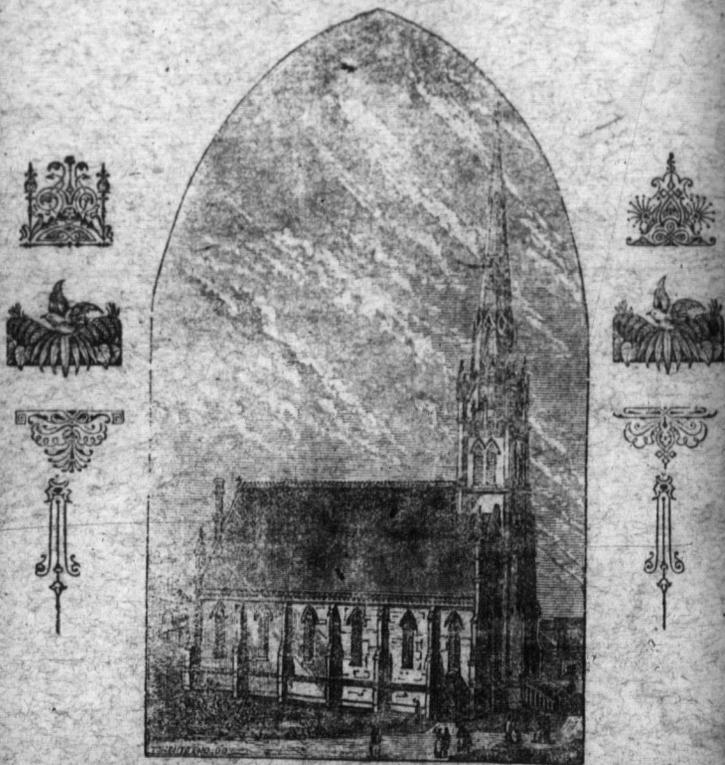


Annual Reports
FOR 1887.



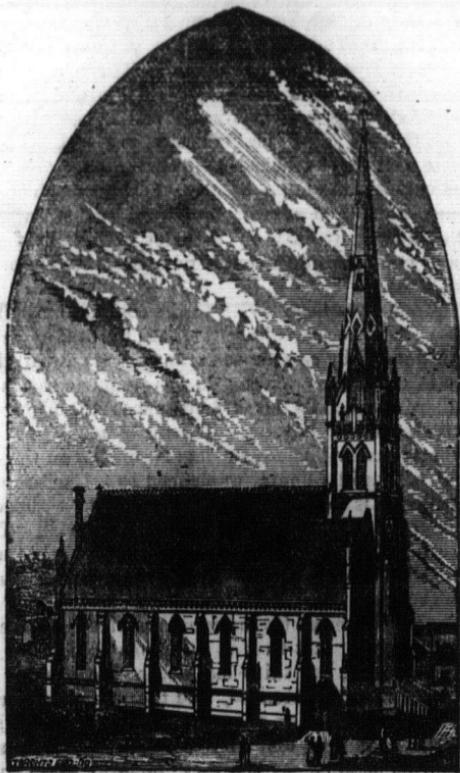
KNOX CHURCH, STRATFORD, ONT.



KNOX

Print

Annual Reports
FOR 1887.



KNOX CHURCH. - - - STRATFORD, ONT.

Printed by J. H. Schmidt, Colonist Office, Erie Street, Stratford.

REPORT OF THE SESSION.

No very detailed or elaborate report is necessary in order to give the Congregation an intelligent idea of such matters as come more immediately under the supervision of the Session. We have much reason for gratitude to God for the measure of spiritual prosperity we have enjoyed as a Congregation. There have been features in the year's history which were not calculated to promote the spiritual life: still the work has gone on, if not with that power and progress that all loyal hearts desire, yet with such benefit and blessing as is well fitted to enkindle gratitude for present blessings, and inspire us with the hope of greater things which are still in store. Many have been edified, comforted and strengthened. An untwonted number have cast in their lot with us by presenting certificates, and more than an average number have been brought to decide for Christ.

Seventy-one have been added to the communion-roll during the year, namely: 49 by certificate and 22 by profession of faith in Christ. This number by certificate is the largest annual addition from that source in the history of the Congregation so far as we know.

