

THE REPORT

KIPK SESSION

COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT

ST. JOHN'S PROTESTANT CHURCH

WILKES-ST. WELLINGTON

FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER 1934



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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, 1884.



Wellington:
LYON AND BLAIR, PRINTERS, ETC., LAMBTON QUAY,
1885.

KIRK SESSION.

Moderator:

REV. JAMES PATERSON.

Elders:

J. G. W. AITKEN,
WILLIAM ALLAN,
FRANCIS F. FRASER,
ALEXANDER HOPKIRK,
R. HOPKIRK,
WM. LITTLEJOHN,
JAMES MCKERROW,
JOHN MCLEAN,

DAVID ROBERTSON,
JAMES RUMGAY,
JAMES SMITH,
JAMES SLOAN,
JAMES WILSON,
W. WADDILL,
J. YOUNG,

Members of Committee:

J. R. BLAIR,
W. T. GLASGOW,
DAVID S. GRAY,
ROBERT GREENFIELD,
W. HOPKIRK,
J. KIRKCALDIE,

T. MCKENZIE,
A. MCDUGALL,
J. MACKAY,
W. S. REID,
J. T. STEELE,
THOS. WHITEHOUSE,

Clerks:

JAMES SMITH.

Secretary:

D. S. GRAY.

Auditors:

JAMES KING,

GEORGE F. MCLEAN.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

SESSION AND COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT

OF

ST. JOHN'S PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH,

FOR YEAR ENDING 31ST DECEMBER, 1884.

THE past year has been a memorable one in the history of the Congregation. On the morning of the 9th May our beautiful Church and School were burned to the ground, and we were left without a place of our own in which to meet and worship. It was a great calamity, but we did not lose heart and hope over it, because we did not lose our trust in God. We bowed to the trial, and at the same time braced ourselves to repair the disaster. On the very day of the fire, and while our buildings were still smoking in ruins, the office-bearers met for consultation, and took steps to secure temporary accommodation for the Congregation and Sunday School. Kind offers of assistance were made to us from the office-bearers of St. Peter's Church and of Wesley Church, for which we felt deeply grateful. But being unwilling to put our friends to any inconvenience, it was thought better at once to secure the Athenaeum Hall for service on the Lord's Day; and the Young Men's Christian Association Rooms were kindly placed at our disposal for service on the week evenings. Through the kindness of the Te Aro School Committee the Sunday School was accommodated in the new Te Aro School, Upper Willis-street. At as early a date as possible a meeting of the Congregation was held, at which the action of the office-bearers was approved, and resolutions were passed sanctioning the necessary steps being taken for the re-erection of the Church and School. The buildings were insured for £3,500, and this amount was secured and placed at interest until required. Subscription lists were opened, and those connected with the Church came forward and put down their names.

most willingly and heartily. It was indeed most refreshing and cheering to see the earnest, united, and liberal spirit which animated the Congregation; and friends outside the Congregation also came forward and gave ready and generous help. In a short time the subscriptions amounted to over £3,200. A Building Committee was appointed, and instructions were given to Mr. Thomas Turnbull, architect, to prepare plans for the new Church and School. It was resolved to proceed first with the erection of the School, so that we could hold our services in it during the building of the Church. When the plans were submitted, it was found that the accommodation was hampered, and the cost increased by the narrowness of the site. Negotiations were opened with the late Mr. Spinks for the purchase of his property adjoining, and these resulted in a definite offer to let us have the house and ground for £1,500. This offer was laid before a meeting of the Congregation and accepted; and there can be no doubt that the purchase of this property was a wise step. It has given ample space for our buildings, and enabled us to separate them, a most needful thing in the event of fire; and it has added greatly to the value of our Church property. The rent of the house, which is let, goes a good way toward paying the interest on the money invested in the purchase.

The new School, with its large hall and class-rooms, has been erected at a cost of about £1,800. The building speaks for itself: it is tasteful in design, and well adapted for its purpose. It was opened temporarily for worship on Sabbath, November 16. The Rev. Mr. Treadwell of Wanganui conducted the opening services. The event was celebrated by a soiree on the Monday evening following, at which there was a large and enthusiastic assembly. The ladies kindly provided the tables, and disposed of the tickets, and did everything possible to make it a thorough success. They also, on this occasion, gave proof of their kind thoughtfulness in presenting the Minister with a very handsome pulpit-gown and cassock to replace those which had been destroyed by the fire. The net proceeds of the soiree amounted to over £54; and this, with the special collection of £20 at the opening services, formed an acceptable addition to the Building Fund.

The plans of the new Church, on being submitted to the Managers, were approved, and tenders were called for. The lowest tender, that of Mr. James Wilson, for £5,469, was accepted. Mr. Wilson was also the contractor for the new School, and gave entire satisfaction in carrying out the contract; and there is every assurance that equal satisfaction will be given in building the new Church. The building is now in progress, and it is expected that it will be ready for opening in September next. The design is a very handsome one, and the accommodation provided is somewhat larger than in the one destroyed,

When completed, and on the fine commanding position where it stands, it will be one of the most prominent and attractive buildings in the city.

It is satisfactory to find that amid the trials of the past year, and the changes and temporary discomforts while meeting at the Athenæum, the Congregation has kept well together; and, instead of any decrease in its numbers and resources, there is rather an increase. Two Communion services were held during the time we met at the Athenæum Hall; and on both occasions more members sat down together at the Lord's table than at any former communion. We had on the Communion Roll last year 333 members: there are now 352, showing an increase of 19. During the year 56 new members joined, 33 by certificate, and 23 by examination; while 37 names were removed from the Roll, leaving the increase as above stated.

We have also to report a valuable addition to the Eldership in Messrs. Allan, Aitken, Rungay, Sloan and Wilson. Elected by the Congregation, they were inducted into the office on Sabbath, 15th June. The parish is divided into districts, corresponding to the number of acting Elders who visit these districts before each quarterly Communion, to distribute the Communion cards, and to maintain that close and friendly intercourse which ought ever to exist between the members and office-bearers of the Church.

The attendance at Divine service on the Lord's Day has been well maintained; but not so the attendance at the weekly prayer meeting. In this there ought to be some improvement. It is hoped that as we are now worshipping in our comfortable Schoolroom, the attendance will be increased. There can be no doubt that the attendance at the weekly prayer meeting, as well as at the Sabbath services, and the heartiness with which these services are enjoyed is a sure index to the spiritual life of the congregation.

To the Choir, and especially to Mr. England—our very efficient conductor and organist—the Congregation is much indebted for the help rendered in improving the Service of Praise. No pains is spared on their part to render the Psalmody of the Church beautiful and effective. A juvenile class has been formed for the study and practice of music, and specially with a view of being a feeder to the Choir. It meets on Wednesday evenings in the Schoolroom, at 6.30, and is taught by Mr. England. This, and similar efforts should be encouraged by all who desire to improve the Psalmody of the Church. With the approval of the Session, the New Hymn Book, entitled "Church Praise," has been introduced. And it is believed that after the Congregation has become more familiar with the new hymns and tunes, it will be found to contribute not a little to the beauty and variety of our Service of Song.

From reports which will be submitted of our Sunday School work it will be seen that our Schools are as largely attended and in as flourishing a condition as in any former year. We cannot over-estimate the importance of this department of our Church work, nor can we appreciate too highly the earnestness and devotion of the teachers engaged in it.

The Ministers' Bible Class for advanced girls met on Wednesday afternoon at the Manse at four o'clock. During the summer months it has been discontinued, but will be resumed in April.

The Treasurer, Mr. Smith, will submit the Balance Sheet of our Church accounts. The revenue shows a slight decrease in pew rents: this is accounted for by the peculiar circumstances in which we were placed, as no new sittings could be let to fill up those vacated. There is also a small debit balance: this too is accounted for by the fact that the special services at the opening of the new school took the place of the usual anniversary services; and the special collection and the proceeds of the soiree were transferred to the Building Fund instead of being placed as formerly to the Revenue Account to meet the interest on the debt. We had also an extra charge on the revenue from the rent paid for the use of the Athenæum Hall. To this extent the revenue suffered, hence the debit balance.

It is gratifying to find that notwithstanding the special burdens which the Congregation had this year to bear, and the many calls on their liberality, there has been no falling off in the collections to the general schemes of the Church, and especially to the Church Extension Fund. It is hoped the Congregation will continue its support to that most important scheme of our Church, as well as to the other schemes sanctioned by the General Assembly.

The Building Fund shows that a large proportion of the subscriptions have already been paid, but a considerable amount has still to be gathered in. And as the building is in progress, and payments are becoming due, it is well that there should be funds in hand to meet them.

We close this Report with a deep feeling of thankfulness to God for all His goodness to us as a Congregation, for the gracious help He has vouchsafed to us in our trials and difficulties, and for the measure of success with which He has crowned our efforts. As we seek to rear the fabric of the material Church let us not forget the spiritual; while we prosper in outward things let us seek above all to prosper in the inner life. Let it be our desire and prayer that "as lively stones we may be built up a spiritual house, an holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ."

ANNUAL REPORT

OF

ST. JOHN'S PRESBYTERIAN SABBATH SCHOOLS.

AGAIN it is our duty to present our Annual Report, this being the seventeenth of Willis-street School, the thirteenth of Mount Cook, and the fifth of Adelaide Road (St. James's).

The year 1884 has been like its predecessors, laden with blessings, although some of them may have been in disguise perhaps, and it becomes us with grateful hearts to acknowledge the goodness and loving kindness of our God, who has guided and directed us, and by whose aid and blessing alone, whatever success we may have had, has been obtained.

The work in the three schools has been prosecuted vigorously throughout the year, and we believe on the whole, diligently and earnestly, and although we have still to regret that we cannot definitely state that many of our scholars have made the great decision which we aim at, yet we hopefully trust that in many cases there may be the inward change although not publicly professed, and for even the smallest tokens of this, we would as teachers, "thank God and take courage."

Attendance.—The numbers on the roll are slightly under last year's record, but the average attendance shews a marked improvement, and it is hoped that during the ensuing year there will be a large accession in numbers now that a new schoolroom has been erected.

The largest attendance on any one Sabbath was:—Willis-street 250, Mount Cook 273, and Adelaide Road 103, total 626.

Following is a detailed statement as given by the Secretary of each school.

	SCHOLARS.			Average attendance.	Average attendance excluding wet Sundays.
	Girls.	Boys.	Total.		
Willis-street School	163	144	307	200	204
Mount Cook ..	157	174	331	194	214
Adelaide Road ..	60	56	116	80	85
Totals ..	380	374	754	474	503
	TEACHERS AND OFFICE BEARERS.				Average attendance.
	Female.	Male.	Monitresses.	Total.	
Willis-street School	17	15	2	34	26
Mount Cook ..	13	12	2	27	19
Adelaide Road ..	7	7	..	14	13
Totals ..	37	34	4	75	58

Senior Classes.—The senior class numbers are well maintained, the total being 61 as against 60 last statement, but it is a matter of regret that amongst these comparatively few have passed the ages of boyhood or girlhood. The difficulty of retaining our young people, especially our young men, after a certain age and that not an advanced one, is felt very much. If the old methods are followed by this result, we must try some new departure so as to keep our elder scholars from passing from us.

Infants.—On the other hand the infant classes, comprising those who cannot read are large, and the attendance has improved wonderfully during the past year. The numbers are:—Willis-street, 107; Mount Cook, 176; Adelaide Road, 32; total, 315.

Totals.—Our returns therefore shew grand totals of 754 scholars, being a decrease of 8 from last year, taught and officered by a staff of 75 ladies and gentlemen, or two over last report.

In such large numbers we cannot expect to pass any year without changes, many have come and many have gone amongst our scholars, some to their long home, and with the Teachers, although God in his providence has taken none away by death, yet many, we think too many, walk no longer with us. Of new Teachers who have joined us, we are glad to welcome some who have grown up amongst us as scholars. This seems to us the most legitimate and also the grandest result of teaching, and we trust that many more of our scholars will keep this end in view.

We are badly in want of gentleman Teachers, will not some who read this come and offer their services? They will be gladly accepted.

Children's Service.—The Children's Service, held in Mount Cook Schoolroom from 11 to 12 o'clock on Sabbath morning, is still maintained. The attendance has averaged about 70, the highest number on one day being 90. Many of the meetings have been very interesting and enjoyable, and Mr. Fraser would be pleased to welcome many more, of those children especially, who are not in the habit of going to any place of worship.

Fire and New Schoolroom.—In last Report mention was made of increased accommodation required for Willis-street School, and we have got it in a way neither thought of nor approved. On Friday morning, May 9th, our old Schoolroom, with its contents, together with the Church, which caught from it, were totally destroyed by fire. The best arrangements possible were made for the carrying on of the work, a full statement of which will be found in the Church Report, and without delay an offer from the Committee of the Upper Willis-street Public School of the use of their buildings was gratefully accepted, and although

not quite so convenient for some reasons, yet on the whole it was found that they suited very well during the time necessary for the planning and building of a new Schoolroom.

The new building, which was opened on Sabbath, 16th November, is in every way superior to the old. As it was necessary that the congregation should meet in it whilst the Church was being rebuilt, it required a large hall to begin with, and we can truthfully say that not a better, if as good, exists in the city, and when the congregation vacates it, in about nine months, and the arrangements for school use are completed, we hope to have a schoolroom suited to all our requirements, and of which we may well be proud.

Annual Treat.—The Children's Annual Treat was held on January 26th in a paddock off Austin-street kindly lent by Mr. Chirnside, instead of on the 22nd, the weather on Anniversary Day being wet and unfavourable. It had been arranged to take the children to Petone by rail, but that being out of the question with the weather prevailing, it was decided to postpone it to the Saturday afternoon, and although the disappointment on the holiday was great, yet everyone resolved to make the best of it on the Saturday, and the result was a very enjoyable and successful Treat.

Certificates.—Certificates of Merit, as mentioned in previous Report, were given at the beginning of the year to every scholar, showing their attendance, punctuality, good conduct, and diligence, by a system of marks. It is still undecided whether anything will be done in this respect for 1884, as the impression prevails that very little good is accomplished by this means, at least compared with the trouble and expense involved.

A system of quarterly certificates to scholars and report from Teachers was begun during the year, but it requires greater attention and increased interest before being of any service in effecting a good result.

