

THE REPORT
OF THE
KIRK SESSION AND COMMITTEE
OF MANAGEMENT
OF
ST. JOHN'S

Presbyterian Church, Willis Street,

WELLINGTON,

FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER, 1878.

WELLINGTON :

PRINTED AT "THE NEW ZEALAND TIMES" OFFICE, WILLIS STREET.

MDCCCLXXIX.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

KIRK SESSION AND COMMITTEE

OF MANAGEMENT

OF

ST. JOHN'S PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH,

WILLIS STREET, WELLINGTON,

FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER, 1878.

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MDCCCLXXIX.

KIRK SESSION.

Moderator:

REV. JAMES PATERSON.

Elders:

JOHN McLEAN,
JAMES SMITH,
DAVID ROBERTSON,
JOHN YOUNG,
DUNCAN MATHESON,

FRANCIS FRASER,
ALEX. HOPKIRK,
ANDREW LAING.
ROBERT HOPKIRK,
JAMES TODD.

Members of Committee:

W. W. TAYLOR, TREASURER.

W. SMITH, SECRETARY.

THOMAS McKENZIE
ROBERT GREENFIELD,
JAMES SLOAN,
THOMAS WHITEHOUSE,
J. KIRKCALDIE,
GEORGE MACDONALD,
ROBT. MILLER,
JAMES HUTCHINS,

JAMES McKERROW,
A. MUIR,
W. WADDELL,
W. S. REID,
E. GARDNER,
D. GRAY,
JOHN TAYLOR,
W. HOPKIRK.

THE REPORT
OF THE
Kirk Session and Committee of Management
TO THE
MEMBERS AND SEATHOLDERS
OF
ST. JOHN'S PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, WELLINGTON,
FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31ST DECEMBER, 1878.

IN presenting the annual report, it is our first duty, to acknowledge with gratitude the goodness of God toward us as a congregation in the privileges and blessings we have enjoyed, and in the tokens of His presence and power amongst us. The congregation has made quiet, steady progress; and there has been no division amongst us, no discord, but unity and harmony. We trust also there has been a healthy growth of Church life. Some blanks, however have been made in our ranks; some removals by death. We have to mourn the loss of some whom God has taken; but we are consoled with the thought that our loss is their gain.

We have to report an increase both in the numbers and resources of the congregation. In the membership there is an increase of 30; the number on the communion roll last year being 220; this year, 250. Nearly all the sittings in the body of the church are let, and a considerable number in the gallery. At each quarterly communion about 170 sat down together at the Lord's Table. The growth of the congregation necessitated an increase in the eldership. At the request of the Session the congregation elected six additional elders, of whom four accepted office, viz, Messrs. Robert Hopkirk, John Young, Duncan

Matheson, and James Todd. There is now a staff of ten elders associated with the pastor in the spiritual oversight of the congregation. The elders visit their districts before each quarterly communion. They are also in readiness at all times to visit cases of sickness or otherwise to attend to the spiritual concerns of the families in their respective districts. They take part also in the weekly service on Wednesday evenings, and in the work of the Sunday schools. Any cases of sickness should at once be reported to the elders or to the minister.

It is to be regretted that with the increased attendance at the services on the Lord's Day there has not been a corresponding attendance at the weekly prayer meeting. Surely more out of so large a congregation might avail themselves of this opportunity of meeting together in the midst of the cares and duties of daily life for Christian worship and fellowship.

The two Sunday Schools, as will be gathered from the special reports to be read, are in a satisfactory condition. In the Willis-street school, superintended by Mr. F. Fraser, 269 children are in attendance, including an infant class of about 60; these are taught by 21 teachers. In the Mount Cook schools, superintended by Mr. Alexander Hopkirk, there are 210 in attendance, including 67 in the infant class; and there is a staff of 22 teachers. The schools are examined at least once a year in the course of Bible lessons for the previous six months; and also in the Shorter Catechism. Prizes are awarded to scholars according to merit. By these examinations a stimulus is given both to teachers and scholars in their work, and a wholesome rivalry is maintained.

The Young Men's Bible Class, which meets in the managers' room on Sunday afternoons at 2.30, is very efficiently taught by Mr. Thomas McKenzie, who has conducted that class now for many years. Not a few of those young men who at one time or another attended that class are now members of the Church, and

engaged in Sunday school work. The senior girls' class is ably taught by Miss McEachern. These classes are feeders to the teaching power in the school, and having been lately drawn upon for that purpose they need filling up.

For several months the minister had Bible classes on Thursday evenings—a young women's from 7 to 8 o'clock, and a young men's from 8 to 9 o'clock. The classes were suspended for a few weeks at the end of the year, but are to be resumed. It is important to have the young thoroughly instructed in the knowledge of God's Word, and to have their hearts and lives imbued with its Divine principles and precepts.

A Band of Hope has been instituted in connection with the Sunday Schools. The meetings are well attended, and are made both interesting and instructive by addresses on temperance and kindred subjects.

The Young Men's Literary Society continued its meetings in the manager's room on Tuesday evenings till the end of November, when it adjourned for a three months' vacation. It resumes its work early in March, it is hoped with an increase of members, and with fresh life and spirit.

The Choir continues under the efficient leadership of Mr. Raymond. We have to regret the loss of several of the more prominent members by their removal to other parts of the colony. Their places are not easily supplied. But while the Choir has lost, it has also gained one or two members, whom we are glad to welcome. It is, however, very desirable that more would come forward who have a good voice and a knowledge of music, and assist in improving the psalmody of the church. It is also very important that the Choir should maintain regular practice, and that the members should all attend the practice.

The revenue of the church shows a considerable increase. The ordinary Sunday collections amount to £550; last year, £502; showing an increase over last year of £48. The seat rents this

year amount to £446; last year £364; increase, £82. The special collections for the Assembly schemes are about the same as last year, viz., £95. The total (£1091), shows an increase in the revenue of the Church over last year of £130. In addition to the ordinary revenue, about £1073 was raised in liquidation of the debt on the church. This sum added to the revenue makes a total of about £2100 contributed by the congregation during the year.

At the commencement of the year there was a debt on the church of £2000; that amount is reduced by £1000.

At a congregational meeting a proposal was submitted to erect on the unoccupied part of the manse acre a new manse for the Minister. The congregation cordially sanctioned the proposal, and the managers are now taking steps to carry it into effect. Arrangements have been made so that this undertaking shall impose no additional liability on the revenue of the Church for at least the first year.

In connection with the new manse scheme we have to acknowledge a very kind offer on the part of George Hunter, Esq., M.H.R., of a piece of land adjoining the Church on which to erect the manse. Mr. Hunter being under the impression that the congregation had to buy a site, offered this on the sole condition that the money which would have been spent on the purchase should be put into the building, to make it so much the more a comfortable and commodious residence for the minister. It was a generous thought, generously expressed. The congregation, however, having an admirable site in Woolcombe-street, where the old manse stands, and there being ample space for another, the managers thought it preferable to erect the new manse on the manse acre. The site therefore so handsomely offered, not being used for the purpose for which it was offered, reverts to Mr. Hunter. But the congregation will feel no less indebted to him for his generous intention.

The managers have gratefully to acknowledge a bequest of £100 by the late Alexander Sutherland, Esq., of Lyell's Bay, an old and respected member of the congregation. This sum has been appropriated toward the reduction of the debt on the Church, in accordance with the will of the donor.

They have also gratefully to acknowledge receipt of a bequest of £50 from the late Hon. W. B. Rhodes for educational purposes in the congregation. The trustees of the Church, to whom this bequest was made, have set it apart to increase the Sunday School Library.

The General Assembly of our Church, which met in Wellington, in December, 1877, resolved to institute a sustentation fund for the better support of the Ministry of the Church. In many districts where population is sparse the congregations are small, and Divine ordinances could not be maintained, except by help from without. It is a Scriptural principle that the strong should help the weak; that congregations which are larger and wealthier should assist those which are smaller and weaker. This fund is designed to effect that object. It is to be raised by monthly or quarterly subscriptions from members and adherents in the various congregations of the Church. The office bearers are about to visit the congregation to receive the names of those who are willing to become contributors to the fund.

In a city so large and so rapidly increasing as this there is need for some special effort being made in addition to the ordinary Church agencies to maintain the influences of religion in the hearts and homes of the people. Numbers fall away from attendance at Church, and lapse into utter neglect of religious ordinances and duties. Hence the need of special missionary effort. We are fortunate in having amongst us one who has peculiar gifts for this work, and who in the old country had some experience in it; we refer to Mr. Robert Hopkirk, one of the recently appointed elders. It is proposed to employ him as a city missionary in

connection with this church and congregation, and a few gentleman have guaranteed his stipend, at least for one year, and contribute that amount toward the revenue for that special object. Mr. Hopkirk will carry on his work especially in the Te Aro and Newtown districts in house to house visitations, in holding cottage prayer meetings, and in a district Sunday School; and if a suitable place can be got, in holding Sunday services. He will also visit the Hospital, and in other ways seek to bring the blessings of the Gospel to those who might otherwise be neglected.

Missionary work is the true work of the Church. God has greatly blessed us with the means of grace, and with many Christian privileges. If we value these, and profit by them as we ought, we must seek to impart them to those who are destitute of them, and to commend them to those who neglect them. Where there is earnest Church life there must be earnest Church work. It is a healthy sign when the Church strikes out into new paths of Christian activity and usefulness. The Church only realises the very idea of its existence when it seeks in all ways to extend the knowledge of the Divine Redeemer, and to establish His kingdom of righteousness and truth. Let us strive faithfully to do our part. Let us seek to have more earnest Christian life, and to abound in more earnest Christian work to the glory of our blessed Lord.

REVENUE ACCOUNT.
STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS ON ACCOUNT OF ST. JOHN'S PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH,
FOR YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER, 1878.