Still there is much in our circumstances to suggest self-abasement and invite solemn inquiry. There are many yet, both young and old, who attend with more or less regularity in the services of the church, who still remain unpledged to a Christian life: And our earnest desire is to see all such coming to a decision on the momentous question of their relation to Christ. The weekly Prayer-Meeting, though holding its own, is yet not so fully attended as it should be, especially by the male members and adherents of the Congregation.

The Congregations at the morning service have been usually very large; but the fact that so many of our families have their homes in the country, has this effect, that the evening service is of necessity not so fully attended; and the morning service made to some extent dependent on the state of the weather and roads. Our request is that this disparity between the two services be reduced as far as possible by the very faithful attendance on the evening service of those whose homes are in the city, or not very far out in the country.

During the year 29 have been removed from the communion-roll, twenty-seven owing to removal from the city, one to unite with another Congregation in the city, and one to unite with some

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rural Congregation, where no instrument is used in the service of praise. No member in full communion has been taken from us by death during the year. Still death has been among us. Two children and six adult adherents, most of whom were quite advanced in years, have fallen beneath his stroke. We may further add, that there are several who retain a nominal connection with the Congregation who should not be included in estimating the effective strength of the congregation. The session intend at an early day, to go carefully over the communion-roll, with a view to removing the names of those who are not *bona fide* members, and we believe that when this is done, the membership will be found to be about six-hundred and forty.

The session earnestly desire to see developed among the people a larger liberality toward the Mission Schemes of the church while we gladly acknowledge that there are a few who are conscientious and liberal, we are yet persuaded that no rich spiritual blessing will be enjoyed by us as a people, until we are more generally responsive to God's claims upon us in the matter of Missions. We hope and trust the year on which we have entered will be more fruitful than any of its predecessors in this respect.

Probably never before has the outlook been more hopeful and cheering; and we would tenderly counsel all the christian people of this charge to strive earnestly for the spiritual benefit of the entire flock, and thus make our congregation a power for good in this city and community.

P. WRIGHT, Moderator and Clerk.

MANAGERS' REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31st 1887.

The managers in submitting their report for the Year ending on the 31st of Dec. 1887 beg to congratulate the congregation upon the improved state of the finances.

On the first of January 1887 we had a floating debt of \$1,471 - 74, including an overdraft then due to the Bank of Commerce of \$1,021.74. To meet this liability, the Managers borrowed \$1,100.00, from the Bank of Montreal with which our indebtedness to the Bank of Commerce was paid.

With the burden of a large Floating debt on our hands, caused chiefly by exceptional payments fully explained in the last year's report, it was deemed absolutely necessary to make a strong and united effort to wipe out if possible this great hindrance to the congregation's prosperity. With this object in view the Board with the co-operation of the session undertook to canvas the whole congregation for subscriptions. The result of this appeal to the people was fairly satisfactory although not to the extent anticipated and under the circumstances so very desirable. The subscriptions amounted to \$944 50, \$814.90 of which has to the end of the year been paid to the treasurer. Since the Treasurer's books have been closed \$100 00 of the amount subscribed has been paid—leaving only a small balance outstanding which will be paid within a few days.

The repairs to the Spire cost \$229.66. To meet this unforeseen liability the Managers had to borrow a further sum of \$230.00 from the bank to pay the contractors for the work when completed. To pay this obligation undertaken by the Board an appeal was made from the pulpit for two or three sabbaths in succession for a liberal collection. We cannot say that the appeal was responded to in that spirit of liberality that we expected. The whole collections amounted to \$125.35, being only about one-half the sum required.

The loan of \$1,100.00, from the bank you will observe from the financial statement has during the year been reduced to \$700.00 and the loan of \$230.00 has been paid in full. At the end of the year our liabilities were \$700.00 to the Bank of Montreal and \$450.00 interest on the Mortgage. To apply on this indebtedness we had \$487.83 cash in the Treasurer's hands. This then makes the

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Floating debt on 31st December 1887 \$662.17. On the 2nd of January the Treasurer was paid \$100.00 on this fund which made the Floating debt practically only \$562.17. It will thus be seen that the year just closed has been financially fairly satisfactory and we are hopeful of still greater prosperity during the year upon which we have entered.