Libraries.—The Libraries in the different Schools are in a backward condition for want of books. Of course all the books in Willis-street were burned, except those out with scholars, but a good few of these so destroyed were old and Teachers' books, so that the fire cannot be blamed altogether for this state of things. The number of volumes does not exceed 500, divided between the three schools. Of these 200 have been added within the last few months, and we have a sum of £7 10s. 2d. towards a further supply, but as £6 12s. 10d. of this amount was a special collection on the opening Sabbath to replace books burned it will only benefit Willis-street.

The Librarians report that there is an increasing demand, which even now they cannot satisfactorily supply. Perhaps some members of the congregation could help from their private bookshelves. We are sure if the hint be taken Teachers and scholars will be delighted.

Special Meetings.—These have been fewer this year, and it is well so, for when held often they were found to interfere so much with the school work that with a view to check it the Teachers passed a resolution—"That our schools take no share in united gatherings, unless being first considered and agreed to at a Teacher's meeting."

On February 24th the Schools were addressed in the Church by Ministers of the General Assembly then in session. On August 31st our scholars, unitedly with other Schools in the city, were taken to Wesley Church, and were addressed by the Rev. Mr. Baker, the representative of the British and Foreign Bible Society, and on November 16th, on the occasion of the opening of our new schoolroom, the Rev. J. Treadwell preached to them in the afternoon.

We believe that these united meetings, so long as not multiplied, have a beneficial effect on the scholars and Teachers alike in widening their sympathies and proving our oneness with others in this great work.

Teachers' Meetings.—The Teachers' Monthly Prayer Meeting has been well attended throughout the year, and has been felt very encouraging and refreshing to many. Our work is such that it behoves us to be often, both collectively and privately, at a Throne of Grace, asking for that help and guidance which will not be denied.

We regret that we cannot record any decided improvement in the attendance at the Friday Evening Meetings, but still there is no need for being discouraged. Certainly they who attend derive the benefits, and we believe are better able to meet their classes than those who absent themselves.

Our Annual Picnic, which had been arranged to be held at Trentham again, had to be given up, on account of the wet weather. It was a great disappointment, but could not be helped. Some 80 Teachers and friends met in the Schoolroom, and spent the evening socially. In spite of the shadow of the morning's misfortune the meeting passed off very pleasantly.

Industrial Exhibition and Flower Show.—The Wellington Sunday School Union inaugurated and carried out an Industrial Exhibition and Flower Show amongst the scholars, and our schools, we are happy to say, helped in no small measure to make it the unqualified success it was and deserved to be. There were over 200 exhibits from our scholars, and we are glad to say that a very good proportion of them received prizes for their handiwork, and it gives us much pleasure to add our meed of praise for the excellent manner in which Teachers and scholars alike worked in connection with the undertaking. As a help and assistance in the higher work of teaching, the importance of such a venture cannot be over-estimated, and for educating the children in habits of diligence and usefulness, who can say the extent of its influence and what it may lead to.

The Service of Song in connection with the Exhibition was most enjoyable, and we are sure that all who attended the practices were fully recompensed for their trouble, and as it has been decided (and indeed many of our scholars are in active preparation for it) to hold a second Exhibition in February, we hope that it may go off with even greater *éclat* than last, and this can only be accomplished by every one doing their best to forward its objects.

Treasurer's Statement.—The Treasurer's Report is a very satisfactory one. The increased receipts and expenditure proceed chiefly from special periodicals got by scholars and Teachers which are got along with the monthly supply, but other funds shew healthy signs. The treat cost much less through being only for half day, and the certificates also were less expensive than prize books, so that although the amount of subscriptions were much less, yet a balance of £12 11s. 8d. was carried to the General Fund, without which we would have been very short indeed.

There are two amounts which explain themselves, and we need only mention them, viz., special subscriptions from scholars towards wall furnishings, &c., for new schoolroom, which totalled the respectable sum of £10 13s. 10d., and the collection at Children's Service on the occasion of the re-opening on account of library books, £6 12s. 9d., both of which are held by Secretary, and will be early disbursed for these special purposes.

Unfortunately a Sabbath's subscriptions was lost in the fire, and that for a Mission Sunday, but we are glad to find the sum subscribed for the Missionary cause, two-thirds of which goes to the "Dayspring," and one-third to New Hebrides Mission, is an increase of £4 nearly on last year's total. We wish still further to encourage the children to give to unselfish objects, and as this is the only fund we have outside our schools we are pleased that it should shew a healthy sign.

Band of Hope.—Our Band of Hope we are sorry to state has not made such good progress this year; perhaps this may have been partly caused by the necessary change of meeting place, and the unsettled feeling which prevailed when in the Willis-street Public School, but now that we are back to our old quarters this excuse is removed, and we do hope that Teachers, parents, and members, will make a fresh effort to add to our membership.

The numbers on the roll at present are—

Girls.	Boys.	Total.	Average attendance.
52	70	122	70

Our Annual Tea Meeting has not been held during the year as we had no facilities for giving it, but it is now under consideration and will be held early in the new year.

Some of our meetings have been very enjoyable, and with increased numbers they will certainly be made more so. Let us,

then, personally help forward this portion of the Master's work; it is for the highest good and best interests of our children, and may be the means of preventing them from entering those paths of sin and vice which lead so many to destruction.

This concludes our Report of another year, now gone beyond recall. May we remember this fact, that time gone is gone for ever, and improve present opportunities. And let the knowledge that earnest faithful work with God's blessing upon it must prevail, encourage and strengthen our hands more and more to make every effort for the well-being of the charge committed to our care, and seeing that we must exert an influence either for weal or woe on these young hearts, let us humbly ask that divine grace may be given to each of us so to walk that even the children may take knowledge of us that we have been with Jesus. So may we, by the infinite mercy of our Gracious Father, be able to say, when it comes our turn to present our final report: Here am I, Lord, and the children which Thou hast given me.

(Signed)

FRANCIS H. FRASER,

Superintendent Willis-street School.

WILLIAM AITKEN,

Superintendent Mount Cook School.

HERCULES DAVINSON,

Superintendent Adelaide Road School.

WM. HOPKIRK, Hon. Sec.

Wellington, December 31st, 1884.

Statement of RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE of the Sabbath Schools in Connection with ST. JOHN'S CHURCH,
FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 1884.

Receipts.		Expenditure.	
1884.	£ s. d.	1884.	£ s. d.
Balance in hand, Jan 1st, 1884 ..	1 18 2	Wellington Sunday School Union ..	87 10 11
Collections, Children—		Auckland Sunday School Union ..	5 2 8
Willis Street School:		British and Foreign Bible Society ..	1 5 0
General	22 5 9½	F. H. Fraser's Account ..	2 11 6
Books	7 19 10	J. Charlton, on Account of Singing	
"Dayspring" and Missions..	9 9 10½	Class '83, and music books ..	8 14 0
	39 15 6	Lyon and Blair	0 7 6
Mount Cook School:		N.Z. Bible, Book & Tract Society ..	1 0 0
General	16 6 3	Reward Tickets per Secretary ..	0 8 0
Books	15 19 10	Collection from Schools paid Treas-	
"Dayspring" and Missions..	8 17 4	urer for "Dayspring" ..	14 17 9
	41 3 5	New Hebrides Mission	7 8 10
Adelaide Road School:			22 6 7
General	5 8 10	Expenses Children's Treat, &c.	29 9 10
Books	5 18 1	N.Z. Bible, Book and Tract Society	
"Dayspring" and Missions..	3 19 5	for Library Books	13 10 1
	15 6 4	Paid to Secretary for Library Fund	
Collection, United Meeting in church		and Wall-furnishings	18 4 0
Subscriptions to Children's Treat, &c.		Insurance Premium, Organ, Mount	
Church Collection	42 1 8	Cook School	0 4 6
Proceeds Magic Lantern Exhibition ..	15 1 9	Sundry Petty Expenses, per Secretary	0 5 0
Donations towards Library Fund ..	12 7 6		
Special Collections in aid of Wall-	2 0 0		
furnishings for new Schoolroom—			
Willis Street	6 13 10		
Mount Cook	4 0 0		
	10 13 10		
Special Collection, at opening new			
Schoolroom, towards Library ..	6 12 9		
Interest, Savings Bank	0 6 5		
Balance due Treasurer	1 3 3		
	£190 19 7		£190 19 7

Audited and found correct,
JAMES KING,
GEO. F. McLEAN, } AUDITORS.

THOMAS MCKENZIE,
Treasurer.

ST. JOHN'S CHURCH (REVENUE ACCOUNT).—STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS FOR YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER, 1884.

Receipts.		Disbursements.	
	£ s. d.		£ s. d.
Collections for year 1884	550 6 10	Balance due to Treasurer at 31st December, 1883 ..	28 9 10
Seat Rents	410 2 0	Mr. Paterson's Stipend, 1884	600 0 0
Rent of Manse (paid by Mr. Paterson) ..	80 0 0	Mr. Moir's " 1884	100 0 0
Rent of House in Willis Street—3 months	12 10 0	Organist " 1884	50 0 0
Rent of School—6 weeks	88 0 0	Organ Blower 1884	4 0 0
Church Extension, and Supplemental Fund—		Doorkeeper 1884	40 0 0
Collected by Miss Pope	15 5 4	Interest on Mortgage to 16th November, 1884 ..	135 0 0
" Miss J. McGowan	14 3 0	Rent of Athenæum	44 14 0
" Miss McKerrow	8 10 0	Gas Accounts	14 18 3
" Mrs. Sloan	8 8 0	Rates on Manse	12 10 0
" Miss Hale	6 10 0	Pulpit Supply	12 10 0
" Miss J. Steel	2 14 6	Treasurer Church Extension Fund	56 18 4
" Miss Craig	1 7 6	Collection for Sunday Schools	15 1 9
	56 18 4	" Local Expenses General Assembly	9 14 1
Collection for Sunday Schools	15 1 9	Treasurer General Assembly	65 12 7
" Local Expenses,—General Assembly	9 14 1	Donations Y.M.C.A., £3 8s.; Willis Street School, £3 3s.	6 6 0
" Maori Mission	8 0 0	Fire Insurance Premiums	16 6 0
" Assembly Expenses	9 16 0	Presbytery Clerk, £1; Farmer's a/c, £22 4s.; Lyon & Blair, £17 2s.	40 6 0
" New Hebrides Mission	8 0 0	Advertising, £18 19s. 9d.; Gardner's a/c, £2 2s. 8d.; Hayes', £2 8s.; Waddell's, £3 15s. 5d. ..	27 5 10
" "Sunday Schools" per	7 8 10	Cartage, £1 16s.; Cheque Book, 12s. 6d.; Stamps, £3; Bannatyne's a/c, £2 18s. 6d.	8 7 0
" "Dayspring"	14 17 9	Aitken & Wilson's a/c, £3 18s.; Duthie, £1 1s. 9d.; Petty a/cs, 11s. 9d., 10s. 8d.	6 2 2
" Aged and Infirm Ministers	11 10 0	Interest on Overdraft	0 19 8
" Native Teacher New Hebrides per Mrs. J. McLean ..	6 0 0		
Balance due to Treasurer	58 15 11		
	<u>£1,295 1 6</u>		<u>£1,295 1 6</u>

ST. JOHN'S CHURCH (BUILDING FUND ACCOUNT).—STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS FOR YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER, 1884.

Receipts.		Disbursements.	
	£ s. d.		£ s. d.
Balance in hand at 31st December, 1883	17 13 7	Purchase of Willis-street Property from W. Spinks ..	1,500 0 0
Insurances on Church and School	3,500 0 0	Cost of Building School (balance unpaid £50) ..	1,119 0 0
Subscriptions	1,822 9 6	Furniture New School	200 15 6
Sale of School Chimney	1 10 0	Architect's Account	64 9 0
Special Collection at Opening of New School ..	20 1 9	Advertising for tenders	1 4 6
Proceeds of Tea Meeting	54 16 9	Telegrams re Insurance	2 7 0
Interest on Deposits	31 12 5	Balance at Bank and on Deposit	2,560 8 0
	<u>£5,448 4 0</u>		<u>£5,448 4 0</u>

STATEMENT OF LIABILITIES AND ASSETS OF ST. JOHN'S CHURCH, 31st DECEMBER, 1884.

Liabilities.		Assets.	
	£ s. d.		£ s. d.
Amount of Mortgage on Property	1,800 0 0	Estimated Value of Manse and Grounds	2,000 0 0
Balance of School Contract	50 0 0	" " Present site for Church and School ..	4,869 0 0
Balance due to Treasurer (on revenue account) ..	58 15 11	" " Dwelling House and New School ..	2,560 8 0
Balance	8,440 12 1	Cash at Bank and on Deposit, on Building Fund a/c ..	1,400 0 0
	<u>£10,349 8 0</u>	Unpaid Subscriptions	20 0 0
		Unpaid Pew-rents, good	
			<u>£10,349 8 0</u>

Audited and found correct,
JAMES KING,
GEORGE F. McLEAN, } Auditors.

JAMES SMITH,
Treasurer.

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, 1885.



Wellington:
LYON & BLAIR, PRINTERS, ETC., LAMBTON QUAY.
1886.

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, 1885.



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

1886.

KIRK SESSION.

Moderator:

REV. JAMES PATERSON.

Elders:

W. ALLAN	W. LITTLEJOHN
J. G. W. AITKEN.	JAMES MCKEEROW
FRANCIS FRASER	JAMES SLOAN
ALEXANDER HOPKIRK	JAMES SMITH
R. HOPKIRK	JAMES WILSON

J. YOUNG

Members of Committee:

A. BARRON	WM. HOPKIRK
W. N. BLAIR	J. KIRKCALDIE
W. T. GLASGOW	J. MACKAY
D. S. GRAY	A. McDOUGALL
R. GREENFIELD	T. McKENZIE
R. HANNAH	W. S. REID
W. M. HANNAY	T. WHITEHOUSE.

Treasurer:

JAMES SMITH.

Secretary:

D. S. GRAY.

Auditors:

A. BARRON.	W. M. HANNAY.
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THE ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

SESSION AND COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT

TO THE

MEMBERS AND ADHERENTS

OF

ST. JOHN'S PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, WELLINGTON,

FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31ST DECEMBER, 1885.

