures of the Gospel to distant and needy parts of the earth.

The Deacons' Court have also much pleasure in returning their thanks to the various Collectors who have so well fulfilled the duties assigned them in the past year, and would hope that their efforts will not be relaxed in the coming year. It is only in their efficiency and constancy in this self denying work that the success of the fund is to be looked for.

SABBATH SCHOOL.

The anniversary meeting of the School was held on the 29th December last, which was attended by a large number of parents and friends. Mr. F. W. Torrance continues superintendent, assisted by Mr. D. Morrice. There are 201 scholars on the roll and 30 teachers, average attendance of pupils 160. The teachers meet for the study of the lesson every Sabbath morning.

The library contains 842 Vols, and the "Children's Paper" is distributed monthly.

The missionary contributions for the year together with the proceeds of the Female Teachers' Society, amounted to \$168.45, which has been distributed as follows; to the Red River Mission \$128.45, and to the Sabbath School Association \$40.

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The Pastor's Bible Class which meets in the Church from 3 to 4 on Sabbath afternoons has on its roll over 200 names, and the attendance during the year has been highly satisfactory. Taking the number of Children in the Sabbath School, and members in the Bible Class, there are 400 youth receiving religious instruction in connection with the church. Collected by the class during the year \$148.61. Sixty dollars of which was contributed to the French Canadian Mission, and the balance yet unappropriated.

The Deacons record with deep regret, the death, on the 25th April, of Mr. James Dunbar, who had been for many years, a faithful, devoted, and useful member of the Court.

JAMES ROSS.
Secretary.



Montreal, 20th April, 1866.

RECAPITULATION OF RECEIPTS.

Sustentation Fund.....	\$3680 17
City Missions.....	998 23
Fund for the Poor.....	304 43
Special Collections.....	\$ 853 86
Thank Offering.....	1150 00
Minister's Bible Class.....	2003 86
Sabbath School.....	143 61
Collected from members of the Congregation in aid of the Montreal Board of City Missions.....	168 45
	120 00
Total.....	\$7398 75
Total Receipts for year ending 20th April, 1866.....	\$7398 75
Receipts for year ending 20th April, 1865.....	5968 83
Increase.....	\$1429 92

RECAPITULATION OF RECEIPTS.