At a joint meeting of the session and the board the question of engaging a suitable person who would undertake to perform the duties of Sexton and Secretary-Treasurer came up for discussion and after full consideration it was resolved that Mr. Ralph Donaldson be engaged at a salary of \$450.00 per annum. This Arrangement will we think meet with your approval and we feel confident that it will be found to work to the advantage and financial prosperity of the congregation.

The question of arrears yearly accumulating has been to the Managers a source of much trouble and anxiety. The arrears of 1887 amounts to the large sum of \$537.36—an amount sufficient to wipe out the whole floating debt. The Managers are of the opinion that this accumulation of arrears from year to year is to a large extent if not wholly due to the Envelope system

The session and Managers at a joint meeting gave the matter their earnest consideration and after much deliberation resolved to adopt the Pew-Rent system fully believing that it will work more satisfactorily and produce better results than the present plan.

The pew-rent is placed at a uniform price of Four dollars per sitting throughout the whole of the Church—payable quarterly in advance. As the amount raised this way will not be sufficient to raise the revenue required, a supplementary subscription will be expected from those whose circumstances will enable them to give which will also be payable quarterly in advance with the pew-rent.

An appeal will shortly be made to the congregation, and the Managers hope that the new system now about to be introduced will receive a hearty generous and liberal support.

The open sabbath collections will be taken up morning and evening as usual and it is expected that all will realize the necessity of cheerfully and liberally contributing to this important weekly offering.

The retiring members of the board by rotation are James Bennoch, Joseph Rankin, and J. P. Macdonald.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

F. D. HAMILTON,

Secretary.

J. P. MACDONALD,

Chairman.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Knox Church, - Stratford,

For the year ending Dec. 31st 1887.

RECEIPTS,

Note discounted at Bank	\$ 1 100 00
Envelope Collections	2 925 11
Weekly S. Collections	691 45
Arrears Collected	320 37
Anniversary Services	78 15
Augmentation Fund	63 25
Poor Fund	42 41
Mission Collection	33 00
Spire repair Collection	115 35
Floating debt Collection	816 90
Note discounted, (Spire Repairs)	230 00
Note due, Bank of Montreal	700 00
	\$7,112.99

DISBURSEMENTS,

Overdraft, paid Bank of Commerce	\$ 1 021 74
Mr. Wright, (stipend)	2 300 00
Jas. Foot, salary	200 00
Jas. Dewar, do.	224 60
Gas account	171 43
Printing account	55 25
Organ Rent	15 00
Fuel account	127 50
Property Repairs	50 54
Miscellaneous	89 49
Presbytery fund, 1886 & 1887	88 15
Cleaning Church	23 55
Augmentation Fund	62 75
Poor Fund	40 00
Pulpit supply	60 00
Interest on Mortgage	463 60
Interest on Bank discounts	68 31
Mission Collection, paid Donaldson	33 00
Spire Repairs	229 66
Expense Anniversary services	21 00
Spire Repair note	230 00
Cash paid on \$1100.00 Note	400 00
Balance of Note paid by Renewal	700 00
Cash on hand	487 83
	\$7,112.99

ROBT. MYERS, Treasurer.

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 30 00
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 57 83
 12.99

SUM'Y OF GENERAL REVENUE RECEIPTS,

Envelopes	\$ 2 925 11
Weekly Sabbath Collections	691 45
Arrears Collected	320 37
Anniversary Services, (net)	54 15
Poor Fund Collection	42 41
	<hr/>
	4,033.49

SPECIAL COLLECTIONS,

Floating debt	\$ 816 00
Augmentation Fund	63 25
Spire Repairs	115 35
Mission Fund	33 00
	<hr/>
	\$ 1,028.50

RECEIPTS FROM ALL SOURCES,

General Revenue	\$ 4 033 49
Special Collections	1 028 50
	<hr/>
Total	\$ 5 061 99
Received on Floating Debt since January 1st	100 00

Statement of Assets and Liabilities.