Dr.		To		Balance of account, 31st Dec., 1877		1877		£ s. d.		£ s. d.	
Mr. Paterson's Stipend	...	Mr. Paterson's Stipend	...	600	0	0	...	600	0	0	...
Mr. Moir's annuity	...	Mr. Moir's annuity	...	100	0	0	...	100	0	0	...
Insurance premium paid	...	Insurance premium paid	...	32	16	3	...	32	16	3	...
Door-keeper and cleaning Church...	...	Door-keeper and cleaning Church...	...	38	16	11	...	38	16	11	...
Choir Master, £50, Organ Blower, £4	...	Choir Master, £50, Organ Blower, £4	...	54	0	0	...	54	0	0	...
Gas accounts	...	Gas accounts	...	25	6	0	...	25	6	0	...
Payments to Turnbull, on account of Organ	...	Payments to Turnbull, on account of Organ	...	£17	17	0	...	£17	17	0	...
	...		...	24	6	6	...	24	6	6	...
Sundry accounts—		Sundry accounts—		42	3	6		42	3	6	
Mr. Tolley	...	Mr. Tolley	...	4	2	0		4	2	0	
Mr. Gardner	...	Mr. Gardner	...	1	3	6		1	3	6	
Mr. Tustin	...	Mr. Tustin	...	1	1	3		1	1	3	
Mr. Greenfield	...	Mr. Greenfield	...	6	13	3		6	13	3	
Mr. Jas. Smith	...	Mr. Jas. Smith	...	19	10	4		19	10	4	
Mr. Stuart	...	Mr. Stuart	...	2	0	0		2	0	0	
Printing accounts—		Printing accounts—		34	10	4		34	10	4	
Times, £7 13s. 0d; Post, 22s.; Argus, 11s. 6d....		Times, £7 13s. 0d; Post, 22s.; Argus, 11s. 6d....		9	6	6		9	6	6	
William Scott, commission on Seat Rents collected	...	William Scott, commission on Seat Rents collected	...	3	0	0		3	0	0	
New Cheque Book	...	New Cheque Book	...	0	4	2		0	4	2	
Mr. Treadwell's expenses	...	Mr. Treadwell's expenses	...	7	0	0		7	0	0	
Cash remitted to Auckland being amounts received for Sundry Church schemes	...	Cash remitted to Auckland being amounts received for Sundry Church schemes	...	95	1	2		95	1	2	
To Balance in hand 31st Dec., 1879	...	To Balance in hand 31st Dec., 1879	...	1067	13	4		1067	13	4	
	...		...	£38	17	3		£38	17	3	
				£1106	10	7		£1106	10	7	

Wellington, 31st December, 1878.

W. WARING TAYLOR, Treasurer.

£1106 10 7

BUILDING FUND.		Cr.		
Dr		£	s.	d.
To Debentures paid off	...	160	0	0
" Interest on Debentures	...	27	4	0
" " on Debentures outstanding	...	12	0	0
" " on Mortgage for 12 months	...	120	0	0
" Balance of Building Fund account	...	23	18	9
1st Jan., 1878	...			
		343	2	9
		<u>£740 6 9</u>		
By Subscriptions received during the year		...	1007	3 6
" Anniversary Soiree		...	36	0 6
" Collection		...	30	0 0
" Proceeds of Lectures		...	10	5 6
			1083	9 6

W. WARING TAYLOR,
Treasurer.

Wellington, 31st December, 1878.

SUBSCRIPTIONS TO THE BUILDING FUND.

£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Allen, William	...	1 0 0	McDonald, Mrs.	...	5 0 0
Armstrong, Mrs.	...	1 10 0	McDonald, T. K.	...	10 0 0
Baird, J. D.	...	5 0 0	McIntyre, D.	...	10 10 0
Baker, C.	...	1 1 0	McLean, J. (George Street)	...	3 3 0
Ballinger, Mrs.	...	1 0 0	McLean, John	...	10 0 0
Barron, Mr.	...	3 3 0	McLead, A.	...	5 0 0
Blair, J. R.	...	5 0 0	McMurrin, J.	...	2 2 0
Blocklock, J.	...	1 1 0	McNab, J.	...	1 0 0
Buyers, J.	...	5 0 0	McKerrow, J.	...	30 0 0
Buchanan, J.	...	5 0 0	Mitchell, James	...	5 0 0
Chappel, James	...	1 0 0	Monroe, H.	...	1 0 0
Climie, D.	...	10 0 0	Muir, J.	...	5 0 0
Crawford, George	...	10 10 0	Murray, A.	...	3 0 0
Dawson, W.	...	10 0 0	Munroe, —	...	1 0 0
Edmonds, Mr.	...	1 5 0	Nicholson, Wm.	...	5 0 0
Elders, Mrs.	...	0 10 0	Paterson, Rev. J.	...	25 0 0
Everess, Mrs.	...	2 2 0	Quin, Michael,	...	1 1 0
Falkner, —	...	1 1 0	Reid, W. S.	...	10 0 0
Flannigan, F.	...	2 0 0	Reid, Andrew	...	3 3 0
Fraser, F. M.	...	5 5 0	Robertson, David	...	10 0 0
Friend	...	0 10 6	Robins, Mrs.	...	3 0 0
Gardner, Robert	...	10 0 0	Sample, W.	...	2 0 0
Gray, D. S.	...	5 0 0	Sawyer, J.	...	5 0 0
Green, Henry	...	3 3 0	Sloan, J. & R.	...	10 0 0
Hannah, R.	...	5 0 0	Smith, James	...	100 0 0
Halley, J.	...	5 0 0	Stoddart, Mrs.	...	1 0 0
Hamilton, Mr.	...	2 2 0	Stewart, Mrs.	...	2 0 0
Harris, Miss	...	1 1 0	Stevenson, J. M.	...	2 0 0
Hewett, Thomas	...	2 0 0	Sutherland, Alex.	...	100 0 0
Hislop, J.	...	10 0 0	Taylor, W. W.	...	114 0 0
Hopkirk, Alex.	...	3 0 0	Thompson, J. M.	...	25 0 0
Hutchins, James	...	3 0 0	Turnbull, Thomas	...	10 0 0
Jack, Mr.	...	3 0 0	Turnbull, Walter	...	100 0 0
Jamieson, H.	...	10 0 0	Waddell, W.	...	25 0 0
Kirkcaldie, J.	...	50 0 0	Whitehouse, Thos.	...	10 0 0
Laing, Andrew	...	2 0 0	Young, J.	...	5 5 0
Laird, Mrs.	...	10 0 0	Yule, John	...	2 0 0
Lockie, James	...	10 10 0			
Logan, H. F.	...	36 12 0			
Martin, John	...	100 0 0			
					£1007 3 6

ELEVENTH ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Willis Street Presbyterian Sabbath School,

FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER, 1878.

THE close of another year brings round the time for presenting our Annual Report. By the good hand of God upon us we are still able to say that our work is prospering, and for this we would record our thankfulness, and pray that He would still prosper our work.

ATTENDANCE.

We have pleasure in reporting that the number of scholars has increased during the year; there is now a total of 269 on the roll—133 boys, and 136 girls, with an average attendance each Sabbath of 155. The largest number that assembled in one day was 187.

TEACHERS AND OFFICE-BEARERS.

We regret the loss of six of our teachers during the year from various causes, their places have been taken by four new ones, thus leaving us two short of the number reported last year, viz., 23. There are besides the teachers two librarians, a secretary, and superintendent, thus making the staff of workers 25.

SENIOR GIRLS CLASS.

The formation of this important class, which was suggested in our last report, has been accomplished; the class, which consists of eight scholars, is ably taught by Miss McEachern.

INFANT CLASS.

This class, which numbers 60, with an average attendance of 40, is still taught by Mr. J. Hopkirk, who is doing a good work, as a large number during the year have been drafted from it into higher classes.

TREATS.

The annual treat of the school was held as usual on the 22nd of January, but, owing to the inclemency of the weather, the outdoor sports had to be dispensed with. The children assembled in the school in the evening, when the prizes were distributed to the successful scholars in the examination.

EXAMINATION.

The examination on the "Life of St. Paul" and the shorter catechism, was held on the 30th January, thirteen scholars coming forward for the "Life of St. Paul," to eight of whom prizes were awarded. For the examination on the shorter catechism 36 came forward; prizes were awarded to 12 of the number. Eight of the younger scholars were examined in the Mother's Catechism, six of whom obtained prizes.

The result of the examination may be considered very satisfactory, the competition in some cases was very keen, and in some instances as many as three and four were equal.

SPECIAL ADDRESSES AND COLLECTIONS.

The only special address delivered during the year was in connection with the Anniversary of the Church, when our pastor preached a special sermon for the young, which was listened to with marked attention by the scholars.

The collections in aid of the "Dayspring" were made as usual by the children of both schools. £14 17s. was obtained by the children attending Willis Street school. The teachers, knowing that there were objections to collecting the money by cards as

formerly, decided to, in future, make a special collection on the first Sunday in each month on behalf of the mission ship. It is to be hoped that this will be successful from a financial point of view.

BAND OF HOPE.

At a meeting of teachers held in October it was decided to establish a Band of Hope in connection with the schools, all teachers who were pledged abstainers to be members of Committee. We are glad to report that this has been successfully started. The roll numbers 105. The meetings, which are well attended, are held every Friday evening from 7 to 8.

LIBRARY.

The library, which consists of 450 volumes, is well patronised by the scholars. This number will shortly be increased, £10 of the late Hon. W. B. Rhodes's donation has been devoted to the purchase of additional books. The books have been ordered from the Sunday School Union, London.

In conclusion, we again acknowledge the goodness of God in leading us hitherto, and pray that He would grant us grace and strength to continue our efforts in this good work, looking for the blessing in His own good time and way.

J. H. FRASER,
Superintendent Willis Street School.
WM. MILLER,
Secretary Willis Street School.

SEVENTH ANNUAL REPORT

OF

St. John's Branch School, Mount Cook.

WE have much pleasure in submitting this the Seventh Annual Report of the Branch School, the past year having been one of prosperity; and on behalf of the teachers and ourselves, desire to record our thankfulness to God for the success which has attended our labors.

The meetings of the school are now held in the large Government Schoolroom, Taranaki Street, called the Mount Cook, which has proved very commodious and convenient for the purpose. On this account our school will in future be known by that name.