THE SESSION'S REPORT.

With feelings of devout gratitude to God for all His goodness we review the work and progress of the Church during the past year. As a congregation we have indeed great cause for thankfulness, when we consider the position in which we were eighteen months ago, and that in which we are to-day. Through the disastrous fire which occurred on the 9th May, 1884, we were without Church or School: now we have large and commodious School-rooms in which to carry on our Sunday School work and to hold congregational meetings, and we have a handsome new Church in which to assemble for divine worship. The new School-room was opened in November, 1884; and the new Church was opened on the 8th December last. The opening services were conducted by the Rev. James Treadwell, of Wanganui, and the Rev. John Elmslie, of Christchurch. There were large attendances at all the services, and the collections amounted to £165. In celebration of the opening a very successful Soirée was held on the Tuesday following: excellent addresses were delivered by ministers and others present, and the choir added much to the enjoyment of the evening by rendering some beautiful pieces of sacred music. The ladies of the congregation, with their usual readiness to help in every good work, took the meeting in hand and made it a thorough success, and from the proceeds handed over a sum of £60 to the Building Fund. On the Sabbath following the opening day a special service was held in the Church for the Sunday School children: the Rev. I. M. Isitt, of Wesley Church, delivered an instructive address. It was felt to be an appropriate recognition of the place which the children of the Church have in the services of the sanctuary.

The new Church is acknowledged to be architecturally a success. Beautiful in its design, admirable in its finish, comfortable in its seating, excellent in its acoustics, and in every way well adapted to its purpose, it reflects great credit both on the architect, Mr. Thomas Turnbull, and on the builder, Mr. James Wilson.

No doubt the erection of these buildings, with the purchase of the adjoining property to enlarge the site, has involved a large outlay; and though the congregation have shown a noble liberality in the amount raised (having this year actually contributed to revenue and Building Fund about £3,200,) and have been generously helped by friends outside, yet there will be a considerable debt remaining. And debt is never a good thing—it is always a burden on a Church and a drag on its energies; yet it must be confessed that few churches are built and opened without it. In this case, as a set-off to the debt, the congregation may congratulate themselves on having one of the most valuable church properties and one of the finest churches in the colony. And though the debt be considerable, yet, with the reduced rate of interest and the increased revenue, there should be no difficulty in meeting the liability. Indeed, the amount to be paid for interest will not be so much as the congregation was paying some three or four years ago. The Treasurer's statement annexed to this Report will show the financial position of the Church, both as to the Building Fund and the ordinary revenue.

The membership of the Church shows a not large but steady increase: 51 new members joined, of whom 18 were admitted for the first time and by examination; 31 names were withdrawn from the roll by removal, and three by death. There are now on the roll 360 members. Of the three removed by death, one was a very aged member—Mrs. Lyall—who, while strength was given her, waited regularly on the ordinances of God's house, and had great enjoyment in them. Of the other two, one—Mr. J. T. Steele—was an active member of the Committee of Management; and the other—Mr. John Steel—was for several years an efficient member of the choir. Both were excellent Christian men, greatly esteemed by all who knew them. They ever showed a deep interest in the Church, were regular in their attendance at its services, and faithful in the discharge of the duties pertaining to the positions they occupied in the Church. They died in the faith and hope in which they lived: their end was peace.

As the Newtown Church has now a settled pastorate, two of our Elders—Messrs. John McLean and James Rungay—withdrawed from us and joined that congregation, carrying with them our respect and good wishes. Mr. McLean had long been associated with St. John's as a member and office-bearer, and both in the Church and in the Sunday School rendered important services which will not soon be forgotten. The same reason that led to the withdrawal of these two brethren, and others with them, also led to a severance of the connection between the Newtown Sunday School and St. John's. It was always contemplated that when the congregation of St. James's, Newtown, became fully organized and had a settled ministry, the Sunday School which was originated there by St. John's should take an independent position, and become the Sunday School of St. James's. It has now done so, and we wish them all success in their new relationship.

This separation from Newtown has of course confined our Sunday School work now to the two Schools, Mount Cook and Willis-street. Special reports on these two Schools will be submitted by the Secretary, from which it will be seen that they are in a prosperous condition. The numbers are slightly increasing, and there is no reason why we should not soon have as many children under religious instruction in the two Schools as we formerly had in the three. We have ample accommodation, and we only want an increase of earnest and devoted teachers. The Sunday School is a most important department of the Church's work, and those engaged in it need the sympathy, the encouragement, and the prayers of the Christian people.

Bible Classes were conducted by the minister, one on Wednesday afternoons at the Manse, and another on Thursday evenings in the class-room at the School: these were not so largely attended as it was hoped they

would have been, and as it is hoped they will be this year. It is to be regretted that more of the young people of the congregation do not avail themselves of these classes for Biblical instruction. Very efficient Bible Classes for senior scholars are taught on the Sunday afternoons, at Mount Cook by Mr. Aitken, and at St. John's by Mr. McKenzie and Mrs. Lennox. These are the training classes for our future Sunday School teachers.

We have little else of a special character to note in the year's history of the congregation. There is about the usual attendance at the services on the Lord's Day; perhaps, if we may judge from the collections, the attendance has increased since we entered the new Church. But there is so much larger space to occupy that the increase does not appear. There is room to fill up, and we hope that ere long it will be filled up—that we may have a Church full to overflowing with an earnest and attentive people, rich in the blessings of spiritual life and fruitfulness. And as an evidence of this we hope to see a larger attendance at our weekly prayer on Wednesday evenings, and a deeper interest taken—not by the few, but by the many—in every department of Church work.

We cannot conclude this Report without awarding a meed of praise to Mr. England, the organist, and the choir, and to all who have co-operated with them, for their zealous efforts to improve the psalmody of the Church. The psalmody is an important part of our Church service, and no effort should be spared to make it in the highest degree beautiful and effective. To accomplish this art and skill can do much, and we should consecrate our best unto God. But we do not forget that there is something even more essential than art and skill—there is the earnest devotion of the spirit and the true melody of the heart. Without this our service of praise would be cold and formal, and unacceptable to God. Let us praise Him with our whole heart, and serve Him in our whole life! And may His presence abide with us, and His love draw us into closer fellowship with Himself and with each other in Him!

ANNUAL REPORT

OF

ST. JOHN'S PRESBYTERIAN SABBATH SCHOOLS

We have pleasure in laying before the Teachers and Congregation our annual Report; this time for year 1885, being the eighteenth for Willis Street, and the fourteenth for Mount Cook Schools.

We desire to record our gratitude to Almighty God for bringing us safely to another stage on our journey, and for the privilege of another year spent in His service, which, although carried on in much weakness, we pray may be blessed to the dear children and redound to the praise of our loving Heavenly Father.

Regarding the progress of the two schools, we are glad to be able to state that it has been very marked so far as numbers are concerned, but we should like to have seen a better and more regular attendance—*e.g.*, 207 is not a very good average for a school numbering 350.

We consider it unfortunate, too, that there should be so many changes in the staff, thereby losing the advantage of a practical knowledge of the scholars in the class and of gaining their affections—both of which can only be obtained gradually, and are very necessary to successful teaching.

From the beginning of the year (St. James's) Adelaide Road School has been severed from us and connected with the charge at Newtown, and although we were sorry to lose their fellowship yet we rejoice that the cause has so prospered in that district as to make this possible, and we still cherish the warmest feelings of friendship towards the school, and pray that our Divine Father's richest blessing may attend their every effort.

Attendance.—As stated above the numbers on the roll both for Willis Street and Mount Cook are higher than last year—*viz.*, Willis Street, 350; Mount Cook, 352; total, 702.

The highest attendance on any one Sabbath was Willis Street, 234; Mount Cook, 279.

Following is a detailed statement from the Secretary of each school:—

SCHOLARS.					
	Girls.	Boys.	Total.	Average Attendance.	Average Attendance, excluding wet Sundays.
Willis Street ..	182	168	350	197	207
Mount Cook ..	195	157	352	222	234
Totals ..	377	325	702	419	441

TEACHERS AND OFFICE-BEARERS.						
	Female.	Male.	Monitresses.	Total.	Average Attendance.	
Willis Street ..	19	14	2	35	29	
Mount Cook ..	11	15	2	28	22	
Totals ..	30	29	4	63	51	

The senior classes total 62—a number, we are glad to say, proportionately higher than ever previously recorded; and the infant classes, both as

regards totals and regularity of attendance, have also improved during the year. The numbers of the latter on the registers are for Willis Street 128, and Mount Cook 178.

The returns show, therefore, grand totals of 702 children and a staff of 63 teachers and office-bearers.

Providence has dealt mercifully with us, in so far that we have only one death to record (a scholar in the Mount Cook School), nor has any sickness of an epidemic character visited us during the year. We have had many changes—it seems to us too many—and we would suggest to teachers to get well acquainted with their several charges, for it is only by cultivating a friendly feeling with each member of the class that they are to be firmly connected with the school and kept from wandering. Let it also be remembered that teachers who are irregular in their own attendance will never be successful in keeping their averages high.

Our appeal for gentlemen teachers last year has not resulted in the increase we hoped for; therefore we renew it, and would press it more urgently. No one, indeed, lady or gentleman, who desires to help us need keep back, for we have never had more teachers than we could find classes for.

Children's Service.—The children's service held in Mount Cook School-room on Sabbath mornings is well attended, there being a decided advance on the numbers recorded last report. The highest attendance on one day was 103, and the average stands at 80, or 10 above last year. The children subscribed voluntarily 8s. 9d. towards the New Hebrides Mission.

Children's Treat.—The children's treat was held as usual on the 22nd January, at the Lower Hutt, Sir Wm. Fitzherbert kindly giving the use of a paddock most conveniently situated close to the railway station. The weather was everything that could be desired, and the whole party reached home without mishap of any kind after a most enjoyable day's outing.

Libraries.—The libraries are in an unsatisfactory condition, the Librarians reporting that they have great difficulty in meeting the calls made upon their stock. From this we may infer that the scholars as a whole appreciate their privileges in this direction; and, as we wish to give them every encouragement to cultivate a literary taste, we must take steps to add to the present volumes. The total number of books in Willis Street is 254, and in Mount Cook 325, of which 157 belong to the teachers' division. In future it is intended to enforce the rule to the effect that books must be returned in two weeks from time of issue, and scholars offending will be debarred from the use of the library altogether.

Special Meetings.—There have been only two special meetings during 1885: one in the early part of the year, when our scholars unitedly with other schools met in the Wesley Church to hear an address from Mrs. Leavitt, the agent of the Blue Ribbon Gospel Temperance Alliance of America; and the other in connection with the opening of our new Church, when the Rev. L. M. Isitt preached from the text, "The angel of the covenant, which redeemed me from all evil, bless the lads." The children listened with marked attention; and we pray that the truths so simply and appropriately pressed upon their acceptance may bear fruit to the glory of our blessed Lord.

Teachers' Meetings.—The teachers' monthly prayer meeting, and the weekly meeting for the study of the lesson, have been held regularly throughout the year. We are sorry that some of our number who might join with us absent themselves; but if they only realised the influences which proceed from these meetings, and knew the encouragement got from a full attendance when a chord of sympathy and common desire warms every heart, this would be the last time we would be permitted to urge on every one to make a point of being present. We need all the encouragement to be obtained to keep us earnest and diligent in our work. Let us

therefore beware lest the lukewarmness of any one of us be the cause of bringing about a like feeling in the breasts of others, which, reacting on the children, may prove a stumbling-block in their path.

Our *annual Picnic* was held at Wallaceville on the 26th of December. It had been decided to go to Trentham, and on arrival it was found to be raining—very gently, but enough to wet the grass; so the party went on to the township, and on applying for the use of the public school it was most generously granted. The weather cleared soon afterwards, and a most enjoyable day was passed, the school being used as luncheon and tea room. The local Committee have our warmest thanks for their kindness.

Industrial Exhibition and Flower Show, 1885.—A second Exhibition and Flower Show was held under the auspices of the Wellington Sunday School Union, and our Schools entered heartily into the contest and gained a fair share of merit. Although the undertaking was very successful in every way—the experience gained in the former helping the Committee very much—it is not intended, we believe, to hold them oftener than every two or three years, as the time and labour to teachers and scholars is very considerable.

Exhibition Cantata.—In connection with the New Zealand Industrial Exhibition, our Schools joined with others in rendering a cantata entitled "Immanuel." The singing was much appreciated by a very large audience, whilst the children themselves seemed to enjoy it quite as much as the audience.

Treasurer's Statement.—We would just in passing remark that the balance-sheet shows a small credit balance—always pleasing intelligence.

The amount subscribed for "Dayspring" and New Hebrides Mission was £15, including 8s. 9d. received from the children's service in Mount Cook School-room. The cost of the treat—£48 16s.—may seem high, but the amount for railway fares, which was subscribed by the scholars, would reduce the total to nearly £30, not so much for over 600 children and adults for a whole day.

We are always short enough for funds, and the school affairs require rigid economy to keep within our means; and we hope that in the ensuing year the congregation will give a larger collection, and put us in a position to obtain many needed supplies and requisites.

The Secretary still holds in trust the £10 13s. 10d. subscribed by children towards wall furnishings for new School-room.

Band of Hope.—The Band of Hope is not in the most flourishing condition at present. We can hardly account for this, unless that it has been overlooked by some parents and teachers; for we find where the parents incline, and the teacher leads, the child in all likelihood will follow. We trust that next year may find a new life infused; and, where we are agreed that the teaching given at our Band of Hope meetings is most necessary and helpful to the children, surely nothing should be wanting on our part to secure the best results.

The numbers on the roll are somewhat uncertain, as it requires purging, but we compute them as follows:—

Girls.	Boys.	Total.	Average Attendance.
74	56	130	64

The annual Tea-meeting was held in the beginning of the year, and at that at least there was a full attendance, and a very pleasant evening was spent.

Instrument.—We feel the want of an instrument to help the singing both on Sabbath afternoon and Friday evening. We trust the Church Managers will help us in this direction, so that all our meetings may be made so attractive that children will count it a delight and privilege to be present at them.