ASSETS.

Church property and furniture		\$20 000 00
Arrears December 31st 1886	\$ 1 500 31	
Arrears collected during 1887	320 37	
	<hr/>	
	\$1,179.94	
Arrears of 1887	537 36	
	<hr/>	
	\$1,717.30	
Arrears written off. (Not collectable)	659 00	
	<hr/>	
	\$1,058 30	
Cash on hand	\$ 487 83	487 83
	<hr/>	
		\$21 546 13

LIABILITIES,

Mortgage Debt	\$ 7 500 00
Bills payable at Bank of Montreal	700 00
Interest due on Mortgage	450 00
Balance	\$12,896.13
	<hr/>
	\$21,546.13
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	\$21,546.13

Stratford, January 14th 1888.

Knox Church Young Peoples' Association

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Final

RECEIPTS:

1886.			
Dec. 31.	To balance on hand	\$ 24 88	
1887.			
Feb. 1	“ Proceeds, F. M. Bell-Smith Recital.....	9 00	1887 Jan. 1.
“ 6.	“ “ Special Sunday Collection	27 07	“
“ 8.	“ “ Rev. H. Rose Lecture	3 50	Feb. March
March 23	“ “ Parlor Concert, W. W. Fortune's.....	12 00	“
April 21	“ “ Rev. H. Rose Lecture	33 46	“
April 21	“ “ Fees	20 cts	April
May 12.	“ “ Parlor Concert, A. McNair's.....	12 15	“
June 24	“ “ Closing Entertainment.....	16 25	May
July 16.	“ Fees \$300, Nov. 10 Fees, \$10, Dec. 8, Fees \$30	3 40	“
Dec. 29.	“ Proceeds Closing Entertainment.....	31 28	“
	*		“
		\$173 18	June

EXPENDITURE:

1887.			
March 5.	By Amount paid on account of Frescoing.....	\$ 60 00	July
April 21.	“ Proceeds of Rev. H. Rose Lecture, to Winnipeg College	33 46	Aug.
July 3.	“ Amount paid W. H. Burnham, Flowers.....	15 00	Sept.
Nov. 10.	“ Donation to Sexton, Mr. Dewar.....	5 00	Oct.
Dec. 29.	“ Amount paid on account of Frescoing	47 00	Nov.
Dec. 3.	“ Balance on hand	19 72	Dec.
		\$173 18	“

Report of Knox Church Young Peoples' Association

Stratford, December 31st, 1887.

In submitting this the annual report for the year 1887, the executive committee beg to state, that the receipts for the past year amounted to \$173.18 — \$100 was paid on account of Frescoing, \$33.46 went to Winnipeg College, \$15 for beautifying the grounds and \$5.10 as a donation to Mr. Dewar, “sexton”, leaving a balance on hand of \$19.72.

Your committee are pleased to note the continued progress of the Association. The Meetings during the year were well attended, a keen interest manifested, and the ties of Friendship among the Young People have been widened and strengthened. May it continue so and the church will be surely strengthened.

A. W. CASSELS, Secretary.

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Knox Church Missionary Association.

Financial Report for the Year Ending Dec. 31. 1887

RECEIPTS:

	1887		
\$ 24 88	Jan. 1.	To Balance on hand	\$ 151 08
9 00	"	" Returns from Collectors	37 15
27 07	Feb.	" " "	37 15
3 50	March	" " "	25 12
12 00	"	" Contribution, Mr. James Cullen	4 00
33 46	April	" Returns from Collectors	33 20
20cts	"	" Contribution, Mr. Wm. Douglass	3 00
12 15	"	" " Mr. Duncan Fisher	8 00
16 25	May	" " Mr. David Hyslop	5 00
\$30	"	" " A. Friend	8 00
3 40	"	" " Augmentation, Mr. Wm Ireland	2 00
31 28	"	" Returns from Collectors	22 75
\$173 18	June	" " "	16 95
	"	" Contribution, Thos. Waldie	6 00
	"	" Special Collection for China	270 33 00
	"	" Contribution, Mrs. Hyde, "French Evg."	1 00
	July	" Returns from Collectors	26 25
\$ 60 00	Aug.	" Returns from Collectors	19 10
33 46	Sept.	" " "	38 15
15 00	Oct.	" " "	22 72
5 00	Nov.	" " "	20 15
43 00	Dec.	" " "	36 75
19 72	"	" Contribution, Mr. Samuel Rankin	3 00
\$178 18	"	" " Mr. Robert Hamilton	3 00
	"	" " Mr. Alex. Kennedy	4 00
	"	" Interest	4 58