The attendance of children throughout the year has been good, and at the close there were upwards of 210 on the books—95 girls and 105 boys. Of these about 35 girls and 45 boys belong to the infant class. The average attendance during the year was about 160.

The staff of teachers, inclusive of Superintendent, Librarian, and Secretary, numbers 22—nine ladies and 13 gentlemen. There have been various changes in our staff during the year, several of our teachers from different causes having left. Any vacancies which, however, have occurred, we are glad to say were filled without much delay. We desire most particularly to mention the loss of Miss Hewitt, who had been connected with our school from the time the church took the school over, and who labored most zealously throughout the seven years she was associated with us.

The Library continues to be well patronised by the children, and we trust that good work is being done by the circulation of the class of books it contains. No addition has been made to the library during the past twelve months, but it is intended to expend a portion of the £50 bequeathed by the late Hon. W. B. Rhodes in increasing the libraries of both this and the parent school.

The children still continue to be supplied monthly with periodicals, such as the "Children's Friend," "British Workmen," &c. Our orders for these have hitherto been executed by the Sunday School Union, of London, through their depôt at Auckland. It has, however, been considered advisable to establish a depôt in Wellington, to ensure the earlier and more regular distribution of the magazines. For this purpose steps were lately taken by the Wellington Presbytery to carry out this object, and we hope, during the ensuing year, that it may be permanently established.

At the commencement of the year an examination of the children was held by the Rev. J. Paterson on the lessons which they had been taught during the previous six months, and prizes were awarded to the successful competitors. The examination proved very satisfactory, and showed that much care had been taken by the teachers in instructing those placed under their charge. It is intended to hold these examinations regularly, and it is hoped they will prove a further means of thoroughly grounding the children in those lessons it is the desire of all to impart.

In conclusion, we pray that God's presence and blessing may be with us during the ensuing year, and that the good work may still go on and prosper.

A. HOPKIRK, Superintendent.

G. P. McDONALD, Secretary.

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The Alexander Turnbull Library
P O Box 12349, Wellington

Ref: NB: 82-230-28/1

BALANCE-SHEET OF THE SABBATH SCHOOLS IN CONNECTION WITH THE ST. JOHN'S
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, WILLIS STREET.

1878.	RECEIPTS.		1878.		PAYMENTS.		£ s. d.	
	Jan. 1.	£ s. d.	Feb. 20.	£ s. d.				
To Balance last year	"	...	Paid to Mrs. Barber, cleaning school	...	0 15 0	
" Children's Collections—	April 10.	...	" W. W. Taylor, Maori Mission	...	5 0 0	
Willis Street	...	18 19 6	May 30.	...	" Mr. Fraser, for Books, &c.	...	9 10 8	
Mount Cook	...	16 5 11½			" N.Z. Times Co., cards "Dayspring"	...	1 5 0	
" Subscriptions "Dayspring"—			" Subscription, Auckland Union	...	18 3 10	
Mount Cook	...	18 10 2			" Do.	...	6 8 4	
Willis Street	...	14 17 0			" Carriage parcels, do.	...	0 14 3	
		...			" Telegrams, do.	...	0 2 0	
		68 12 7½			" A. Hopkirk for Chairs ...	...	2 5 0	
Dec. 8.		...			" J. Watt's account, Hymn Books	...	0 18 0	
To Anniversary Services, Children	...	3 4 5			" F. H. Fraser do.	...	3 14 10	
Balance	...	4 9 10½			Proportion printing Reports on	...	...	...
		...			Sunday Schools paid to Rev. J.	...	1 0 0	
		...			Treadwell ...	...	...	...
		...			" W. W. Taylor, sub. to "Dayspring"	...	...	...
		...			Mount Cook	...	18 10 2	
		...			Willis Street	...	14 17 0	
		...			Anniversary Services, children	...	3 4 5	
		...					£86 8 6	

THOMAS MCKENZIE, Treasurer.

THE REPORT
OF THE
KIRK SESSION AND COMMITTEE
OF MANAGEMENT
OF
ST. JOHN'S
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, WILLIS ST.,
WELLINGTON,
FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31ST DECEMBER, 1879.

Wellington:
PRINTED AT LYON & BLAIR'S OFFICES, LAMBTON QUAY.
1880.

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KIRK SESSION.

Moderator:

REV. JAMES PATTERSON.

Elders:

JOHN McLEAN
JAMES SMITH
DAVID ROBERTSON
J. YOUNG
A. TODD

FRANCIS FRASER
EX. HOPKIRK
ANDREW LAING
D. MATHIESON
R. HOPKIRK

Members of Committee:

W. W. TAYLOR, Treasurer.

ROBERT GARDNER, Secretary.

THOMAS McKENZIE
ROBERT GREENFIELD
JAMES SLOAN
THOMAS WHITEHOUSE
W. KIRKCALDIE
W. HOPKIRK

J. MUIR
W. WADDELL
W. S. REID
D. GRAY
J. McKERROW
W. DAWSON

Auditors:

J. KING

J. WEBB

THE REPORT
OF THE
SESSION AND COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT
TO THE
MEMBERS AND SEATHOLDERS
OF
ST. JOHN'S PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, WELLINGTON,
FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31ST DECEMBER, 1879.

At a meeting of the congregation on Monday evening last, the Rev. James Paterson presiding, the following was read as the Annual Report :—

In reviewing the affairs of the congregation for the past year, and in summing up results, we find much cause for thankfulness to God for his goodness and mercy. In the continuance of our Christian privileges, in the peace and harmony existing amongst us, in the quiet steady progress of the congregation, and in the measure of success attending our various schemes and undertakings, we have enjoyed much of His favor and blessing. Each year, as it passes, witnesses changes in the congregation; new members and families take their places amongst us, and old familiar faces are missed. This year has been no exception. Some have left us, others have joined us, and some have left us to join the Church above. In the early part of this year much sickness prevailed, and several families suffered sore bereavement. In one case, the head of the family, much respected and beloved, was suddenly stricken down; in another case, the aged mother, after many months of feeble health, was called to the Heavenly rest; while in a third case, two young men of excellent Christian character and of great promise were removed by the hand of

death. One of these two brothers deserves special mention here, being an office-bearer in the congregation, and a most devoted worker in the Sunday school, in the Young Men's Literary Society, and indeed in every department of work connected with the Church. Need we say that we refer to Mr. George McDonald. By his happy, genial, Christian spirit, and his hearty earnestness in every good work, he had endeared himself to us all, and his memory will long be cherished amongst us. Of him and his brother it may be said—"They were lovely and pleasant in their lives, and in death they were not divided."

SESSIONS REPORT.

During the year forty-seven new members joined the Church, of whom twenty-five were young communicants admitted by examination, and twenty-two joined by certificate from other congregations; thirty-one names dropped from the roll by death, or by removal, or by non-attendance, leaving an increase of sixteen to the membership of the Church. The Communion was dispensed quarterly; from 170 to 180 each time communicated. We have now a membership of 266. The increase in the Communion roll, and the attendance at the Communion table, should be an index of the healthiness of our Church life. Would that we had more evidence of spiritual life and growth amongst us. The attendance at the weekly prayer meetings on Wednesday evenings has been about the same as in former years. The Sunday-schools, as will be gathered from the special reports read, are in a healthy condition. In the Willis-street school there are 237 on the roll, with an average attendance of 181, and a staff of 22 teachers. In the Mount Cook school there are 220 on the roll, with an average attendance of 151, and a staff of 21 teachers. In each school there is a good library, consisting of about 250 volumes. Considerable additions are being made to the libraries by means of the Rhodes bequest.

In the end of the year an examination was held in each school in the Bible Lessons, and the Shorter Catechism—the results of

which were satisfactory, with the exception, that a considerable number, shrinking from the examination, absented themselves on the occasion. The parents, as well as the teachers, should take an interest in the examination, and prepare their children for it, and insist on their being present, and taking part in it. It is the most effectual way of testing the efficiency of the work done in the schools and its results. The Band of Hope, in connection with the Sunday-schools, is still full of life and vigor; the meetings, which are held on Friday evenings, are well attended, and the children are being interested and instructed in the subjects bearing on temperance. It is of great importance that our young people should be well grounded in these subjects, and that they should be trained up from their childhood in the principles and habits of strict temperance.

The other agencies in connection with the Church—the Senior Bible Classes and the Young Men's Literary Society—for promoting religious instruction and mental and moral culture, are continued with more or less success. The attendance fluctuates, and is often discouraging to those who take the deepest interest in them.

The thanks of the congregation are due to Mr. Raymond and the choir for the efficient way in which they have assisted in the Psalmody of the Church. They have met weekly for practice, and have shown every desire to improve the Psalmody.

Bearing in mind the unparalleled depression which has been experienced by all classes of the community during the past twelve months, your committee feel it to be a cause of thankfulness that the finances of the Church have suffered so little. The receipts for the year in aid of revenue account (including collections in support of the various works undertaken by the Assembly) amount to £1,287 13s. 5d., against £1,106 10s. 7d. collected during the previous year. This amount includes £112 18s. contributed for the support of a city missionary, the duties of which office have been faithfully fulfilled by Mr. Robert Hopkirk; and the session and committee desire to

express their thanks to him for his services, and trust to obtain a continuance of them. It also includes £72 subscribed towards the Assembly Sustentation Fund.