Conclusion.—This concludes our Report for 1885; and in closing we would humbly confess our many faults and shortcomings, and pray that through the infinite merits of our Saviour Jesus we may be purified from every stain and "made meet for the Master's use, prepared unto every good work." Learning on the arm of Omnipotence, we would reconsecrate ourselves to the work and encourage each other to persevere, remembering that the work is not man's but God's; we are only the instruments, and "greater is He that is for us than all they who are against us."

(Signed) FRANCIS H. FRASER,
Superintendent, Willis Street School.

WILLIAM ALLAN,
Superintendent, Mount Cook School.

31st December, 1885.

WM. HOPKINS,
Hon. Secretary.

STATEMENT OF LIABILITIES AND ASSETS OF ST. JOHN'S CHURCH AT 31ST DECEMBER, 1885.

Liabilities.				Assets.			
	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Amount of Mortgage on Property	2,600	0	0	Estimated Value of Church, School, and Dwelling-house	11,230	0	0
Balance of Church Contract	319	0	0	Estimated Value of Manse and Grounds	2,000	0	0
Extras on Church	585	18	0	Cash at Bank—Revenue Account	47	11	9
Refund of Insurance Premiums paid by Contractor ..	16	13	0	Building Fund Account	127	11	10
Extras on School	19	18	6	Unpaid Pew Rents, estimated to yield	75	0	0
Repairs to House in Willis Street	116	15	6				
Architect's Account	206	15	0				
Linoleum and Furnishings	85	10	8				
Gas Fittings	145	4	3				
Extra Gas and Water Service	11	5	0				
Concrete and Asphalt round Church and School ..	49	10	2				
Balance	9,323	13	6				
	<u>£13,480</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>7</u>		<u>£13,480</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>7</u>

JAMES SMITH,
Hon. Treasurer.

ST. JOHN'S CHURCH (REVENUE ACCOUNT).—STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS FOR YEAR ENDING 31ST DECEMBER, 1885.

Receipts.		Disbursements.	
	£ s. d.		£ s. d.
Collections for year 1885	558 15 10	Balance due to Treasurer at 31st December, 1884 ..	58 15 11
Seat Rents	367 7 0	Mr. Paterson's Stipend, 1885	600 0 0
Rent of Manse paid by Mr. Paterson	70 0 0	Mr. Moir's Stipend	100 0 0
Rent of House in Willis Street	68 14 3	Organist	50 0 0
Rent of School	108 10 0	Organ-blower	4 0 0
Collection for Mr. Murray's Expenses	7 11 0	Doorkeeper	40 0 0
" Sunday Schools	10 0 0	Interest on Mortgage to 16th November, 1885 ..	126 0 0
" Assembly Expenses	9 12 0	Collection for Mr. Murray's Expenses	7 11 0
" New Hebrides Mission	17 0 0	Collection for Sunday Schools	10 0 0
" Do. do. per Sunday Schools	5 0 0	Gas Accounts	22 5 11
" Dayspring	10 0 0	Treasurer, General Assembly	41 12 0
	41 12 0	Fire Insurance Premiums	15 17 6
Church Extension and Supplemental Fund—		Rates	19 15 0
Collected by Miss McKerrow	6 10 0	Lyon & Blair, £18/17/8; Cartage, £1/6; Stamps, £3/7/6 ..	23 11 2
" Miss Hale	6 10 0	Interest on Overdraft, £2/6/1; Godber's A/c, £6/7/6; Duthie, 15/6	9 9 1
" Mrs. Sloan	5 19 0	Presbytery Clerk, £1; Law Costs, £6 9s; Tuning and Repairing Organ, £4/5	11 14 0
" Miss L. McGowan	5 8 6	Advertising, £5/11/6; Deed Box, £1/15; Farmer's A/c, £16; Bannatyne, £2/18/6	26 5 0
" Miss Steel	3 2 0	Communion Cups, £3/10; Ministers' Expenses in connection with Opening new Church, £10/10 ..	14 0 0
" Miss Pope	2 10 0	Petty Account	0 1 9
	29 19 6	Treasurer, Church Extension and Supplemental Fund ..	29 19 6
		Balance at Bank	47 11 9
	<u>£1,258 9 7</u>		<u>£1,258 9 7</u>

Audited and found correct,

W. M. HANNAY, }
A. BARRON, } Auditors.

JAMES SMITH,
Hon. Treasurer.

ST. JOHN'S CHURCH (BUILDING FUND ACCOUNT).—STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS FOR YEAR ENDING 31ST DECEMBER, 1885.

Receipts.		Disbursements.	
	£ s. d.		£ s. d.
Balance at Bank and on Deposit, 31st December, 1884	2,560 8 0	Final Payment on Account School Contract	50 0 0
Subscriptions, paid during 1885	1,650 17 9	Payments on Account Church Contract	5,150 0 0
Amount borrowed on Mortgage	800 0 0	Architect's Account (part payment)	100 0 0
Collection at laying Foundation Stone	12 0 0	Copper Plate for Foundation Stone	3 0 0
Interest on Deposits	188 4 1	Silver Trowel	6 0 0
Collection at opening Church	164 16 6	Cost of Church Bell	43 10 10
Proceeds of Tea Meeting	60 5 6	Balance at Bank	127 11 10
Subscriptions to Cost of Bell	43 10 10		
	<u>£5,480 2 8</u>		<u>£5,480 2 8</u>

Audited and found correct,

W. M. HANNAY, }
A. BARRON, } Auditors.

JAMES SMITH,
Hon. Treasurer.

**STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE OF THE SABBATH SCHOOLS IN CONNECTION WITH ST. JOHN'S CHURCH,
FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31ST DECEMBER, 1885.**

Receipts.		Disbursements.	
1885.	£ s. d.	1885.	£ s. d.
To Collections, Children:—		By Balance due Treasurer ..	1 3 3
Willis Street School,—		Wellington Sunday School Union ..	43 17 10
General	22 14 10	Auckland Sunday School Union ..	4 15 0
Books	12 14 0	N.Z. Bible, Book, and Tract Society ..	24 10 6
"Dayspring," and Missions ..	7 7 1	Do., for Library Books ..	13 0 0
Mount Cook School,—		Expenses, Children's Treat ..	48 16 0
General	21 15 5	British and Foreign Bible Society ..	0 12 0
Books	9 5 4½	Lyon and Blair ..	1 1 0
"Dayspring," and Missions ..	6 17 4½	Gratuity, Caretaker, Mt. Cook School ..	3 0 0
		Insurance premium, Organ, Mt. Cook School ..	0 4 2
Church Collections	10 0 0	Collection from Schools, Paid Treasurer for,—	
Children's Treat,—		"Dayspring"	10 0 0
Subscriptions	39 6 6	New Hebrides Mission	5 0 0
Proceeds, Railway Fares	16 9 7		15 0 0
Visitors' Tickets	3 14 9	Sundry Petty Expenses, per Secretary ..	0 10 0
	59 10 10	Cash in hands of Secretary, in Trust	
Children's Morning Service—Mt. Cook		for School Furnishings	10 13 10
Mission Box	0 8 9	N.Z. Bible, Book, and Tract Society ..	11 4 7
Collections, United Meeting in Church,		Do., do., do.	0 3 0
December 13, 1885:—			11 7 7
General Fund	3 11 4½	Balance	0 0 7
Missions	0 6 7½		
	3 18 0		
Receipts on account of Library Books,			
Balance paid over by Secretary ..	7 10 2		
Donation, Mrs. Greenfield	1 1 0		
Net proceeds, Lime-light Exhibition ..	2 15 3		
	11 6 5		
Cash in Trust for School Furnishings ..	10 13 10		
Interest	0 1 0		
Sundry Cash per Secretary and Treasurer ..	1 18 10		
	£178 11 9		£178 11 9

Audited and found correct.

W. M. HANNAY, } Auditors.
A. BARRON, }

THOMAS MCKENZIE,
Treasurer.

THE REPORT

OF THE

KIRK SESSION,

COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT.

ST. JOHN'S PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH,

WILMINGTON,

FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31ST DECEMBER, 1886.



W. H. HARRISON,
PRINTER AND BINDER, 15, N. C. AVENUE, WASH.

1887

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, 1886.



Wellington:
LYON AND BLAIR, PRINTERS, ETC., LAMBTON QUAY.
—
1887.

Minister :

REV. JAMES PATERSON.

Elders :

J. G. W. AITKEN	J. MCKERROW
WM. ALLAN	J. SLOAN
F. H. FRASER	J. SMITH
A. HOPKIRK	W. WADDELL
R. HOPKIRK	J. WILSON
W. LITTLEJOHN	J. YOUNG

Managers :

A. BARRON	R. HANNAH
J. R. BLAIR	W. M. HANNAY
W. N. BLAIR	W. HOPKIRK
R. GARDNER	A. MACDOUGALL
W. T. GLASGOW	J. MACKAY
D. S. GRAY	T. MCKENZIE
R. GREENFIELD	J. KIRKCALDIE

T. WHITEHOUSE

Treasurer :

JAMES SMITH.

Secretary :

D. S. GRAY.



THE ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
KIRK SESSION & COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT
TO THE
MEMBERS AND ADHERENTS
OF
ST. JOHN'S PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, WELLINGTON,
FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31ST DECEMBER, 1886.

THE Office-bearers have pleasure in submitting to the Congregation the Annual Report on the affairs of the Church during the past year; and, in doing so, would record their deep thankfulness to God for all His loving-kindness towards us, and for the measure of success with which He has crowned our efforts and undertakings. It is only with His abiding Presence and blessing that we can look for true prosperity.

Our Church-building and furnishing with which we were so much occupied during the two previous years having been completed, we have had comparatively a year of rest; we trust also it has been a year of quiet steady progress. Since we entered the new Church there has been a considerable increase in the membership and attendance, and a corresponding increase in the pew-rents and Church collections. To the Communion Roll were added during the year 66 new names, but 44 were withdrawn by removal or by death, leaving a net gain of 22 to the membership of the Church. Of the new members 22 joined by examination, and for the first time; the others by certificate. It is to be regretted that more of the young people of the congregation do not early become more decided for Christ and for the Christian life, and, as a pledge of this, enter into the full membership of the Church. Every earnest inducement should be brought to bear upon them to take this step; it would be for their good, and for the well-being of the Church.

Every year carries its record of trouble and sorrow, and the past year is no exception. Some of the homes of the Congregation have been visited by severe affliction, and blanks have been made in little family groups which can never be filled up. Two female members of the Church were removed by death. After long lingering illness and much suffering, borne with singular meekness and patience, they calmly fell asleep in Jesus. Their end was peace. "Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord."

The Quarterly Communion were well attended, on each occasion about 250 communicants sitting down together at the Lord's table. These communions, we trust, were felt by many to be seasons of great spiritual refreshment. During the early part of January, and immediately before the Communion, a week of Special Services was held, when earnest addresses were delivered on successive evenings by the Ministers of the Presbytery and others. These Services were well attended, and, with the Divine blessing, they could not fail of good results. The attendance at the weekly Prayer-Meeting on Wednesday evenings was much the same as in former years; certainly not so large as it might be in so large a congregation. At this meeting opportunity was taken from time to time to communicate intelligence of the Christian life and work of the Churches at Home, and also to read letters and journals from our Missionaries—Messrs. Watt and Murray—in the New Hebrides. In this way we seek to keep the Congregation abreast of the progress of Christ's cause both at home and abroad.

The Minister's Bible Class was held on Thursday evenings, from April to November. It was a large and intelligent class, and good work was done, and good progress made by those especially who were regular in their attendance. At the breaking-up of the Class a pleasant Social Evening was spent at the Manse; and on that occasion the members presented the Minister with a beautiful time-piece, as a token of their kindly feeling and of their appreciation of his efforts to instruct them in Bible truth, and as such it was most gratefully accepted. There is nothing the Minister is more anxious for than that a good feeling should ever exist between him and the young people of the Congregation, and that he should be helpful to them in their Christian culture and Christian life.

Special Reports will be given in of our two Sunday Schools. From these it will be seen that the Schools are, on the whole, in a progressive and satisfactory state. We cannot, however, be content with the progress attained, but must work and pray for greater things. The work carried on in these Schools is of the most important nature. It is the training up of the youth of the Church in the knowledge of Divine truth, and seeking to lead them to the Saviour. In carrying out that work the Teachers deserve the generous sympathy and support of the Congregation.

The Anniversary Services were held on the 19th December, and were conducted by the Rev. Wm. Gillies, of Timaru, whose able and earnest ministrations on the occasion were highly appreciated. On the Tuesday evening following was held the Annual Tea Meeting, which, by the generous efforts of the ladies, had its usual success. In other ways the ladies have been helpful to the Church. For several months they met on Tuesday afternoons at the School-room, and so effectively plied their sewing and knitting-kneedles that with the proceeds they were able very tastefully to furnish the vestry, and hand over a substantial balance to the Building Fund. All grateful acknowledgments are due to them for their hearty efforts in the service of the Church.

Grateful acknowledgment is also due to those gentlemen who have secured for the Congregation the very fine organ which now so greatly contributes to the efficiency of our Church psalmody. They have placed in the Church one of the finest organs in the Colony, and they have made themselves responsible for the cost, so that it shall not fall as a liability on the revenue of the Church for at least five years; and long ere that time, we have no doubt, the amount required to meet the cost will be forthcoming. Indeed, we understand considerable progress has been made towards that end. The organ was built according to order and specifications by the well-known firm of Lewis & Co., London, and has given entire satisfaction. It was felt by those who projected the scheme that, if we resolved on having an organ, we should have a good one—even though it should at first be costly—and this has been attained. Mr. England presides at the organ

and conducts the Choir, and spares no pains to make the psalmody of the Church as effective as possible, and his efforts are ably seconded by the members of the Choir. To him and to the Choir are due the best thanks of the Congregation.

From the Balance-sheet to be submitted by the Treasurer it will be seen that the finances of the Church are in a satisfactory state. It is always a healthy sign when we can end the year with a credit balance on current revenue; and that we do this year. The balance to credit of Revenue Account is £74 4s. 3d. The ordinary revenue is made up of pew-rents, Sunday collections, and special collections for special objects, and this year amounts to £1,500. On the Sunday collections, which amount to £651 16s. 8d., there is an increase over last year of £93 10s.; and on pew-rents, amounting to £523 2s., there is an increase of £155 15s. This large increase in the pew-rents is, no doubt, partly to be accounted for by the fact that in the previous year we were worshipping in the School-room, and no new sittings were let. The increase in the special collections, although considerable, is hardly proportioned to the increase in ordinary collections and pew-rents. This is to be regretted; for, with all our efforts for our own congregational purposes, we should not forget the pressing claims of objects outside our own congregational interests. If Christianity teaches anything, it teaches us to be disinterested, to be sympathetic with others, to be generous and helpful towards every good cause. "Look not every one on his own things, but every one also on the things of others." This applies to Churches as well as to individuals.