\$554 08

EXPENDITURE:

By	French Evangelization	\$ 30 00
"	Foreign Missions	15 00
"	Home	125 00
"	Knox College	65 00
"	Manitoba College	47 00
"	Augmentation Fund	63 25
"	Records, Mr. Jas. Groil	56 89
"	Making draft	15
"	Dr. Reid	70
"	Balance	146 05

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WM. DONALDSON, Sec'y.-Treasurer.

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S, Secretary.

The Auxiliary of
The Woman's Foreign Missionary Society

In connection with the congregation have raised during the past year \$78.00.

REPORT OF
Willing :- "Worker's" :- Mission :- Band
OF KNOX CHURCH.

During the three years of our organization, the membership has increased from 13 to nearly 40. The first year our contribution to the W. F. M. Soc'y was \$20.00, last year it was \$18.00. This amount has been raised principally by doing ordered work. Sent one bale of clothing to Indian children on the File Hills reserve, and paid \$2.00 towards freight on same.

We also obtained the names of 9 families in the North West, to whom a good weekly or monthly paper has been regularly sent.

MISS MODERWELL. President.
MISS F. HAMILTON, Secretary
MISS L. BROWN, - Treasurer.

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Financial Report of Knox Church Sunday School

For the year ending Dec. 31st 1887.

RECEIPTS:

To Balance.....	89 29
Jan. Ordinary Collection.....	22 85
Feb " ".....	18 15
March " ".....	19 26
April " ".....	20 59
May " ".....	20 68
May Special.....	17 42
June Ordinary ".....	21 10
July " ".....	21 85
July Receipts from Picnic.....	6 75
July Garden Party.....	25 82
Aug. Ordinary Collection.....	17 15
Sept. " ".....	23 10
Oct. " ".....	23 92
Nov. " ".....	18 61
Dec. " ".....	22 21

\$386 01

EXPENDITURE:

Feb. 10 By Railway fare 4 delegates S. S. Convention Listowel....	4 20
March 4 Jas. Bain Toronto, S. S. papers.....	77 85
" 14 C. B. Robinson " ".....	15 06
May Foreign Missions.....	100 00
" French Evangelization.....	50 00
Draft.....	20
July 25 Boat for S. S. Picnic.....	15 00
" Pratt & Tracey, Printing.....	8 75
Dec. Provincial S. S. Convention.....	4 30
Balance.....	115 71

\$386 01

GEO. GARDEN, Secretary.

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ELL. President.
TON, Secretary
T. - Treasurer.

Teachers & Office-Bearers

REV. P. WRIGHT..... Pastor and Teacher of Bible Class.
 A. AIRD ADAIR..... Superintendent
 GEO. HUNTER..... Ass't "
 GEO. GARDEN..... Secretary
 W. DONALDSON..... Treasurer
 A. DONALDSON } Librarians
 A. WRIGHT }
 MISS SCOTT..... Organist



MRS. JOHNSON,
 " HYSLOP,
 MISS GARDEN,
 " SCOTT,
 " HYDE,
 " HAMILTON,
 " GRANT,
 " DUNSEITH,
 " B. ORR,
 " B. FORTUNE,
 " M. FORTUNE,
 " CASSELS,
 " MILLER,
 " BROWN,
 " FORBES,
 " A. DUNCAN,
 " J. DUNCAN,

MISS BALLARD,
 " COCHRANE,
 " CAMPBELL,
 " YOUNG,
 " MCINTOSH,
 " MCLENNAN,
 " HUNTER,
 MR. GEO. HUNTER,
 " A. STEWART,
 " WM. IRELAND,
 " JOHN MCINTYRE,