No further effort has been made to obtain subscriptions towards the reduction of the debt on the church; and the balance to credit of the building fund account on the 1st January, 1879, has been considerably reduced by the expense of alterations which your committee were compelled to undertake consequent on the alteration of the street levels by the Corporation. A further sum was also expended by them on the site for the new manse. It was not thought desirable to make any appeal for subscriptions to meet these expenditures, but rather in the meantime to use the funds in hand. Your committee have given instructions to have the balance to credit of the building account invested, in order to avoid any loss of interest, pending repayment of the mortgage on the church. Owing to the commercial depression, and the difficulty of obtaining money at a reasonable rate of interest, your committee suspended operations in regard to the new manse for the minister. But the object has not been lost sight of, and it is hoped that ere long the congregation will be in a position to carry it out. Mr. Robert Hopkirk, the city missionary employed by the congregation, prosecutes his labours with great zeal, and not without tokens of success. He visits in Newtown, Kilbirnie, Mitchelltown, and other districts of the city; visits the homes of many who attend no place of worship, and speaks to them of Christ and His Salvation. He visits the immigration barracks when the immigrants arrive; also the hospital, and holds a regular service there on Sabbath evenings, which is well attended. He has also on several occasions taken part in the religious services held at Wadestown, with those employed there on the railway works. And by distributing tracts, and other means, he has sought to do good as he had opportunity. The want of a room in some district where he could hold stated meetings, and thereby concentrate his efforts, is much felt. It is hoped that ere long some such place of

meeting may be secured. The work in which the missionary is engaged is a good work, and deserves the sympathy, encouragement, and prayers of the congregation that God's blessing may rest on his labours. May this year be one of more deep and earnest religious life among us, and of greater activity in every department of Church work, and may the Divine blessing crown our efforts with abundant success.

By Balance in
Deer College

10

Audited and found correct.

D. GRAY,
W. HOPKIRK, } AUDITORS. 9th February, 1880.

CPA

111

Audited and found correct.

D. GRAY,
W. HOPKIRK, } AUDITORS. 8th February, 1880.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF

St. John's Presbyterian Sabbath Schools.

We have much pleasure in presenting this our Twelfth Annual Report of the Willis-street School, and the Eighth of the Branch School, now held in Mount Cook Boys' School-room.

Standing at the close of another year and reviewing the work accomplished amongst our children, with hearts full of gratitude to our Heavenly Father, we are constrained to raise our Ebenezer and say: "Hitherto hath the Lord helped us;" and realising our dependence on His almighty strength, we would humbly ask His help and blessing on our future efforts.

Attendance.—It is very gratifying to be able to report that the attendance in both Schools has been very good on the whole during the past year.

The number enrolled on the book in Willis-street School at present, is 237: 125 girls and 112 boys, with an average attendance of 181 each Sabbath. The Infant Class numbers about 60 boys and girls, and the Senior Classes 12 each, the young women being most efficiently taught by Miss M'Eachern, and the young men by Mr. Thomas M'Kenzie.

In Mount Cook we have about 220 on the roll, of which 108 are girls, and 112 boys, with an average attendance of 151. The Infant Class in this School, is very large, numbering fully 100, and having an attendance of from 60 to 85 on fine days.

Teachers and Office-bearers.—The Staff in Willis-street consists of, at present, 10 ladies and 14 gentlemen, besides the Superintendent, making a total of 25.

In the Mount Cook school the staff consists of ten ladies and ten gentlemen exclusive of the Superintendent; making a total of 21.

We have a much larger number of changes to chronicle this year than in any previous year of our history, several teachers

having left the school for various reasons, but their places have been filled by others whom we would cordially welcome as fellow-laborers in the Master's vineyard.

Amongst those who have left us there is one who calls for more than passing notice. It is with the deepest sorrow that we have to record the removal from our midst of our dearly loved and much respected Secretary, Mr. George McDonald. In March last, shortly after the death of his brother, Mr. Adam McDonald, he was taken sick with the same malady, and, after a brief but severe illness, God in His infinite wisdom took him home to Himself.

How painful the remembrance is still to us who are left, even although we "do not sorrow as those who have no hope." What a blank was that caused by his being taken from us! A young man, in the prime of life, generous almost to a fault, affectionate, manly and sincere, foremost in every good and noble work, and always ready. Ours the loss, but his the gain. May we who are left be enabled, by grace, to follow in his footsteps in so far as he followed the blessed Master; so that death to us, as to him, may be gain.

We desire also to express our deepest sympathy with his family in their sore affliction, and would commend them to the care of our all-wise and ever-loving Heavenly Father, knowing that "all things work together for good to them that love God."

Childrens' Treat.—The Annual Treat to the children was given on the 22nd January, and was a great success, all the children enjoying themselves to the utmost.

Examination.—The yearly examinations in the Bible lessons and Shorter Catechism were held in both schools in the month of December. It is to be regretted so few came forward, as those who competed answered very creditably, showing that they had been attentive and diligent throughout the year. The importance of these examinations, both as a stimulus to teachers and scholars and as a test of work done, cannot be over-estimated.

Periodicals.—We have received our periodicals through the Wellington S.S. Union this year, and on the whole have had them very regularly.

Library.—The libraries are very fairly supplied at the present time, and, we are glad to be able to add, seem to be appreciated, especially by the elder children. We have about 550 books in both libraries, and have just received a further 170 volumes from the Otago Bible and Tract Society, the cost of which comes

out of the legacy bequeathed by the late Hon. W. B. Rhodes, and devoted to that purpose, so that we have now a total of over 700 volumes, including the Teachers' Library.

Collections.—The collections in aid of the Mission vessel "Dayspring," which is supported entirely by Sabbath School children, as intimated in last report, were made this year on the first Sabbath of each month, in preference to sending the children out with collection-cards. The hope expressed then as to the success of this method from a financial point of view, we are sorry to say, has not been very fully realized, only about one-half the usual amount having been raised this year, but we expect to be able to report more favourably next year, now that the children are learning better to remember and to understand what is wanted of them.

As will be seen by the balance-sheet presented by the Treasurer, the funds necessary for carrying on the work of the Sunday School are rather at low ebb. We believe it is only necessary to mention this fact to have the matter put to rights. The importance of maintaining the Sunday Schools in thorough efficiency will at once commend itself to the sympathy and liberality of the congregation.

Prayer Meeting.—The ordinary prayer meetings have been held on the first Sabbaths of each quarter. We consider those meetings very important and very helpful in our work, both as teachers and scholars.

In accordance with a circular, sent out by the London S. S. Union throughout the Christian world, requesting that Sunday, the 19th October, be observed as a day for universal prayer, on behalf of Sunday Schools, prayer meetings were held in both schools during the afternoon; also, a meeting of teachers and friends in the Church, after the evening service, which was well attended.

On the Monday evening there was a united meeting held, all the churches joining for the same object. There was a crowded attendance, and by many it was felt to be "no vain thing to call upon God." We do not doubt that much blessing has already been poured out in answer to those prayers, and we shall wait for further manifestation of the Divine grace and favor.

Teachers' Meetings.—We are pleased to be able to record that the Teachers' Friday evening meetings, from eight to nine o'clock, for the study of the lessons, have, on the whole, been well sustained, and we believe those who have attended have felt all the better prepared to meet their classes on the Sabbath through it.

Band of Hope.—The Band of Hope, so successfully inaugurated over a year ago, we are glad to say, is still prospering, and we believe a good work is being done amongst the children. The attendance on the Friday evening has been good, although it might be better; not that we have reason to complain, but we do not intend to be satisfied until all our Sunday-school children become members, and we look for help from both parents and teachers to attain this one object.

The total numbers on the roll are 54 girls and 79 boys, in all 133, with an average attendance of about 70.

In closing this Report we acknowledge with deep gratitude our present prosperity, and would ask the congregation and Christian friends to join with us in prayer to God for a larger and richer blessing on the labours of the ensuing year—that the seed sown in weakness, yet not without faith, may bring forth an abundant harvest to His honour and glory.

(Signed)

F. H. FRASER,
Superintendent, Willis-street School.

ALEX. HOPKIRK,
Superintendent, Mount Cook School.

31st December, 1879.

H. HOPKIRK, *Hon. Secretary.*

1879.		RECEIPTS.		£	s.	d.
Jan. to Dec.	Collection, Children, Willis St. . .	22	18	5		
	" Mount Cook	15	6	5½		
May "12	" Church	15	0	0		
" 26	Cash left at W. & G Turnbull's office by late Secretary . .	3	3	0		
	Mount Cook School per Mr. Logan	3	1	8		
	Balance	3	8	11½		
				£62	18	6
				<hr/>		
				£62	18	6
				<hr/>		
1879.		PAYMENTS.		£	s.	d.
Jan. 1.	To Balance	4	9	10½		
April 21.	Godber, Children's treat	9	5	0		
" 29.	F. Fraser, books	7	0	0		
June 6.	N.Z. Times Co., printing	1	7	0		
" 29.	Incidental Expenses per Miller . .	0	10	6		
	Hopkirk	0	17	10		
July 31.	H. F. Logan	2	3	0		
Aug. 2.	T. Whitehouse	2	0	0		
Sept. 18.	F. H. Fraser	2	4	6		
	Auckland Union	10	3	9		
	"	7	3	6		
	W. W. Taylor, "Dayspring," Willis Street	9	14	0		
	W. W. Taylor, "Dayspring," Mount Cook	5	19	6½		
				£62	18	6
				<hr/>		
				£62	18	6
				<hr/>		
1880.		LIABILITIES.		£	s.	d.
Jan. 1.	By Balance	3	8	11½		
	Wellington S.S. Union	24	15	0		
				£28	3	11½
				<hr/>		
				£28	3	11½
				<hr/>		

D. GRAY,
W. HOPKIRK. } AUDITORS.

THE REPORT
OF THE
KIRK SESSION,
AND
COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT,
OF
ST. JOHN'S
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH,
WILLIS STREET,
WELLINGTON,
FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER, 1880.

Wellington:

PRINTED AT THE "NEW ZEALAND TIMES" OFFICE, LAMBTON QUAY.

1881.

KIRK SESSION.

Moderator :

REV. JAMES PATERSON.

Elders :

JOHN McLEAN,
JAMES SMITH,
DAVID ROBERTSON,
ALEX. HOPKIRK,

J. YOUNG,
FRANCIS FRASER,
D. MATHIESON,
R. HOPKIRK.

Members of Committee :

W. WARING TAYLOR, Treasurer.
W. ALLAN,
R. GREENFIELD,
D. GRAY,
W. HOPKIRK,
J. KIRKCALDIE,
J. MCKERROW,

ROBERT GARDNER, Secretary.
T. K. MACDONALD,
W. S. REID,
JAS. SLOANE,
W. WADDELL,
J. TAUNT,
T. WHITEHOUSE,

THOMAS MCKENZIE.