In connection with this, the Office-bearers would specially commend to the Congregation the claims of the Church Extension Fund. This fund has a two-fold object: (1) to assist in planting and maintaining Christian ordinances in new and sparsely-peopled districts; and (2) to assist small and weak congregations in giving a more adequate stipend to their Ministers. These objects must commend themselves to the approval and generous liberality of the Church. It is hoped this fund will receive still more liberal support from this Congregation, and that a more systematic method will be adopted to gather in the contributions toward it.

In closing this Report, the Office-bearers would express the hope and prayer that the year before us may be one of still more earnest effort, and of greater progress and blessing than the year behind us. Let us work for it, and pray for it, and then may we confidently expect it.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF

ST. JOHN'S PRESBYTERIAN SABBATH SCHOOLS.

As in the ordinary pursuits of life, so in Christian work, if we would arrive at our real position as to successful effort or otherwise, it is necessary to review the past and examine the results.

Such a duty the close of another year brings to our hand, and we now with pleasure submit our Annual Reports, this being the nineteenth for Willis Street School and the fifteenth for Mount Cook.

We would devoutly acknowledge the guidance and help of our loving Heavenly Father, and with grateful hearts praise Him for all the way He has led us; for it is through His grace alone that we have been enabled to render our service—weak and sinful at the best; and may we never forget that only His blessing can crown our labours with success.

The year, we are glad to say, has been one of progress, for although the total number of children is slightly fewer, yet the averages give a very marked improvement, and we believe the results, as far as we can judge, are not behind any previous year.

Attendance.—The numbers on the roll for Willis Street are 317, and for Mount Cook School 375, giving a total of 692.

The highest attendance on any one Sabbath was Willis Street, 256; and Mount Cook, 303.

Following is a detailed statement from the Secretary of each School:—

	SCHOLARS.			Average Attendance.	Average Attendance, excluding wet Sundays.
	Girls.	Boys.	Total.		
Willis Street School ..	161	156	317	207	216
Mount Cook " ..	207	168	375	232	247
Totals ..	368	324	692	439	463

	TEACHERS AND OFFICE-BEARERS.				Average Attendance.
	Female.	Male.	Total.		
Willis Street School ..	21	13	34	28	
Mount Cook " ..	13	12	25	22	
Totals ..	34	24	59	50	

The senior classes number 18 in Willis Street School and 27 in Mount Cook, and the infant classes 109 and 216 respectively.

We would direct attention to the serious decrease in senior-class scholars, last year the number being 62, and this only 45. This subject demands our careful consideration. We believe a great deal depends on the teachers themselves, but we would also request parents to use their influence to keep the elder scholars attached to the school.

We have three deaths to record during the year, two of scholars belonging to Mount Cook School, and one to Willis Street.

Our teaching-staff is smaller this year than last, and we would again lift up our voice in the call for helpers, especially gentlemen teachers are required. It is a grand, noble work, and may well enlist the sympathies of earnest men and women; and, though it may require considerable self-sacrifice, its rewards are numerous and lasting. We have had seventeen ladies and gentlemen joining during the year, some having passed through the school as scholars and now are taking their places as teachers—surely the best results of Sabbath School labour that could be wished for. To one and all we extend a cordial welcome, and pray that we unitedly may more earnestly strive to reach the goal set before us—viz.: "Our scholars for Christ."

On the other hand, no fewer than 21 for various reasons have left our ranks, but we console ourselves that some of them at least are not lost to the work, having gone to assist in schools elsewhere.

Children's Service.—The Children's Service held in Mount Cook School from 11 to 12 o'clock on Sabbath mornings still keeps up in attendance, the average being 84, a slight increase on last record. The amount subscribed voluntarily for the New Hebrides Mission was 6s. 3d.

This work is very encouraging; for example, a good few of the children under Mr. Fraser's direction, girls especially, have committed to memory, and are able to repeat correctly, four or five chapters from the Bible, and say them over with evident delight. This alone will give them much satisfaction in after life, and make them remember with pleasure the happy hours spent at this service. Miss McKerrow very kindly regularly presides at the organ.

Children's Treat.—The Treat was held this year at Crofton, in a paddock generously lent by Mr. Littlejohn, to whom we tender our best thanks for his kindness. The day was very windy, which slightly marred the enjoyment; but, on the whole, everything passed off satisfactorily, and the children reached home without accident.

Libraries.—The teachers made an effort during the year to collect subscriptions towards replenishing the bookshelves, and were fairly successful, the sum of £35 8s. 7d. being received, with which 226 volumes were added to the Libraries. There is still a balance in hand, which will be dealt with immediately the holiday season is past. The children appreciate the privileges of the Library very much, and we should be in a position to meet all the demands upon it; we remark, however, that there is too much craving for story-books only, and very little inquiry for any work of useful knowledge. The taste for sound literature requires to be cultivated, and teachers will do well to use their influence with the scholars in this matter as well as in others. The Library-room in Willis Street School being much too small, the teachers represented the matter to the managers, who have now erected a handsome book-case surrounded with counter and curtains in the south-east corner. This is a very great improvement, besides adding to the general appearance of the room.

Anniversary Service.—The Church Anniversary was held on the 19th December, and, as usual, the children of both Schools met in the Church, when the Rev. Mr. Gillies spoke to them on the Tabernacle in the wilderness, illustrating his remarks from a complete model, made by himself.

Teachers' Meetings.—The meeting for the study of the lesson on Friday evenings has been fully attended, yet there are many who seldom or never join us. Might we be allowed to ask teachers if they are doing their whole duty in neglecting this meeting? We would continue to

urge its importance; and amongst the new leaves turned over by us for the New Year we trust this may be one.

The Monthly Prayer-Meeting has been held regularly. This, too, might be better attended. If we could only realise the importance of these set times of prayer, remembering our own weakness and helplessness and the grace and blessing to be obtained through the faithful asking, with what eagerness would we unite our petitions to the Father of all grace and mercy. We, too, require to realise the truth written by England's great poet, "More things are wrought by prayer than this world dreams of."

Annual Picnic.—Our annual picnic was held at Trentham on Boxing Day, and was a decided success, fully 100 teachers and their friends joining. The weather was all that could be desired, and this, added to the natural beauties of the picnic grounds, enabled every one to enjoy themselves thoroughly. Mr. Barton has our warmest thanks for his kindness and generosity in allowing us so freely the use of such a lovely place, we may say unsurpassed for a picnic.

Treasurer's Statement.—A reference to the Balance-sheet will show our financial position to be not so favourable as last report. The disbursements are heavy, principally for books; but as nothing is so much appreciated, both by parents and children, as the monthly periodical, we cannot retrench in this direction; indeed, as the schools increase, this too must increase. There are some small amounts still owing for books specially ordered, which will reduce the balance, and we hope the result of our canvas for subscriptions at Treat time will put us again in funds, for friends will observe we are dependent a good deal on the overplus from such subscriptions for ordinary expenses.

The subscriptions for "Dayspring" and Missions amounted to £16 0s. 11d. As our Foreign Mission field is being extended, more money is required to meet its necessities, and as this is the only unselfish fund in our schools, we must endeavour to increase the total next year.

The receipts on account of Library Fund were £37 6s. 6d., of which a balance of £17 15s. 8d. still remains in the Secretary's hands in trust. We thank the donors for their liberality.

Singing Class.—Towards the close of the year the Teachers decided to endeavor to encourage the children to attend Church, and take increased interest in the services, by teaching them to sing the hymns in "Church Praise" set apart for the young. The class is held on Wednesday evenings from half-past six to half-past seven o'clock, and the attendance and progress has been very satisfactory. We commend the class to the goodwill of the parents.

There is also an effort being made to secure better singing in the schools, the Teachers in Willis Street giving a set time every Sabbath afternoon to teaching the children the hymn tunes.

New Harmonium.—In response to our request, Willis Street School has been supplied with an instrument which is a great assistance to us in all our meetings. Miss Kirker has kindly presided, no doubt at considerable inconvenience to herself sometimes, both on week days and Sabbath afternoons, and deserves our best thanks; and in Mount Cook School we are much indebted to Miss Gray, who for so long has led the singing with her well-known ability.

Band of Hope.—The Band of Hope has made considerable progress during the year, and we trust it will continue to go forward. The attend-

ance has been much better, and the number on the roll is nearly one-half higher than last report—viz. :—

Girls ..	..	..	..	..	..	97
Boys ..	..	..	..	..	..	86
Total ..	..	..	..	..	..	183
Average attendance ..	..	..	..	..	..	85

The highest attendance at an ordinary meeting was 133.

The Annual Tea Meeting was held early in the year, and was fully appreciated; besides which we have held what we call Band of Hope Entertainments, two being given by the teachers and one by the members. These have been very successful, and have helped to keep up the interest throughout the year.

The Treasurer reports the funds very low, and, as we have only the 1d. per month from each member with which to provide for everything, we hope some friends will include St. John's Band of Hope amongst the objects to which they give of their silver and gold.

Conclusion.—We now close our report, feeling that great possibilities lie before us, and that on us as teachers hang heavy responsibilities. In how far these have influenced us in the past is known only to the Searcher of hearts, but with shame we confess we have come far short of what we might have accomplished.

Our motto for the coming year is "Excelsior," and, thinking of all God's goodness to us, and remembering past successes, we are nerved to further effort.

Let us, asking pardon for many shortcomings and much unfaithfulness, put our confidence not in ourselves, but in our Divine Father, whose grace and mercy are infinite, and in whose strength we alone can overcome, to whom we would now and always ascribe all the glory and all the praise.

FRANCIS H. FRASER,
Superintendent, Willis Street School.

WILLIAM ALLAN,
Superintendent, Mount Cook School.

WM. HOPKIRK,
Hon. Secretary.

31st December, 1886.

STATEMENT of RECEIPTS and DISBURSEMENTS for YEAR ending 31st DECEMBER, 1886.

JAMES SMITH, Hon. Treasurer.

STATEMENT of RECEIPTS and DISBURSEMENTS for YEAR ending 31st DECEMBER, 1886.

JAMES SMITH, Hon. Treasurer.

LIABILITIES and ASSETS of St. JOHN'S CHURCH at 31st DECEMBER, 1886.

JAMES SMITH, Hon. Treasurer.

Edmondson purchased
the machine by
installment

Audited

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE of the SABBATH SCHOOLS in connection with ST. JOHN'S CHURCH, for the YEAR ending DECEMBER 31ST, 1886.

1886.	RECEIPTS.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Jan. 1.—Balance in hand	.. ..	0 0 7	
To Collections, Children :—			
Willis Street School—			
General	22 15 5½		
Books	19 19 0		
“Dayspring” and Mis-			
sions	9 3 6½		
		51 18 0	
Mount Cook School—			
General	16 5 5½		
Books	9 1 11		
“Dayspring” and Mis-			
sions	6 17 4½		
		32 4 9	
Church Collections		11 14 0	
Children's Morning Service,			
Mount Cook Mission Box	.. ..	0 6 3	
Children's Treat—			
Subscriptions	37 6 6		
Proceeds Railway Fares	14 12 9		
Visitors' Tickets	4 18 6		
		56 17 9	
Subscriptions collected on account Library			
Fund .. ..	.. ..	35 8 7	
Cash in Trust for School Furnishings	.. ..	10 13 10	
Interest .. ..	.. ..	0 8 4	
		<u>£199 12 1</u>	
	LIABILITIES.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
N.Z. Bible, Book & Tract Soc.	.. ..	8 1 6	
Lyon and Blair .. ..	.. ..	0 14 0	
		<u>£8 15 6</u>	

1886.	DISBURSEMENTS.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
By N.Z. Bible, Tract and Book Society..	.. ..	84 11 5	
Insurance Premium, Organ, Mount			
Cook School .. ..	.. ..	0 4 2	
Annual Subscription to Wellington			
Sunday School Union .. ..	.. ..	1 0 0	
Expenses, Children's Treat .. ..	.. ..	45 13 10	
Incidental Expenses, Secretary .. ..	.. ..	0 10 0	
Accounts paid on account of School			
Furnishings—			
N.Z. Bible, Tract and Book Soc.	3 15 6		
F. H. Fraser	0 9 0		
D. Clark	1 3 0		
		5 7 6	
Library Books—			
N.Z. Bible, Tract and Book Soc.	.. ..	17 12 11	
Collections from Schools, paid Treas-			
urer for—			
“Dayspring”	10 13 11		
Missions	5 7 0		
		16 0 11	
Cash in hands of Secretary in Trust			
for School Furnishing	5 6 4		
Library Fund	17 15 8		
		23 2 0	
Balance .. ..	.. ..	5 9 4	
		<u>£199 12 1</u>	

THOMAS McKENZIE, Hon. Treasurer.

Audited and found correct.

T. KENNEDY MACDONALD, } Auditors.
ROBT. GARDNER, }

STATEMENT of RECEIPTS and EXPENDITURE in connection with the LADIES' SEWING MEETING.

RECEIPTS.				DISBURSEMENTS.			
	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
To Receipts from all sources	32	6	0	By Furnishing of Vestry—			
				Mirror	1	0	0
				Linoleum and Mats	5	11	0
				Couch and Chair	10	15	0
				Balance handed to Treasurer	15	0	0
	<u>£32</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>0</u>		<u>£32</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>0</u>

ST. JOHN'S BAND OF HOPE.

STATEMENT of RECEIPTS and DISBURSEMENTS for YEAR ending DECEMBER 31st, 1886.

RECEIPTS.		£	s.	d.	DISBURSEMENTS.		£	s.	d.
To Balance in hand, 31st December, 1885		8	5	3	By Fraser's Accts. for Hymn Books, Pledge Cards, &c.		6	3	2
Subscriptions, &c.		8	16	1	Lyon & Blair, Printing Cards		10	0	
					Secretary, for Book		1	3	
					Godber's Account for Tea		9	0	0
					Balance in hand		1	6	11
		<u>£17</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>4</u>			<u>£17</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>4</u>
					Balance	£1	6	11	
					Liabilities, Lyon & Blair		10	0	
							<u>£0</u>	<u>16</u>	<u>11</u>

Correct—

T. KENNEDY MACDONALD, } Auditors.
ROBT. GARDNER, }

J. HOPKINS,
Hon. Treasurer.

ST. JOHN'S CHURCH ORGAN FUND ACCOUNT,

31st DECEMBER, 1887.

[illegible]

Audited and found correct—

T. KENNEDY MACDONALD, } Hon. Auditors.
D. J. MCG. MCKENZIE. }

JAMES SMITH,
Hon. Treasurer.

ANNUAL REPORT

KIRK SESSION.

COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT

ST. JOHN'S PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH,

WILMIS-ST., WHEELINGTON.

FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31ST DECEMBER 1887.



Printed by
JOHN A. DUNN, PRESIDENT, LONDON, 1888.

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
KIRK SESSION,
AND
COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT
OF
ST. JOHN'S PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH,
WILLIS-ST., WELLINGTON,
FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31ST DECEMBER, 1887.



Wellington:
LYON AND BLAIR, PRINTERS LAMBTON QUAY.
1888.

KIRK SESSION.

Moderator :
REV. JAMES PATERSON.

Elders :

J. G. W. AITKEN
WILLIAM ALLAN
A. BARON
FRANCIS F. FRASER
W. T. GLASGOW
ALEXANDER HOPKIRK
R. HOPKIRK
W. HOPKIRK
W. LITTLEJOHN

J. R. MACDONALD
T. W. MCKENZIE
JAMES MCKERROW
W. SIMM
JAMES SLOAN
JAMES SMITH
JAMES WILSON
J. YOUNG.

Members of Committee :

J. R. BLAIR
R. GARDNER
D. S. GRAY
R. M. GREENFIELD
J. GRUBB
ROBERT HANNAH
J. KIRKCALDIE

A. MACDOUGALL
JOSEPH MACKAY
J. H. POPE
D. PRYDE
T. WHITEHOUSE
G. WILSON.

Treasurer :
JAMES SMITH.

Secretary :
D. S. GRAY.

Auditors :
T. KENNEDY MACDONALD

D. J. MCG. MCKENZIE.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

SESSION AND COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT

OF

ST. JOHN'S PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH,

FOR YEAR ENDING 31ST DECEMBER, 1887.

In reviewing the affairs of the Church during the past year we find abundant cause for deep thankfulness to God for all His goodness. He has blessed us with peace, and with a measure of prosperity. In our numbers there have been perhaps fewer breaks by death than usually we have had to record, though in many homes there has been much sickness and affliction. Where there has been bereavement and sorrow, our tenderest Christian sympathy is given.

From the Report now submitted, it will be seen that the Congregation has fully maintained its former position. In membership and revenue there is a slight increase. And there is a corresponding increase in the attendances at the Sabbath services, especially at the evening service. This is, so far, satisfactory, for as the City is growing in extent and population, so the Churches should grow with it. But increase in numbers and resources is not *all* that we desire—is not indeed the main thing: for this alone does not constitute true Congregational prosperity. What we most desire to see is an increase of spiritual life and power in the Church—a higher moral and religious tone, more fervent zeal and devotedness in every good cause, and more abounding fruitfulness in all the members. This is the true prosperity of the Church.

1. *The Membership.*—As reported last year, the number on the Communion Roll was 382: since added by examination 12; by certificate 48—in all 60; withdrawn 26: leaving a net gain to the membership of 34. Number now on the Roll 416. It will

be observed that only 12 joined for the first time. This is but a small proportion out of so large a congregation. It would be encouraging were more coming forward openly to confess Christ, and enter into the fellowship of the Church. The Communion was dispensed quarterly, and on each occasion about 260 took their seat at the Lord's Table.

2. *The Session*, which consisted of eleven Elders with the Moderator, held stated meetings before and after each Communion, and as often as occasion required. The districts were visited quarterly, and the Communion Cards distributed. It was felt, however, that some of the districts were too large, and that, in order to have a more thorough visitation and oversight of the Congregation, an addition to the Eldership was needed. Hence the request to elect six additional Elders. With this large increase to the staff of office-bearers the congregation should now be better organised and its interests more efficiently cared for.

3. The weekly Prayer Meeting was held regularly on Wednesday evenings, and about the same number attended as in former years. It would indicate a healthier condition if more of the Congregation showed an anxiety to avail themselves of this service for the spiritual refreshment and comfort so needed amid the care and turmoil of daily life. Special Evangelistic Services were held in the Church in the early part of the year, conducted by Ministers of the Presbytery, and more recently by the Rev. Mr. Mountain. From these services it is hoped good resulted, though to what extent cannot be determined. It is not easy to tabulate spiritual results.

4. The Minister's Bible Class, with a membership of 44, met on Thursday evenings in the Manager's room. The session extended from May till November, and was closed with a pleasant social meeting in the school-room.

5. The St. John's Literary Society, which since the burning down of the Church had been virtually defunct, was this year revived with encouraging success. Upwards of 30 members were enrolled, and there was an average attendance of about 20. Much intelligent interest was taken in the work of the Society, which consisted chiefly of essays and debates, with readings and recitations, and criticism. The object of the Society being the mutual improvement of the members, it is certainly deserving of all encouragement.

6. Of the two Sunday Schools connected with the Church, and of the Band of Hope, special Reports will be submitted by the Secretary, and therefore we do not here enter into any detail. Suffice it to say, that in these Schools a noble band of Teachers, about 60 in number, is carrying on from Sabbath to

Sabbath a most important work, in instructing the young in Bible truths, in seeking to lead them to the knowledge of the Saviour, and to keep them under the best influences of the Church. In this good work they should have our heartiest sympathy and support.

The Band of Hope is held weekly on Friday evenings. It is well attended by the young people, who take an intelligent interest in the subjects brought before them.

7. To the Organist, Mr. England, and those associated with him in the Choir, are due the best thanks of the Congregation for their earnest efforts to improve the psalmody of the Church. They meet weekly for practice, and it is important they should do so, in order to thorough efficiency. Having now the aid of a fine organ and an efficient Choir, our Service of Song should be beautiful and impressive. Yet we must not forget that more is required than mere external aid to render our praise acceptable to God. There must be the devotional spirit within: the "joy and gladness and thanksgiving," which find expression in the "psalms and hymns and spiritual songs," and in the "singing and making melody with the heart to the Lord."

8. Anniversary Services were held on Sabbath, the 11th of December, conducted by the Rev. J. G. Paterson, of Napier, whose earnest and impressive discourses on the occasion will not soon be forgotten. A Special Children's Service was held in the afternoon, which was largely attended. On the Tuesday evening following, a successful *Conversazione* was held in the School-room. Refreshments provided by the ladies; exhibits by friends; music by the Choir; and addresses delivered by various Ministers rendered the evening a very enjoyable one. The net proceeds amounted to over £45, which with £30 from the special collections, made a considerable contribution to the Building Fund. Grateful acknowledgments are due to the ladies for their zealous and generous efforts in making the *Conversazione* a success.

9. *The Finances*.—The balance-sheet will be submitted by Mr. James Smith, the Honorary Treasurer. From this it will be seen that the ordinary Sunday collections amount to £700 14s. 6d., being an increase of £49 on last year; the seat rents £536 17s., increase £18 15s.; special collections, £149 0s. 9d. Total revenue, £1,547 12s. 6d.

10. *The Ladies' Visiting Society*.—It being felt that some special agency was required to minister to those who may need help, to visit them in their homes, and to bring the influences of Christian sympathy and kindness to bear in alleviating and brightening their condition, the ladies have formed themselves into a Society for this benevolent work. They meet in the

Schoolroom on the first and third Tuesday of each month, at 2.30 p.m., to consider cases and for Dorcas work. Special collections are taken up after each Communion Service to supply them with the means of carrying out the objects of the Society. It is a most Christ-like work to care for the poor; to help the needy; to sympathise with the afflicted; to comfort the sorrowful. Our blessed Lord came to preach the Gospel to the poor; to heal the broken-hearted; to comfort those that mourn. Christianity teaches us to follow in His footsteps, and to act in His spirit. Pure religious service before God our Father is this: "To visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction, and to keep ourselves unspotted from the world." There is a wonderful power in Christian sympathy and kindness to ameliorate evil and to promote happiness. Let us exercise that power; and let us, as members of the Church, be sympathetic with one another and helpful to one another: "Be ye kind one to another; tenderhearted, forgiving one another; even as God, for Christ's sake, hath forgiven you."

St. John's Church Revenue Account.

STATEMENT of RECEIPTS and DISBURSEMENTS during Year ending 31st December, 1887.

Receipts.		£	s.	d.	Disbursements.		£	s.	d.
Balance at Bank, 31st December, 1886	..	74	4	3	Mr. Paterson's Stipend, 1887	..	600	0	0
Collections for year 1887	..	700	14	6	Mr. Moir's ..	..	100	0	0
Seat Rents ..	..	536	17	0	Organist ..	..	50	0	0
Rent of House in Willis Street	..	72	0	0	Doorkeeper ..	..	60	10	0
Rent of Schoolroom	..	14	16	0	Interest on Mortgage to 16th November, 1887	..	240	0	0
Collection for Mr. Mountain's Mission	..	9	12	4	Contribution to Sunday Schools	..	15	0	0
" Assembly Expenses	..	10	0	0	Mr. Mountain's Mission ..	..	9	12	4
" Aged and Infirm Ministers	..	15	0	0	Gas Accounts ..	..	60	3	2
" New Hebrides Mission	..	21	0	0	Five Insurance Premiums ..	..	61	6	2
" Do. per Sunday Schools	..	3	19	4	Tuning Organ, £10; City Rates and Fees, £23 5s.;	..	38	4	8
" "Dayspring" per Sunday	..	7	18	8	Water s/c/s, £2 4s. 8d.; Stamps, £2 15s.	..	57	18	0
" Schools ..	..	57	18	0	Treasurer General Assembly ..	..	24	5	11
" Dorcas and Charitable Pur-	..	24	5	11	" Ladies' Visiting Society ..	..	57	4	6
poses ..	..	57	4	6	Church Extension and Supplemental Fund ..	..	16	16	3
Church Extension and Supplemental Fund	..				Godber's s/c/s, £5 5s.; Repairing Gates, £3; Petty s/c/s,	..	23	13	6
					£2 14s. 3d.; Barnatynne and Co., £5 17s.	..	31	16	6
					£2 14s. 3d.; Pulpit Supply, £4; Glazier,	..	8	11	8
					12s.; Plumber, £1 4s. 10d.; Maitting, £3 10s.	..	53	1	0
					Presbytery Clerk, £2; Law Costs, £7 14s.; Music for	..	39	8	10
					Choir, £1 17s. 6d.; Painting Manse, £20 5s.	..			
					Rev. J. G. Paterson's Expenses, £5 5s.; Books of	..			
					Order, £2 10s.; Cheque-book, 16s. 8d.	..			
					Weeding and Cleaning Church Grounds, £3 1s.; Dona-	..			
					tion Organ Fund, £50	..			
					Balance ..	..		
							£1,547	12	6

Audited and found correct.

T. KENNEDY MACDONALD, } HON.
D. McG. J. MCKENZIE, } AUDITORS.

JAMES SMITH,
HON. TREASURER

St. John's Church Building Fund Account.

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS during Year ending 31st December, 1887.

Receipts.		Disbursements.	
£	s. d.	£	s. d.
Subscription	1 0 0	Dr. Balance, January 1, 1887 ..	18 14 1
Collections at Anniversary Services ..	30 13 1	Farmer's Account, Balance ..	5 0 0
Proceeds Conversazione	45 9 6	Wilson's Account	77 12 0
Balance	44 13 6	Gas Lights in Schoolroom ..	20 10 0
£121 16 1		£121 16 1	

JAMES SMITH,
HON. TREASURER.

Audited and found correct.
T. KENNEDY MACDONALD, }
D. McG. J. MCKENZIE, } Hon. Auditors.

STATEMENT OF LIABILITIES AND ASSETS OF ST. JOHN'S CHURCH, 31st December, 1887.

Liabilities.		Assets.	
£	s. d.	£	s. d.
Amount of Mortgage on Property ..	4,000 0 0	Estimated Value of Church, School and Dwelling-house ..	11,230 0 0
Unpaid Accounts	23 2 1	Manse and Grounds	2,000 0 0
Balance Building Fund Account ..	44 13 6	Cash at Bank (Revenue Account) ..	39 8 10
Balance	9,251 13 3	Unpaid Seat Rents, estimated to yield ..	50 0 0
£13,319 8 10		£13,319 8 10	

JAMES SMITH, HON. TREASURER.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF

ST. JOHN'S PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH SABBATH SCHOOLS.

We have much pleasure in again submitting our Annual Reports, the present being the twentieth for Willis-street School and the sixteenth for Mount Cook.

It becomes us with heartfelt gratitude to acknowledge the goodness of Almighty God for the measure of success we have attained, and for the service we have been permitted to render, and, encouraged by past results and with an abiding confidence in His sure word of promise, to go forward to still greater efforts, feeling assured that His "grace is sufficient for us" and will never fail.

Attendance.—The attendance during the past year has been better than on any previous one, and there has been also a very decided increase in the number of scholars in Willis-street School; but we think the average attendance is not yet what it should be, and we feel certain that with an increased staff of conscientious Teachers the totals would be also largely added to.

The numbers on the rolls, as per following statement, are: Willis-street, 377; and, strangely enough, Mount Cook, 377; giving a total of 754. The highest attendance on any one Sabbath were: Willis-street, 276; Mount Cook, 309.