Auditors :

J. KING. | J. C. WEBB.

THE ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
SESSION AND COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT
TO THE
MEMBERS AND SEATHOLDERS
OF
ST. JOHN'S PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, WELLINGTON,
FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31ST DECEMBER, 1880.

In presenting their Annual Report, the office-bearers would acknowledge with devout thankfulness the goodness of God towards us as a congregation; and the many tokens of his favor and blessing which we have enjoyed. Nothing of a very exceptional character has marked our congregational history during the year. There have been the usual changes which we have yearly to record: removals to other districts and congregations, and new additions to our ranks from those who arrive amongst us; and bereavements in families—leaving blanks in Christian homes and in the congregation which are not easily filled up. In the membership of the Church there is only a slight increase. The number on the Communion Roll last year was 266; this year, 270. The Communion was dispensed quarterly, and over 200 members on each occasion sat down at the Lord's table.

It is gratifying to be able to report, that although the year has been one of great commercial depression, felt in all quarters, yet there has been no falling off in the congregational revenue, but rather an increase. The two main sources of revenue are the pew rents and Sunday collections; and these amount to £990, being an increase of £87 on last year. The total revenue of the Church from all sources amounts to £1326 7s. 2d., as against £1287 13s. 5d. last year. May we not hope that with the outward prosperity attending the congregation there has been, by the Divine blessing, growth and progress in Christian life and work. The staff of our eldership has been reduced by the removal from the city of Mr. James Todd and Mr. Duncan Matheson, and by the resignation of Mr. Andrew Lang. They were all most

efficient elders; they had the interests of the congregation deeply at heart, and they worked in perfect harmony with their brother office bearers. It is hoped Mr. Matheson will soon return to this city, when he will be cordially welcomed to his place in the session and in the work of the congregation. Meanwhile it is desirable that an addition be made to the session, in order that all the districts into which the congregation is divided may be regularly visited and the work of the Church efficiently carried on. An early opportunity will be given to the congregation to elect three or four additional elders.

There are now three Sunday Schools in connection with the Church, a new school having been opened a few months ago in the Hall in Adelaide-road. All these schools are in a very efficient state. About 560 children are in attendance, and these are taught by 62 teachers. It is impossible to over-estimate the importance of this work: the congregation may well take a deep interest in it, and give every help and encouragement to the teachers by whom it is so faithfully conducted. With the secular system prevailing in the public schools it is all the more incumbent on the Church to put forth every effort and to use every means for the religious instruction of the rising generation, and to seek that they be trained up in the fear of God and in the love of the Saviour. An examination of the Sunday Schools in the Bible and Shorter Catechism was held in December. The results were not so satisfactory as could be desired, as many of the children showed a reluctance to be examined, and some absented themselves; while the time available during the Sunday School hours was not sufficient to allow the proficiency of the various classes being thoroughly tested. It is felt that some other method to secure that end must be adopted. The teachers spare no pains to interest the children in their work and to attach them to the schools. Prizes are given to the most deserving, and all share in the "annual treat." The teachers seek also to qualify themselves for their special duties by meeting weekly for the study of the lesson; and they cultivate kindly, genial fellowship in their quarterly social gatherings. There is a Band of Hope in connection with the Sunday School, conducted by a large committee of the teachers. 110 members are on the roll. It meets weekly, on Friday evenings, for instruction, specially in truths and principles bearing on temperance, and for music, readings, and recitations. The Ministers' Bible Class met during seven months of the year on Thursday evenings, and was well attended. It numbered thirty-four and there was an average attendance of about twenty-five. The programme of study included the "Christian Evidences," the "Shorter Catechism," and the "Life

interests of the congregation deeply perfect harmony with their brother Matheson will soon return to this fully welcomed to his place in the the congregation. Meanwhile it is made to the session, in order that the congregation is divided may be k of the Church efficiently carried ll be given to the congregation to lders.

ay Schools in connection with the een opened a few months ago in the esa schools are in a very efficient in attendance, and these are taught ble to over-estimate the importance a may well take a deep interest in encouragement to the teachers by ducted. With the secular system is it is all the more incumbent on effort and to use every means for rising generation, and to seek that or of God and in the love of the the Sunday Schools in the Bible id in December. The results were e desired, as many of the children amined, and some absented them- le during the Sunday School hours e proficiency of the various classes is felt that some other method to d. The teachers spare no pains to work and to attach them to the the most deserving, and all share eachers seek also to qualify them- by meeting weekly for the study ivate kindly, genial fellowship in gs. There is a Band of Hope in School, conducted by a large com- members are on the roll. It meets for instruction, specially in truths perance, and for music, readings, ers' Bible Class met during seven ay evenings, and was well attended. there was an average attendance programme of study included the shorter Catechism," and the "Life

of Christ." Essays were written weekly by some of the members on subjects prescribed, and altogether the work was entered into with great heartiness. After a few months' recess the class will be resumed.

Mr. Robert Hopkirk, as City Missionary in connection with the congregation, continues his labors in the Adelaide-road and Newtown Districts. His work mainly consists in house-to-house visitation, in holding prayer meetings, and a Sabbath morning service in the Hall in Adelaide-road, and a Sabbath evening service in the Hospital. His labors are much appreciated, and it is hoped that good will result from them.

The Congregational prayer meeting is held on Wednesday evenings, and is fairly attended, yet not so well as it might be in so large a congregation. The average attendance is about fifty. It is conducted by the Minister and Elders. By not a few, who do regularly attend, it is felt to be "a sweet hour of prayer" and of spiritual refreshment amid the care and turmoil of the week. The office bearers would gratefully acknowledge the kind services of the Choir, who have so efficiently led the Psalmody of the Church. A vacancy has occurred in the leadership, which we hope will soon be filled up. During the vacancy, Miss Gray has kindly presided at the organ.

The balance-sheet, as submitted by Mr. Waring Taylor—who has so long and so ably discharged the duties of treasurer to the Church—will show how we stand financially; and it is gratifying to find that the revenue has met the expenditure. This is all that could have been expected in these times of depression. We have still a heavy debt on the Church, and this will be added to by the erection of the new manse. But it was felt that it would not be an opportune time to make a special effort to reduce that debt. May we hope that during the year on which we have entered circumstances will be more favorable, and that an appeal to the congregation will meet with a liberal response. We surely cannot rest satisfied till this debt is cleared off, and we can say that, as a Church, "We owe no man anything, but to love one another." The new manse for the minister is in course of erection, and will be ready for occupation in April next. It is to cost about £1300, and will be a commodious and comfortable residence. Arrangements have been made by which the interest of the debt on Church and manse will not prove too heavy a strain on the resources of the congregation. In conclusion, we express the hope that the year on which we enter may be one of increased earnestness and activity in every Christian work, and that, by the Divine blessing, we may enjoy true peace and prosperity.

ST. JOHN'S PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH—STATEMENT OF ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 30, 1880.

Revenue Account.

Cr.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	Dr.	£ s. d.
To Balance on hand 1st January, 1880 ...	20 14 0		By Minister's Stipend ...	000 0 0
Ordinary Collections ...	585 14 11		Rev. Mr. Moir's Stipend ...	100 0 0
Seat Rents ...	484 3 0		Temporary supply of Pulpit ...	10 13 0
Special Collection in aid of Sunday School ...	12 0 0		Passage of Elder to Assembly Meeting ...	8 10 0
Contributions in aid of Church Missionary ...	117 2 0		Church Missionary ...	120 0 0
Collection in aid of Assembly Expenses ...	8 0 0		Interest on Loan ...	153 1 8
New Hebrides Mis'n ...	24 4 6		Choir Master ...	58 6 8
Church Extension ...	14 0 0		Gas Accounts ...	27 1 4
Mission ship 'Day Spring' ...	17 7 2		Doorkeeper ...	84 14 6
Proceeds sale of Assembly Reports ...	2 10 0		Organ Blower ...	5 0 0
		66 1 8	Insurance Premium on £3,000 ...	18 17 9
Sustentation Fund—			Sundry Petty Accounts ...	37 13 1
Collected by Miss Bentley ...	9 12 0		Collections remitted to Auckland ...	66 1 8
Miss Fraser ...	1 15 0		Sustentation Fund ...	72 14 0
Miss Hales ...	9 1 6		School Collection ...	12 0 0
Miss Hutchison ...	21 15 0		Balance in hand ...	1 13 6
Miss Laing ...	15 3 0			
Miss McKenzie ...	5 7 6			
Miss Ross ...	2 15 0			
Mr. R. Hopkirk ...	1 5 0			
Mr. J. Hopkirk ...	6 0 0			
		72 14 0		
Proceeds of Tea Meeting ...		41 17 7		
		<u>£1,326 7 2</u>		<u>£1,326 7 2</u>

Building Fund Account.

To Balance—cash in hand January 1, 1880 ...	400 0 0	By First Mortgage ...	1,500 0 0
Interest on Balance ...	40 0 0	Interest on Debentures ...	16 0 0
Loan on new Mortgage ...	2,500 0 0	Architect's Fees ...	25 0 0
Interest on Deposit of £800 for 8 months ...	8 0 0	Law costs—new and old Mortgage ...	20 16 6
		Commission effecting Loan ...	37 10 0
		New Manse—on account ...	300 0 0
		Balance in hand ...	1,048 13 6
	<u>£2,948 0 0</u>		<u>£2,948 0 0</u>

Andited and found correct—JAMES KING, } Auditors.
J. O. WELCH, }

W. WARING TAYLOR,
Hon. Treasurer.

OF

Another year having passed, we are again called upon to present our Annual Reports, this being the thirteenth report of the Willis-street School, and the ninth and first of Mount Cook and Adelaide-road Branch Schools respectively.

We would, at the threshold of our work for another year, and of our report for the past one, (a year indeed full of mercies and blessings), uplift our hearts in gratitude to Almighty God, for His great goodness to us as Sabbath Schools, and personally as teachers; and would, with renewed effort and diligence, apply ourselves to His work, believing that as in the past, so in the future, His blessing, which alone "maketh rich," will be vouchsafed to us.

New Branch School.—We have more than ordinary pleasure in stating that since our last report, we have enlarged our borders, by opening a Branch School in the Newtown District. The advisability of taking this step had been in consideration for some time, but in April last it was decided to make a practical trial, and the Adelaide-road Hall was rented for that purpose.

Mr. James Smith, with a staff of teachers, was appointed to open and organise the school, which was named "The Adelaide-road School," and Mr. R. Hopkirk, the church missionary, laboring in that district, who now holds a service in the hall every Sabbath morning, was asked to canvass for scholars. The result has been very satisfactory and encouraging, giving promise of a bright future, and we hope and pray that much good may be accomplished through this instrumentality.

Attendance.—The attendance throughout the year has been on the whole very satisfactory. Perhaps in Mount Cook School it might have been more regular, but this irregularity will be

Mrs. Holmes	2	6
" "	2	9
Mrs. Hinchinbro	7	1
" "	1	3
Mrs. Leck	1	0
" "	2	8
Mrs. McArthur	2	4
" "	2	0
Mrs. Ross	1	0
" "	0	0
Mr. R. Hepburn	0	0
Mr. J. Hepburn	0	0
Proceeds of Tea Meeting	£2 14 0	
	41 17 7	
	£1 326 7 2	

<i>Building Fund Account.</i>	
To Balance—cash in hand January 1, 1880	... 400 0 0
Interest on Balance ...	... 40 0 0
Loan on new Mortgage ...	... 2,500 0 0
Interest on Deposit of £800 for 8 months	... 8 0 0
	£2,948 0 0

By First Mortgage	... 1,500 0 0
Interest on Disbursements	... 16 0 0
Architect's fees	... 25 0 0
Law costs—new and old Mortgage	... 20 16 6
Commission effecting Loan	... 37 10 0
New Messrs on account	... 200 0 0
Balance in hand	... 1,048 13 0
	£2,948 0 0

W. WARREN, TELLER.

Audited and found correct—JAMES KING,	{ Auditors.
J. C. WARR.	

[illegible]

Children's Trust—The trustees have the right to appoint or remove the chief executive, who may not be a member of the governing body. The trustees also have the right to appoint or remove the members of the governing body. The trustees are responsible for the financial management of the trust and for ensuring that the trust is run in the best interests of the children. The trustees are also responsible for ensuring that the trust complies with the relevant legislation and for monitoring the performance of the chief executive and the governing body.

Londoners.—The Standard Journalist writes that this year he expects that the number of persons who will be admitted to the London Bazaar will be about 100,000, and that the number of persons who will be admitted to the London Bazaar will be about 100,000, and that the number of persons who will be admitted to the London Bazaar will be about 100,000.

In answer to the question "What are
your plans to bring to the attention of the
community?" the speaker said that he
would bring to the attention of the community
the importance of the "Living Wage".

President - The President of the
City, December 1st, 1911.

The above information was obtained from the files of the FBI, New York Office, dated July 19, 1968.

This image shows a blank, aged, cream-colored page, likely an endpaper or flyleaf of a book. The paper has a slightly textured appearance with some minor creases and discoloration, characteristic of old paper. The left edge of the page is bound, and the overall tone is a warm, off-white or light beige.

[illegible]

Comparatively few teachers have left us this year, but there are some we miss from their wonted places, and amongst these, Mr. D. Matheson, who has removed to another part of the colony. There is some hope, however, that his absence will only be temporary, and we trust we may soon have his ready hand and willing heart in our midst again. We have also to record the loss of Mr. Braik, a teacher who joined us early in the year, and who during his short stay made his presence felt amongst us. Possessing a fine voice and an intimate knowledge of music, he readily undertook to give the children singing lessons. The class was held on Saturday afternoons, and was very well attended, several of the children manifesting a lively interest in it, and making marked progress under his tuition.

Sunday School Centenary.—This year being the centenary of the establishment of Sunday Schools by Robert Raikes, Celebra-

numbered that the majority of the
connection with us, except through
more unsettled than those in Willis-
be that one or two more teachers
in children who have not attended

at School shews 268 names—138
average attendance of 190. The
children, and the Senior Classes,
in and Mr. Thomas McKenzie,

16 on the roll—117 girls and 129
boys of 157. In addition to the
number of young children in the
100, militates against a high

and started with an attendance of
scholars—22 girls and 29 boys,
se during the current year. The

The staff in Willis-street consists
Superintendent, Secretary, and

of 22 teachers, including the

ists of 6 teachers, 3 ladies, and
so supplemented without delay.
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year being the centenary of
ls by Robert Raikes, Celebra-

tion Services were held, under the auspices of the Wellington S.S.
Union, to commemorate the same. Our schools heartily joined
with other schools of the city in the different services, which
were eminently successful. The grand sight presented at the
Children's Floral Service, also at the Service of Song, when
Wesley Church, the largest in the city, was packed to over-
flowing, with happy children and teachers, will be long remem-
bered by those who were privileged to witness it.

There were also several meetings for teachers and friends, which
were all well attended. The occasion was felt to be a standing
point, from which both to review the past and regard the future—
the former calling forth gratitude and praise to our Heavenly
Father for past blessings, nerving us to increased diligence, and to
expect further triumphs; and the latter making us to realise our
unworthiness and helplessness, bringing us to the feet of Him
whose strength is made perfect in weakness.

Children's Treat.—The Annual Treat was given to the children
on the 22nd January, when they were taken by the tram-cars to
Newtown, and thence marched to paddocks on Howe's farm,
where a most enjoyable day was passed. Teachers and scholars
all reached home without mishap of any kind, thoroughly satisfied
with the day's enjoyment. We desire to express our thanks to
Mr. A. Wilson, who kindly placed the paddocks at our disposal.

Examinations.—The Annual Examinations were held in each
school this year as usual, but we regret to report, with only a
small measure of success, a great many of the scholars taking
very little interest in them. It will be for teachers to de-
cide whether they shall be continued or not. In the mean-
time prizes will be awarded to the successful competitors, and
we trust to have a better system of determining merit for the
future.

In connection with the meeting for the distribution of last
year's prizes, we have to thank Mr. David Gray for the use of his
very superior magic lantern, and views which were exhibited to
the great delight of the young folks.

Periodicals.—Our Periodicals, with the exception of the Lesson
Lists, Registers, and Teachers' Books, which arrived very late,
came to hand in good time. During the year another S. S. Union,
on a wider basis, has been instituted, with which own has been
incorporated, we will in the future receive our Magazines through
this new channel. It has begun well, the Lesson Lists, &c.,
required for the beginning of the year, having been already
circulated.

Libraries.—The Librarians report that the Libraries in connection with Willis-street and Mount Cook Schools are used to their full extent by the scholars. There have been no additions made to the Libraries for about a year now, and as many of the most interesting books are shewing signs of much use and are becoming dilapidated, steps should be taken at an early date to replenish our book-shelves.

Treasurer's Statement.—The children's subscriptions, in spite of "hard times," have not diminished, but, as the balance-sheet will show, have increased considerably. The collections throughout the year, for the mission vessel "Dayspring," amounted to £17 7s. 2d., or £1 13s. 7d. in excess of last year.

We have also to record our thanks to the office-bearers and members of the Wellington Literary Association, who very thoughtfully gave an entertainment for our benefit, in consideration of having the use of the Willis-street schoolroom for their meetings. The net proceeds realised £11 17s. 0d., and were very acceptable.

After allowing for our liabilities, we start the new year with a debit balance of only 3s. 7d., and this, after having provided £7 14s. on account of centenary expenses, and the balance of account for rent of the Adelaide-road Hall, which the schools were also called upon to pay. Against this, it must be remembered, that to obtain this result the balance of the Library Fund—some £32—had to be used; chiefly, however, to pay debts outstanding from last balance.

On the whole we may congratulate ourselves on the position we occupy; and although the increase in the number and size of our schools means increased expenditure, yet we believe that the past gives abundant encouragement for the future.

Sunday School Rules.—Towards the end of the year a committee was appointed to revise the Rules, who recommended certain changes and additions, which were adopted. We trust the alterations may tend to increase the efficiency of our work.

Meetings.—The ordinary Prayer Meetings have been held every quarter in each school. On December 12th, the children of the different schools were taken to the church, Willis-street, when the Rev. Mr. Treadwell preached an interesting sermon suitable for the occasion. It is intended that this shall be the first of meetings to be held annually in the church.

Teachers' Meetings.—The Friday Evening Meetings for the study of the lesson have been very fairly attended during the past year, some of the meetings being the largest we have had up to the present. Still there is room for improvement, and again

GA LT
READER'S SURNAME (Block Letters)

1/3/09
TODAY'S DATE

RARY

13

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very fairly attended during the past
being the largest we have had up to
room for improvement, and again

would we urge upon all our teachers the importance of these
meetings.

On Sabbath morning, 24th October, a Special Prayer Meeting
was held, which was very well attended.

Besides these, we have had two meetings of a social character,
their chief objects being to promote unity, harmony, and goodwill
among us as a band of workers, and to give opportunities of
becoming better acquainted with each other.

The Annual Pic-nic was held at Belmont on the 27th Decem-
ber. The weather being most propitious, a very pleasant outing
was enjoyed.

Acknowledgment of Services.—As it is as culpable to withhold
praise when due as to give it where unmerited, we must here
express our indebtedness to Miss Lang, who presides at the
harmonium in Willis-street School, for her regular and punctual
attendance, and this, although having a very long way to come to
school. Regularity is one of the best habits for any Sunday
School teacher, and, in her case, is very valuable.

Band of Hope.—The Band of Hope Meetings are still held
regularly every Friday evening, and although the attendance may
have been small, yet they have not lacked spirit, and some of
them have been very pleasant and enjoyable.

From the Second Annual Report adopted in November last, we
learn that the roll has lately been revised, and all but *bona fide*
members struck. The numbers now are 49 girls and 61 boys,
making a total of 110—smaller, indeed, than last year, but all
earnest members.