SCHOLARS.					
	Girls.	Boys.	Total.	Average attendance.	Average attendance excluding wet Sundays.
Willis-street School	198	179	377	218	231
Mount Cook ..	207	170	377	255	266
Totals	405	349	754	473	497
TEACHERS AND OFFICE-BEARERS.					
	Ladies.	Gentlemen.	Total.	Average attendance.	
Willis-street School ..	20	13	33	28	
Mount Cook	11	14	25	24	
Totals	31	27	58	52	
SENIOR CLASSES:					
	Girls.	Lads.	Total.		
Willis-street	12	6	18		
Mount Cook	5	24	29		
	17	30	47		
INFANT CLASSES:					
	Girls.	Boys.			
Willis-street	69	81	=	150	
Mount Cook	106	110	=	216	
Total				366	

It is matter for sincere thankfulness that throughout the whole year no deaths have occurred, but still there have been many changes both amongst Teachers and scholars.

Before leaving this subject there is a matter we would specially bring before Teachers and commend to their consideration, namely, the large amount of leakage amongst the scholars. Our roll would be much larger if more of the children were kept after entering the schools. No doubt an increased staff of Teachers would help to stay this loss, and a resolute effort must be made to get these; but we believe more might be done by many of the present Teachers to lessen the number who slip through our hands. Parents, too, should insist on a regular attendance.

Our staff of Teachers, instead of growing with the growth of the schools, seems decreasing, for, although nine have joined us during the year, twelve have left, and we must have a large accession to our ranks if we expect to have the work well done; our Office-bearers also, especially in Mount Cook, have too much to do, and the result is unsatisfactory.

Children's Service.—The Children's Service in Mount Cook School, on Sabbath mornings, is still carried on. We commend it to Teachers and parents, as without their interest and influence the children are apt to tire. The attendance has been much the same as former years, the average being 77, and the highest on any one day 104.

Children's Treat.—The Annual Treat was held at Petone, and, the weather being propitious, everything passed off satisfactorily, with the exception of the return being rather late through the train being delayed. As our wish is that every one of our children may have all the enjoyment there is, we regret that a good number, especially of the younger scholars, were absent, we suppose because their parents were afraid that harm might happen to them, but with the careful attention given by everyone to the young people's safety and comfort we can assure them their fears are groundless.

Libraries.—During the year we have added 212 volumes to the Libraries, besides repairing several books which were in a bad state, and covering with calico all the numbers in a cloth binding. We hope to make a further addition during 1888, if funds are available, as the Librarians still find it difficult to supply the large army of applicants.

We would again impress on our Teachers the duty of supervising the reading of their scholars as far as practicable, and try to foster a liking for sound literature, so that they may benefit to a larger extent by their reading. We are afraid there is a too exclusive demand for so-called light reading and sentimental stories.

Anniversary Service.—As usual, the Teachers and children from both Schools met in the Church on Anniversary Sabbath, when earnest addresses were delivered by the Rev. J. G. Paterson and our own Minister, which were listened to with marked attention.

Singing Class.—The Singing Class begun last year was successfully carried on throughout the year, and the members have mastered the whole of the hymn tunes for the young in "Church Praise." The interest and attention manifested by the young people were most gratifying and encouraging to those Teachers who undertook their supervision and instruction.

Evangelistic Mission.—The Rev. J. Mountain and Mrs. Mountain conducted a ten days' mission in the Church during the month of October, holding special services for the young.

We are glad to say that many of our children were seriously impressed by his loving words and earnest addresses, and several professed to have accepted Jesus as their Saviour. Our prayer is that these young disciples may be kept from the allurements and snares of the world, and be enabled by grace given to them to walk closely in His footsteps who was "meek and lowly."

Teachers' Meetings.—The Friday evening meetings for the study of the lesson have been fairly attended, but we consider not so well as they should be. Will those of our Teachers who have not tried these meetings, and yet are anxious to have the lesson well prepared, make an effort to attend. We can assure them it will be an hour well spent, and at the same time will encourage those who attend regularly.

The Monthly Prayer Meeting on the first Sabbath of the month is much appreciated by many of the Teachers. We would that all would join in this meeting, for the saying is a true one that "the prayerful teacher will be the successful teacher."

Our Annual Picnic on Boxing Day was very enjoyable, although the threatening weather had the effect of keeping several at home. It had been arranged to go to Trentham, but on arrival there it was found to be raining heavily, so the party returned to Belmont by following train, and the weather having cleared in the meantime, a very pleasant day was passed.

A Social Meeting was held in October to which the Minister's Bible Class was invited, and was most successful. We think more of these re-unions might be held with profit during the year.

Treasurer's Statement.—The Balance-sheet this year is not so favourable. We began the year with a debit balance of over £3, and our liabilities now are over £12, against which, however, there is a set-off for about half that amount. This is partly

through a decrease in the subscriptions received from the children and also a smaller balance from the Annual Treat, both of which we hope will be remedied this next year.

The amount subscribed for "Dayspring" and Missions is £11 18s., a less sum than has been collected for many years, and with the increasing needs in the Mission field we should like to have seen it larger. Teachers will kindly keep this matter before their scholars, as we fear it is often from forgetfulness, and not from inability or unwillingness, that they neglect to give.

Band of Hope.—The Band of Hope is in a flourishing condition, and although the number is slightly fewer than recorded in our last report they are all *bona fide* members this year.

The average attendance for the first six months was only 64, but in the latter half of the year it increased to 98, and we trust it will continue to progress. We ask Parents and Teachers, by their personal interest and influence, to encourage the young folk to attend.

The Roll shows at present :—

Girls.	Boys.	Total.	Average Attendance.
106	73	179	87

The highest attendance at an ordinary meeting was 149, but we have had much larger at our Band of Hope Entertainments, held at intervals through the year. At the last one a collection was taken in aid of the funds, and resulted in a sum of £4 9s. 3d. being received. We have learned a lesson, and we advise friends to provide themselves with change when they come to our free entertainments.

The Annual Tea Meeting was also very successful, and we are glad to report, as will be seen by the Treasurer's Statement, that we have a good balance in hand towards providing our next one.

Conclusion.—We would close our report with an earnest appeal to further conscientious and persevering effort. May we not be content with a superficial work, but strive to win our scholars for Christ. To each of us Teachers, as well as to those who might join our ranks and yet hang back, comes the abiding question: "Lovest thou Me more than these?" And when we, with contrite hearts, reply: "Yea, Lord," then to us will the command come anew, "Feed my lambs;" and He who gives the command will also give the power to obey, and the blessing desired.

(Signed) FRANCIS H. FRASER,
Superintendent Willis Street School.

WILLIAM ALLAN,
Superintendent Mount Cook School.

WM. HOPKIRK, *Hon. Secretary.*

Wellington, 31st December, 1887.

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE OF THE SABBATH SCHOOLS IN CONNECTION WITH ST. JOHN'S CHURCH, FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31ST, 1887.

Receipts.		Disbursements.	
1887.	£ s. d.	1887.	£ s. d.
To Balance ..	5 9 4	By New Zealand Bible, Tract, and Book Society ..	75 17 8
" Collections—		" A. & W. Bruce, Books ..	0 18 0
Willis Street School—		" Insurance Premium, Organ, Mount Cook School ..	0 5 0
General ..	20 8 1	" Annual Subscription to Wellington Sunday School Union ..	1 0 0
Books ..	11 19 6	" Expenses Children's Treat ..	57 19 11
" "Dayspring," and Missions ..	7 0 2½	" Incidental Expenses, Secretary ..	0 12 0
Mount Cook School—		" Library Books, by Secretary from Trust Money ..	24 12 6
General ..	14 7 6½	" Collection from Schools, paid Treasurer :—	
Books ..	13 19 3	"Dayspring" ..	7 18 8
" "Dayspring," and Missions ..	4 17 10	Missions ..	3 19 4
Church Collections ..		" Lyon & Blair ..	11 18 0
Children's Treat ..	38 8 6	" Mr. Ross, Caretaker, Mt. Cook School ..	8 1 6
Subscriptions ..	11 10 9	Balance ..	3 0 0
Proceeds Railway Fares ..	6 12 9		0 3 0
Visitors' Tickets ..	9 12 0		
Share from St. James' School ..			
Cash in Trust with Secretary for School Furnishings ..	5 6 4		
Library Books ..	17 15 8		
"	28 2 0		
" Cash, Net proceeds S. McBurney's Lecture Entertainment ..	1 10 6		
"			
" Collections, Morning Service, Mount Cook, Mission Box ..	0 3 0		
" Interest ..	0 11 4		
	£184 7 7		£184 7 7

THOMAS MCKENZIE, Hon. Treasurer.

Liability, N.Z. Book and Tract Society .. £12 18 11

Audited and found correct. T. KENNEDY MACDONALD, } Hon. Auditors.
D. J. McG. MCKENZIE, }

ST. JOHN'S LADIES' VISITING SOCIETY.

The First Meeting of the "St. John's Ladies' Visiting Society" was held on the 9th August, 1887. Since then the Committee have met monthly for business, and fortnightly for Dorcas work.

The attendance at both meetings has been very good, and the interest in the work continues unabated.

Although the Society has only been instituted for six months, twelve cases have received assistance—some in money, others in clothing or other necessities. In most cases the recipients were Members of the Church.

A sewing machine has been purchased from the funds to help the ladies in their Dorcas work.

The Treasurer will append a statement of money received and expended.

MARY BLAIR, *Secretary.*

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS OF ST. JOHN'S LADIES' VISITING SOCIETY FOR THE YEAR 1887.

Receipts.			Disbursements.								
	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.				
July 19.	To Cash	..	2	0	0	By Relief, in Cash	..	5	10	0	
Aug. 11.	"	..	2	0	0	" Alms	..	0	15	0	
" 18.	"	..	4	0	0	" Clothing	..	1	0	3	
Sept. 22.	"	..	2	0	0	" Drapery	..	..	7	5	3
Oct. 4.	"	..	3	6	10	" Industrial Appliances, viz.:	..	..	6	1	6
" 22.	"	..	8	0	0	Portable Boiler	..	2	2	6	
Dec. 25.	"	..	2	10	1	Sewing Machine	..	6	10	0	
						" Balance in hand	..	..	8	12	6
								..	2	6	8
									<u>£24</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>11</u>

31st December, 1887.

A. SMITH, HON. TREASURER.

St. John's Band of Hope.

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS FOR YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER, 1887.

Dr.				Cr.			
	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
To Balance in hand from 1886 ..			1 6 11	By Lyon and Blair's Accounts for			
„ Donations and Tickets for Annual				Printing, &c., 17/6, 5/-, 10/- ..	1	12	6
Tea	1	11	5	„ James Godber, Tea	6	0	0
„ Collection at Entertainment ..	4	9	3	„ Advertising— <i>Evening Press</i> , 3/-			
				<i>Evening Post</i> , 3/-	0	6	0
„ Members' Subscriptions			6 0 8	„ F. H. Fraser, Books and Cards ..	0	14	9
			6 11 10	„ N.Z. Bible, Book, and Tract So-			
				ciety	0	7	10
				„ Paper and Sundries	0	2	0
				„ Balance in hand	4	16	4
						13	19 5
						£13	19 5
Dec. 31.							
To Balance in hand brought down ..			£4 16 4				

Audited and found correct—

T. KENNEDY MACDONALD, }
D. J. McG. MCKENZIE, } Hon. AUDITORS.

JOSEPH HOPKIRK, Hon. TREASURER.

Wellington, 31st December, 1887.

87

to July, 1887

Book no. 1887

ANNUAL REPORT

KIRK SESSION

COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT

ST. JOHN'S PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

AND THE KIRK SESSION

OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK

NEW YORK: PUBLISHED BY THE CHURCH

1887

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
KIRK SESSION,
AND
COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT
OF
ST. JOHN'S PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH,
WILLIS ST., WELLINGTON,
FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31ST DECEMBER, 1888.



Wellington:
LYON AND BLAIR, PRINTERS, LAMBTON QUAY.
—
1889.

Kick Session.

Moderator :

REV. JAMES PATERSON.

Elders :

J. G. W. AITKEN	J. R. MACDONALD
WILLIAM ALLAN	T. W. MCKENZIE
A. BARRON	JAMES MCKERROW
FRANCIS H. FRASER	WILLIAM SIMM
W. T. GLASGOW	JAMES SLOAN
ALEXANDER HOPKIRK	JAMES SMITH
ROBERT HOPKIRK	WILLIAM WADDELL
WILLIAM HOPKIRK	JAMES WILSON
W. LITTLEJOHN	JOHN YOUNG.

Members of Committee of Management for 1889 :

J. R. BLAIR	JOSEPH MACKAY
ROBERT GARDNER	ALEXANDER MURRAY
T. M. GRANT	J. H. POPE
D. S. GRAY	D. PRYDE
R. M. GREENFIELD	GEORGE TROUP
ROBERT HANNAH	GEORGE WILSON
J. KIRKCALDIE	JOHN YOUNG
A. MACDOUGALL	

JAMES SMITH

TREASURER.

D. S. GRAY,

SECRETARY.

ELDERS' DISTRICTS.

- No. 1.—Kiawarra, Crofton, and Wadestown.
Mr. W. LITTLEJOHN, Elder.
- 2.—Vogeltown, Karori, Tinakori Road, (South-West end).
Mr. ROBERT HOPKIRK, Elder.
- 3.—Thorndon, from Town Belt to Hill Street.
Mr. A. BARRON, Elder.
- 4.—From Sydney Street to Woodward Street, and Harbour to Town Belt.
Mr. W. WADDELL, Elder.
- 5.—From Woodward Street to Boulcott Street, and Harbour to Town Belt.
Mr. JAMES SMITH, Elder.
- 6.—From Boulcott Street to Ghuznee Street (North side), and Willis Street to Town Belt.
Mr. JAMES MCKERROW, Elder.
- 7.—From Ghuznee Street (South side) to Abel Smith Street, and Willis Street (West side) to Town Belt.
Mr. W. T. GLASSGOW, Elder.
- 8.—From Abel Smith Street to top of Thomson Street, and Polhill Gully to Cuba Street.
Mr. JAMES SLOAN, Elder.
- 9.—Manners Street, Dixon Street, West of Willis Street, and Taranaki Place.
Mr. F. H. FRASER, Elder.
- 10.—From Ghuznee Street to Ingestre Street, and Willis Street to Cuba Street.
Mr. JOHN YOUNG, Elder.
- 11.—Ghuznee Street (East of Cuba Street,) and Cuba Street (East side), and Taranaki Street (West side) to Webb Street.
Mr. T. MCKENZIE, Elder.
- 12.—Hopper Street (and streets off) to Bidwell Street, and Wright Street and Taranaki Street to Webb Street; Barracks Street, Banks Terrace, and Tasman Street.
Mr. WILLIAM SIMM, Elder.
- 13.—Tory Street and Taranaki Street, from Barracks Street to Courtenay Place.
Mr. WILLIAM ALLAN, Elder.
- 14.—Courtenay Place to Newtown, Tory Street (East side) to Cambridge Terrace.
Mr. JAMES WILSON, Elder.
- 15.—Oriental Bay to Majoribanks Street (North side).
Mr. WILLIAM HOPKIRK, Elder.
- 16.—Majoribanks Street (South side) to Elizabeth Street, and Kent Terrace to Town Belt.
Mr. J. R. MACDONALD, Elder.
- 17.—Elizabeth Street to College Street, and Kent Terrace to Town Belt.
Mr. J. G. W. AITKEN, Elder.