The Committee, however, have increased, and now number 36,
and, it is hoped, that their influence will in a short time induce
many more of our scholars to join our band.

We have elected new office-bearers—Mr. McLean, who we may
say has ably filled the chair ever since the commencement in his
capacity of vice-president, having retired from office—Mr. W.
Allan was unanimously elected president, and we doubt not will
ably and worthily fill the chair.

Again would we commend this good cause to teachers and
parents, and ask their co-operation and assistance.

Conclusion.—In concluding our report, we would acknowledge
with gratitude the large additions to our staff during the past
year, but there is still room, and more are required. It is a grand
and glorious work. The harvest truly is plentiful, but the
laborers are few.

Realising that our help cometh from God alone, we would join
in the prayer of the psalmist, "Let thy work appear unto Thy

servants, and thy glory unto their children. And let the beauty of the Lord our God be upon us; and establish thou the work of our hands upon us. Yea, the work of our hands, establish thou it."

(Signed) FRANCIS H. FRASER,
Superintendent, Willis-street School.

ALEX. HOPKIRK,
Superintendent, Mount Cook School.

JAMES SMITH,
Adelaide-road School.

WM. HOPKIRK, *Hon. Sec.*

Wellington, 31st December, 1880.

to their children. And let the beauty
 from our and establish them the work of
 the work of our hands, establish them

is H. Fraser.

perintendent, Willis-street School.

Hopkins,

perintendent, Mount Cook School.

Smith,

Charlotte School.

W. HOPKINS, Hon. Sec.

1880.

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS OF THE SABBATH SCHOOLS IN CONNECTION WITH ST. JOHN'S
 PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, WELLINGTON, N.Z.

1880.	RECEIPTS.	£ s. d.	1880.	PAYMENTS.	£ s. d.
January—	To balance of Legacy received from the Executors of the late W. B. Rhodes, in 1879, original amount	50 0 0	Jan. 1—	To Balance	3 8 11½
	Expended in Library Books	10 0 0	" 19 —	S. S. Union periodicals for 1879	24 15 0
	" General Expenses	7 17 0	" 22 —	Children's Treat, as per vouchers	20 10 6
		17 17 0	Feb. "	Covering Library Books and labels	0 13 0
		32 3 0	March "	F. H. Fraser, acct. prize books	9 1 9
Jan. to Dec.—	To Collections, children—		April 3—	Auckland S. S. Union acct.	2 2 6
	Willis street	26 2 8½	June 28—	Centenary Expenses	7 14 6
	" Mount Cook	17 3 1½	July 19—	Auckland S. S. Union acct.	3 19 0
	" Adelaide Road	2 16 1	" "	Lyon & Blair	0 2 0
		46 1 11	" "	Lyon & Blair	0 10 6
Jan. 25—	To Subscriptions and proceeds of sale of Tickets, children's treat	25 9 0	" 31—	Goads Wellington S. S. Union No. 1	15 13 0
Mar. 14—	Bal. Testimonial Subscriptions	0 10 0	Sept. 21—	Subscription " No. 2	1 10 0
July 5—	Church collections	12 0 0	Oct. 7—	James Hughes, Rubber Stamp	1 0 0
Aug. 31—	Proceeds Entertainment Wellington Literary Association	11 17 0	Nov. 13—	Balance rent Adelaide Road Hall	3 13 11
Oct. 4—	Donation, Mr. Jas. McKinnon	1 14 0		Auckland S. S. Union acct.	1 19 2
		£120 14 11	Dec. 23—	W. W. Taylor, collections 'Day Spring'	17 7 2
				Incidental Expenses—Secretary	0 14 8
				Balance	14 18 6½
					£129 14 11
CR.			DR.	LIABILITIES.	
By Balance		14 18 6½	Wellington S. S. Union No. 1, balance periodicals, 1880		15 1 0

Audited and found correct, Feb. 14, 1881—JAMES KING,
 J. C. WEBB,

Auditors.

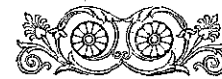
THOMAS MCKENZIE,
 Treasurer.

READER'S SURNAME (Block Letters)

RARY

TODAY'S DATE

THE REPORT
OF THE
KIRK SESSION,
AND
COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT
OF
ST. JOHN'S PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH,
WILLIS-ST., WELLINGTON,
FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31ST DECEMBER, 1881.



Wellington:
LYON AND BLAIR, PRINTERS, ETC., LAMBTON QUAY.

1882.

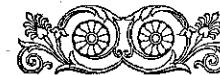
THE REPORT
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Wellington:

LYON AND BLAIR, PRINTERS, ETC., LAMBTON QUAY.

1882.

KIRK SESSION.

Moderator:

REV. JAMES PATERSON.

Elders:

JOHN McLEAN,

JAMES SMITH,

DAVID ROBERTSON,

ALEXANDER HOPKIRK,

W. WADDELL,

J. YOUNG,

FRANCIS FRASER,

R. HOPKIRK,

JAMES McKEBROW,

WM. LITTLEJOHN.

Members of Committee:

WILLIAM ALLEN,

ROBERT GREENFIELD,

ROBERT GARDNER,

DAVID GRAY,

W. HOPKIRK,

J. KING,

J. KIRKCALDIE,

T. MCKENZIE,

T. K. MACDONALD,

A. MCDUGALL,

W. S. REID,

J. SLOAN,

W. W. TAYLOR,

J. TAUNT,

T. WHITEHOUSE.

Treasurer:

W. WARING TAYLOR.

Secretary:

ROBERT GARDNER.

Auditors:

J. C. WEBB,

GEORGE McLEAN.

THE ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
SESSION AND COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT
TO THE
MEMBERS AND SEATHOLDERS
OF
ST. JOHN'S PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, WELLINGTON,
FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31ST DECEMBER, 1881.

THE office-bearers have pleasure in submitting the Annual Report to the congregation; and in doing so would acknowledge, with devout gratitude, the goodness of God toward us, the tokens of His gracious presence amongst us, and the measure of peace and prosperity granted to us.

In reviewing the past year we find little of a special character to record. Happily there has been no very prevalent sickness, and scarce any break by death in the membership of the Church; and we have had no divisions or discords amongst us. Our Church life has flowed on evenly and harmoniously, and we trust with ever increasing depth and fulness.

Early in the year steps were taken to add to the eldership. Three new elders were elected who accepted office, viz., Messrs. McKerrow, Waddell, and Littlejohn. This addition to the staff of office-bearers has enabled us to divide the congregation into smaller districts, and to carry out more efficiently the quarterly visitation by the elders when the Communion cards are given to the members at their own homes. Importance is attached to

this regular visitation of the congregation, as it helps to maintain that living intercourse which ought to exist between the office-bearers and the members and their families and households.

As reported last year, there were then 270 on the Communion Roll; during the year 54 new members joined; 20 by examination, and 34 by certificate from other congregations; 21 names were withdrawn from the Roll, thus leaving an increase of 33. This increase in the membership is very encouraging; and especially the considerable proportion who have thus for the first time entered into the closer fellowship of the Church. Now on the Roll, 303. The attendance on the Lord's day and also at the week evening service, continues about the same as last year. It might be better, especially on the Wednesday evenings; and we would remind the members of their duty and privilege in this matter.

Our Sunday School work is being carried on with vigour and efficiency. A Special Report of the Sunday Schools will be submitted; but we may here mention that we have three schools in connection with the Church—the Willis-street School, the Mount Cook School, and the Adelaide road School—which are attended by about 600 children, and taught by 64 teachers. A new school-room has been built on the Church acre in Adelaide-road, which will be used for the Sunday school, and also for the religious services, conducted by Mr. Robert Hopkirk. These services were begun some time ago in the Adelaide road hall, for the convenience of residents in that district. They will now be transferred to the New School-room, which occupies a central and commanding position in that rapidly increasing part of the town. It is hoped that this movement will form the beginning of what will grow and develop into a new charge in connection with the Presbyterian Church. Meanwhile, Mr. Hopkirk continues his labours in that district in household visitation, in attending at the Hospital, and in conducting Divine Service in the School-room.

There is a Band of Hope in connection with our Sunday schools, which meets in the Willis-street School-room, on Friday evenings at 7 o'clock; and also a children's service for those who do not attend Church, held in the Mount Cook School on Sabbath mornings at 11 o'clock. The teachers meet weekly—on Friday evenings—for the study of the lesson, and for the transaction of business connected with the schools. In each school there are senior Bible Classes, taught by experienced teachers, and also infant classes for those not advanced enough to read.

Our Sunday Schools are doing noble work, and deserve all encouragement and liberal support from the congregation. The Minister's Bible Class met from April to October on Thursday evenings and was well attended, there being 35 on the Roll, with an average attendance of 24. The second part of the Shorter Catechism—the Christian Evidences—the Life of our Lord—especially the Judaean Ministry, and essays on prescribed subjects, formed the course of instruction. A fine hearty spirit pervaded the class and much good work was done. The class will be resumed in April next.

The Young Men's Literary Society has been revived and has resumed its meetings on Tuesday evenings, and with much success. A slight change in its name and constitution has been made, so as to identify it more thoroughly with the Church as one of its institutions; and this, with the addition to its membership of a considerable number of the young men who have grown up in the Church, has infused new life and spirit into it.

The Anniversary Services were held on the third Sabbath of December, and the Congregational tea meeting on the Tuesday following. The Rev. Alex. B. Todd, of Oamaru, officiated on the occasion; and the congregation are much indebted to him for his kind and excellent services. The special collection on the Sabbath amounted to £42, and through the generous efforts of the ladies the Soiree realised the handsome sum of £45. These amounts go toward meeting the interest on the debt. The choir under the efficient leadership of Mr. England, have rendered good service in improving the psalmody. With the approval of the office-bearers, they have projected a scheme for obtaining an organ for the church, and with the proceeds of two musical and literary entertainments, they have already formed the nucleus of a fund to purchase one. With the heavy debt on our buildings and the many other claims on our resources, the congregation cannot be expected to do much at present to promote this object, but by and by they may hope to be in a position to give it more hearty support.

The Seat Letting Committee report that nearly all the sittings on the ground floor are let, but a few in the gallery are still unoccupied.

As will appear from the financial statement, the revenue of the Church for this year amounts to £1,146 10s. 10d.; the principal items of which are from seat rents, £442 18s., ordinary Sabbath collections, £537 15s., special collections for schemes and Sunday school, £85 1s. 4d., and proceeds of soiree, £45 16s. To this should be added a sum contributed to the

Assembly Sustentation Fund, amounting to £63 14s. 6d. Our collections this year have been considerably lessened by the unusual number of wet Sundays. From this cause the revenue has suffered to the extent of at least £50. Were the principle of *systematic* giving more generally adopted, this would not be so likely to occur.

During the year the new Manse was built, and is now occupied by the Minister and his family. It is a comfortable and commodious house—in every way worthy of the congregation. Its erection has added to the debt on our building; but by special arrangement it has not imposed any heavier burden on the revenue. The debt on the Church and Manse now amounts to £2,700, composed of £2,500 on mortgage, and £200 in debentures; towards which there is a sum in hand of £202 and a still larger amount subscribed but not yet paid in.

The office-bearers have pleasure in recording that, Mr. Walter Turabull, before returning to the Old country, very generously handed over the £100 debentures, which he held as a donation to the Building Fund.

Some months ago it was resolved by the Managers that steps should be taken to raise a sum that would pay off the remaining debentures and reduce the mortgage debt by £1,000. Their appeal to the congregation has so far been very heartily and liberally responded to, and a considerable amount has been subscribed; but those in charge of the collecting books have not yet been able to wait on all the congregation. They will, however, take an early opportunity of doing so, and no doubt will meet with a liberal response. The heavy debt on Church and Manse, while it remains, will prove a heavy drag on the energies and resources of the congregation; and an earnest effort should now be made to reduce it to a more manageable amount.

In conclusion, the office-bearers express the hope that this year on which we have entered, may be one of progress and prosperity; that our Church life may be healthy and fruitful, and that we may abound more and more in every good word and work, "And let the beauty of the Lord our God be upon us; and establish thou the work of our hands upon us; yea the work of our hands establish thou it."

ANNUAL REPORT

OF

St. John's Church Presbyterian Sabbath Schools.

We have much pleasure in again presenting our Annual Report, which we commend to the perusal of teachers and friends. The present is the fourteenth report of Willis-street School, the tenth of Mount Cook, and the second of Adelaide-road Branch Schools.

Every year bears on its wings new mercies and blessings, and calls for renewed expressions of gratitude to our heavenly Father, and the past has been no exception, for both in numbers and results, we are gratified to find we have made progress. "Not unto us O Lord, not unto us, but to thy name would we give glory."

Attendance.—The attendance this year has been very good, especially when taking into consideration the many wet Sundays we have had during the year. In the preceding clause we said we had made progress in numbers; and although this is true in the aggregate, yet the registers of Willis-street and Mount Cook show a slight decrease whilst the increase is made up by Adelaide-road School. However, as the following statement will show the average attendance in both of the large schools, shows a decided improvement, and for this we are thankful, as we believe it to be a token that greater earnestness and zeal are making themselves felt in our schools.

The Willis-street Roll book gives a total of 259 scholars; 151 girls and 108 boys with an average attendance of 200. The senior classes taught by Mrs. Griffin and Mr. Thomas McKenzie, number about 22.

In Mount Cook we number 243 children, 120 girls and 123 boys with an average attendance of 168 in Mount Cook School, the proportion of junior scholars is very large.

In Adelaide-road we have 85 names on the roll, 43 girls and 42 boys, being an increase of 34 on last year's numbers with an average attendance of 64.

Teachers and Office Bearers.—In Willis-street the work is carried on by a staff of 26 teachers—16 ladies and 10 gentlemen—besides Superintendent, Librarian, and Secretary.

Mount Cook School has a staff of 9 ladies and 14 gentlemen, including Superintendent, Secretary, and Librarian. Total, 23.

In Adelaide-road the staff consists of 6 ladies and 5 gentlemen, inclusive of Superintendent and Secretary, giving a total of 11.

The foregoing give grand totals of numbers in three schools of 587 children and 63 teachers and office-bearers, being an increase on last returns of 22 scholars and 7 teachers.

The present year has seen as usual some changes in our number. We cannot expect otherwise amongst such a large body of workers, yet we are glad that they have been comparatively few.

Two lady and one gentleman teacher who had helped us for a long period (we refer to Miss McEachern, Miss Spiers, and Mr. Andrew Todd) have removed to other parts of the colony and there are others of shorter service who have left us. To all of them we give our warmest thanks, and pray that the blessing of God may be with them where they are.

On the other hand, we have to welcome a good many new faces, and we would do so most heartily. Our work amongst the little ones must be dear to the heart of our loving Saviour, who so cared for the "lambs of the fold." Let us therefore, new teachers and old, apply ourselves more diligently, more devotedly to it, and in blessing others, assuredly, we shall ourselves be blessed.

Children's Service.—It is with more than ordinary pleasure we have to report that a children's service has been initiated in Mount Cook School on Sabbath mornings from 11 to 12 o'clock.

It was felt that something should be done for the children who do not attend a place of worship, and whose home associations are adverse to their religious training, and when this service was proposed, it met with much approval and support.

The work has been carried on under the conduct of Mr. Fraser, by volunteers from amongst the teachers who attend in rotation. The attendance began with 30 and has steadily increased to over 70, the average being about 52. We believe these numbers to be very satisfactory and to give abundant encouragement for the continuance of this service; but at the

same time we are convinced there are still many children in the neighbourhood who might be influenced to attend, and we commend this branch of our work to the earnest consideration of all who are interested in the religious education of the children.

Annual Treat.—The annual treat was given on the 22nd January, in the same place as last year, and again we were fortunate in having delightful weather.

Special Meetings.—In addition to ordinary meetings, on 29th October, our schools took part with others in connection with the S.S. Union in a united service in Wesley Church; and on 18th December the three schools were taken to St. John's Church, when the Rev. Mr. Todd preached a sermon specially for the occasion. We trust the precepts then addressed may bring forth fruit in due time.

Towards the end of the year it was agreed to hold a monthly prayer meeting of teachers on the morning of the first Sabbath in each month, and the first was accordingly held in December. Such meetings have our warmest sympathy, and we trust all will attend and receive the benefit they are calculated to give.

Service of Song.—A Service of Song to provide funds for library books was given by the scholars and church choir, and netted a sum of £10 Os. 6d., which has been reserved for the purpose intended. We have to thank the choirmaster, Mr. England, for the trouble he took in drilling the singers, and are sure he must have felt very pleased at the excellent result of his labours.

Libraries.—The much required additions to our libraries have arrived (some 136 volumes) and steps will be taken at once to have them divided among the three schools. This makes the total number of books over 750, but several of these require binding and some are so delapidated that it will be impossible to do anything with them.

Treasurers Statement.—The Treasurer's Statement will commend itself to every one, for it closes with a small balance on the right side.

The total amount of subscriptions received from the children during the year is £54 14s. 5d., of which £18 4s. 6d. was for the Mission Ship "Dayspring" and has been duly forwarded. On the whole it compares very favourably with last year's balance sheet, and will bear perusal.

Band of Hope.—Our Band of Hope we are glad to report has increased in number during the year, but there is still room for improvement for the total is small when compared with the number of scholars in the three schools.

In concluding our report, we would again thankfully acknowledge past blessings and pray that God would enable us in the future more than in the past, to realise our high privilege as teachers of the little ones and co-workers with Himself, and also to remember that privileges bear with them responsibilities, and, as there is no honour or praise due to the instrument, but only to the hand that uses it, so confessing our weakness, we would ascribe all the glory and all the praise to our God and to Him alone.

W. LITTLEJOHN,
Superintendent, Adelaide-road School.

WM. HOPKIRK, *Hon. Sec.*

ST. JOHN'S PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH—STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 30, 1881.
Revenue Account.

Dr.	£	s.	d.	Gr.	£	s.	d.
To Balance in hand, 1st January, 1881			1 13 6	By Minister's Stipend			600 0 0
Ordinary Collections for year			537 15 4	Rev. Mr. Moir's Stipend			100 0 0
Seat Rents			442 18 0	Interest on Mortgage and Debentures			254 0 0
Proceeds of Annual Soiree.			45 16 0	Door Keeper			26 1 6
Rent of Manse, to 3rd Nov., 1881			33 6 8	Gas			35 1 6
Sustentation Fund—				Choir Service			34 0 0
Collected by Miss Bentley	2	0	0	Fire Insurance			16 0 0
" Miss Hutchison	22	0	0	Rates			1 5 0
" Miss Hales	9	8	0	Pulpit Supply			7 0 0
" Miss Laing	9	4	0	Sundry Petty Accounts			24 7 6
" Mrs. James Smith	7	0	0	Special Collections remitted to Auckland			71 8 6
" Mrs. King	3	10	0	Sunday School Special Collection			13 12 10
" Mr. J. Hopkirk	6	0	0	Treasurer, Sustentation Fund—Rev C. Ogg..			63 14 6
" Mr. J. McKerrow	2	0	0				
" Mr. R. Gardner	2	0	0				
" Mr. A. Hopkirk	0	12	6				
Special Collections—							
Church Agent			13 8 0				
New Hebrides Mission, from J. McLean			6 0 0				
Assembly Expenses			7 10 0				
Church Extension			15 0 0				
New Hebrides Mission			11 14 0				
" Day Spring," from Sunday Schools			18 4 6				
Sunday Schools			13 12 10				
Balance per Treasurer			85 1 4				
			36 6 0				
			£1,246 11 4				

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W. WARING TAYLOR,
Hon. Treasurer.

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THOMAS MCKENZIE,
Hon. Treasurer.

LYON AND BLAIR,
PRINTERS,
LAMBTON QUAY,
WELLINGTON, N.Z.