THE ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Kirk Session and Committee of Management

TO THE

MEMBERS AND ADHERENTS

OF

St. John's Presbyterian Church, Wellington,

FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31ST DECEMBER, 1888.

IN reviewing the affairs of the Church during the past year, we find little out of the usual routine to note. The membership is about the same as when we last reported, the attendance at ordinances about the same, and the finances about the same. This does not indicate much progress outwardly; but it shows that the Congregation, despite the retarding influences of commercial depression, and of much fluctuation in the population, has held its position. Let us hope, however, that there has been progress inwardly—progress which cannot be tabulated in a report, but which is felt in the spiritual life of the people—growth of the inner life—a higher tone of christian character; more of a kindly, brotherly, sympathetic spirit among the members, and more through consecration to Christ and His service: this is true progress—true prosperity—the prosperity which above all things we should seek.

The year is not without its record of sad changes amongst us—of afflictions and bereavements in homes and families. Early in the year we lost one of our youngest members and till recently a Sunday School teacher, the daughter of our esteemed Elder, Mr. Smith. Though she had been for weeks ailing, yet her death was so unexpected: it came like a shock upon us all, and awoke a deep feeling of sorrow in those who knew her, and of sympathy with those who most loved her. Yet it found her not unprepared, for she had given clear evidence of her faith, and her love to Christ, and her desire to follow Him; and so her end was peace. About the same time there passed away another and older member

of the Church, Mrs. Scott; and, shortly after, yet another, Mrs. Rixon: both of whom had been connected with St. John's since its very formation, and had always shown a deep interest in its welfare and a readiness to help in any good work. They died in the faith and hope in which they lived. It was about the same time, too, that by a severe, and as it proved, fatal accident, another respected member of the Church, Mr. Hogarth, was called to his rest. He was a kindly, warm-hearted, upright Christian man, as everyone who knew him will testify. Later on in the year, another of our Sabbath School teachers, William Lennie, after a long and painful illness, passed away from amongst us. Of a quiet, retiring disposition, yet thoroughly decided in his Christian character, he proved himself a most zealous and successful teacher, winning the affection of his pupils and the respect of his fellow teachers. He left a young widow to mourn his loss. Towards the close of the year two other old members of the Church were removed by death: William Murray and Alexander Muir: the one after a short, sharp illness; the other, after long weary months of severe suffering, borne with much Christian resignation. Both gave testimony on their death-bed to their faith and hope in Christ. There are other homes into which affliction had entered, and over which had been cast the dark shadow of grief and mourning: one where a little babe was taken; another where a husband and father was taken; and another where a much loved nephew was taken. We simply mention them as showing that they are not forgotten in the record of changes in the Congregation, and in our sympathy with those bereaved and sorrowing.

Through the kind thoughtfulness and generous feeling of the Congregation, the Minister was enabled to enjoy a much appreciated three months' holiday in Australia, his first long holiday for twenty years. During his absence the pulpit was very ably and acceptably supplied by the Rev. William Grant, who has recently been ordained and inducted into the pastorate of the Church at New Plymouth.

In the early part of the year the Kirk Session was strengthened by the addition of six Elders—viz.: Messrs. Barron, Glasgow, William Hopkirk, Thomas McKenzie, William Simm, and J. R. Macdonald. This gives now a staff of eighteen Elders, to each of whom a district has been assigned, which he is expected to visit at least quarterly, for the distribution of Communion cards, and when any sickness occurs. It is hoped the members will give intimation to the Elders, or to the Minister, when any sickness or trouble does occur and a visit would be desired.

The Communion was celebrated at the beginning of each quarter, on which occasions about 260 joined in the observance

of the holy ordinance. During the year 60 new members were added to the Church: 27 for the first time, by examination; and 33 by certificate from other Congregations. Forty-seven names were taken off the Communion roll, including seven by death; the number now on the roll is 422. It is greatly to be desired that more would come forward, and, in the right earnest spirit, take their place at the Communion table, and so enter on a more decided Christian life and into the closer fellowship of the Christian Church.

At the Sabbath Services, and at the weekly prayer-meetings held on Wednesday evenings, there has been about the usual attendance. It would be encouraging to see an increased and more regular attendance at both services. Diligent waiting on the means of grace is so important for the spiritual well-being, both of the individual and of the Church.

The Choir, under the leadership of Mr. England, and with the help of our fine organ, have done their best to render efficient the service of praise. They give a great deal of time to practice, and are always ready to assist at any special service when called upon; and certainly they deserve for their kind help the grateful acknowledgments of the Congregation. We are also greatly indebted to Mr. William Hopkirk, for the deep interest he takes in training the young people of the Church in the knowledge and practice of the hymn music. A class was formed and conducted by him on Wednesday evenings, which was well attended, and which made most creditable progress. With the help of the Choir, they gave on two occasions in the Church a rendering of a Sacred Cantata which was much appreciated. Such an effort as this deserves to be encouraged; for it is by the training of the young in the practice of psalmody that we can hope ultimately to have the most efficient singing in the Church.

After his return from Australia, in June, the Minister resumed his Bible Class, and continued it till near the end of the year; 46 members attended, and showed much diligence and proficiency in the work of the class. The session was concluded with a pleasant social gathering in the School-room. The class will be resumed early in April, when it is hoped there will be a large muster both of the old and of new members.

The Young Men's Literary Association had also a very successful session, though at times the attendance was not so well sustained as it might have been. Some excellent essays were read by members, and some spirited debates were held; and on one or two occasions there was an open meeting, when the proceedings were more diversified with music, recitations, &c. The Society should receive more encouragement than it does,

not only from the younger but also from the older members of the Church, and for the sake of the younger. It is a most pleasant and profitable way of spending a couple of hours once a week. The Society meets on Tuesday evenings at 7.30 p.m. in one of the class-rooms.

The Ladies' Society for visiting and helping the needy has had regular meetings on the first and third Tuesdays of each month, in the Class-room, at half-past two o'clock, to consider cases in committee and to carry on Dorcas work. It has been the means of doing much good, and of bringing help and comfort to many in their need. Apart even from the material assistance given, there is the kindly sympathy and the kindly word, which do much to soothe the sorrows and ease the burdens of those in trouble. A special report of the work of the Society during the year, as prepared by the Honorary Secretary, will be read. The Society deserves all encouragement and support from the Congregation.

The work done in our two large Sunday Schools, and in our senior Bible Classes and Band of Hope, is of far too important a character to be adequately dealt with in this general survey of the work of the Church. It needs a report for itself; and an excellent report has been prepared, complete in all its details, and will be read by the Secretary. Suffice it to say that the Schools on the whole continue in a prosperous condition, and that good and most blessed work is being carried on in them. We have a noble band of teachers, who give their time and strength to the work, and who deserve all sympathy and encouragement in it.

The Anniversary Services of the Church were held on the second Sabbath of December, and were conducted with much power, and we trust also with much profit, by the Rev. Gordon Webster, M.A., of St. Andrew's, Christchurch. The Conversation, so heartily and generously promoted by the ladies, was a great success.

The Financial Statement will be submitted by Mr. Smith, the Honorary Treasurer. From this statement it will be seen that this year there is a debit balance; but this is accounted for not by any falling off in the revenue, but by extra expenditure, especially in the supply for the pulpit during the Minister's absence in Australia, and in the purchase of hymn-books for visitors and anthem books for the choir. The ordinary revenue is about the same as last year; slightly more in the Sunday collections; slightly less in the pew rents. The collections and pew rents amount together to a little over £1,200; this, with rents for house and school, amounting this year to £120, forms the ordinary revenue to meet the ordinary expenditure. The

other amounts collected are for special objects, such as the general schemes of the Church. One of the most important—perhaps the most important—of these schemes is the Church Extension and Supplemental Fund. The objects of this fund are the extension of the Church, and the better support of the ministry in new and sparsely-peopled districts. These objects have a strong claim, especially on the larger and wealthier congregations of the Church. Toward this fund we contributed this year the sum of £49 18s. With a little more system in our mode of collecting, this amount might be largely increased. The total amount contributed by the Congregation for all purposes during the year was £1,576.

Looking back over the past year we find abundant cause for thankfulness to the Great Head of the Church for the measure of success which has attended our efforts; and, while feeling humbled at our many deficiencies and shortcomings, we should also feel stimulated and encouraged to more earnest and united effort in the year on which we have entered. May we—Minister, Office-bearers, and people—go forward with renewed consecration to our work; may we have all strength and comfort in it, and God's blessing—the secret of success: and to Him be all the praise!



ANNUAL REPORT OF ST. JOHN'S PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH SABBATH SCHOOLS.

AGAIN the time has arrived when we are called upon to give an account of another year's work in our schools, the present being the twenty-first Report of the Willis Street School, and the seventeenth of Mount Cook.

We desire first, and before entering into a detailed statement, to render praise and thanks to our gracious Heavenly Father for the many mercies and blessings so bounteously vouchsafed to us, and for the help and encouragement we have received at His loving hands during the year that is past. We feel our service has come far short of what it might have been, and, confessing our many shortcomings, we would go forward, looking more earnestly to the source of all our good endeavours, and with the Saviour's love shed abroad afresh in our hearts, pray that grace may be given us more faithfully to obey His command: "Feed my lambs."

Attendance.—The attendance is, on the whole, an improvement on former years. It is true that the total number registered in Willis Street is some four less than last year, but against that there is an increased average attendance of 11, or, excluding wet Sundays, of 15. In Mount Cook School again, although the number on the roll shows a large increase, yet the average attendance is smaller than in last report. Our present totals are: Willis Street, 373; Mount Cook, 424; giving a grand total of 797, with a working average of 505. The highest attendance on any one Sabbath was: Willis Street, 282; and Mount Cook, 311. Following is a detailed statement:—

SCHOLARS.			Average Attendance.	Average Attendance, excluding Wet Sundays.
Girls.	Boys.	Total.		
Willis Street School ..	197	176	373	229
Mount Cook School ..	218	206	424	240
Totals ..	415	382	797	469

11

TEACHERS AND OFFICE-BEARERS.

	Ladies.	Gentlemen.	Montresses.	Total.	Average Attendance.
Willis Street School ..	21	12	2	35	26
Mount Cook School ..	16	15	..	31	26
Totals ..	37	27	2	66	52

SENIOR CLASSES.

	Girls.	Lads.	Total.
Willis Street School ..	15	14	29
Mount Cook School ..	9	18	27
Totals ..	24	32	56

INFANT CLASSES.

	Girls.	Boys.	Total.
Willis Street School ..	52	65	117
Mount Cook School ..	110	113	223
Totals ..	162	178	340

We think the foregoing figures show that we, as teachers, have abundant material to work upon, and that our responsibility is very great; and we trust that a sense of this, combined with the knowledge of our own insufficiency, may make us more prayerful and earnest. No half-hearted efforts will avail. If we want to be successful we must work for it.

It is a matter of sincere congratulation that our teaching staff has been largely added to during the year. We extend to all who have joined us our warmest welcome, and trust that in the days to come we may mutually help and encourage each other.

Besides the many withdrawals from our ranks, from changes of residence or other necessary causes, we have had two of our number removed by death during the year: our brother, Mr. Lennie, after a long and trying illness, being the first to be called away; and Mr. L. Morton, one of our librarians, following soon after. In the former we lost a zealous, conscientious teacher, who in spite of many inconveniences regularly took his place on the Sabbath afternoon; but we cannot mourn his removal as those who have no hope, for they who knew him best can testify of his humble trust in the Saviour, and to him, therefore, to die was gain. In Louis Morton we had a manly youth of good parts, unassuming and quiet in his behaviour, and ever ready to oblige. We tender our heartfelt sympathy to the bereaved relatives, and pray that a loving Father may fill up with His own presence the blanks in their hearts and homes; we would especially remember the young widow, and pray that she may realise in her experience that infinite wisdom and love mixed her bitter cup; and, though we may not be able to recognise it in our grief, yet we rest assured that "He doeth all things wisely and well."

Children's Service.—The Children's Service in Mt. Cook School on Sabbath mornings has been much better attended this year, and we are pleased to report that the children seem to be taking a greater interest in the meetings. During the year some very interesting and instructive addresses have been given by teachers and others, several Members of Parliament kindly giving their services while the House was in session. A system of marking attendance and behaviour has also been introduced, and rewards were given at the close of the year to those who deserved them.

The average attendance for the year was 88, and the highest number present on one day, 121.

Children's Treat.—The annual Treat was held at Pitone, and passed off most successfully. We have reason to be thankful for good weather, as it would be a very difficult matter to provide for such a large number indoors, besides giving very little satisfaction to the children.

Singing Class.—The Singing Class was well attended throughout the year, and a good deal of enthusiasm was displayed by the members, their regularity at practices being most encouraging. A Service of Song, entitled "Christ, the Desire of all Nations," was rendered in May, and a choice selection of Carols at Christmas time, the Choir and Organist kindly giving their assistance on both occasions. The singing was excellent, and there were good attendances, and a balance of £8 15s. was placed to the credit of the Library Fund as net proceeds of the Service of Song, admission to which was by ticket. We regret to say that the collection taken at the Carol Service barely covered expenses.

Libraries.—An effort was made during the year to provide funds for a further supply of books, by the teachers collecting small sums from their friends. The result was very satisfactory, £26 4s. 8d. being received. This, with the £8 15s. proceeds of Service of Song, has been expended, some 800 volumes having been bought. These will be placed on the shelves for distribution early in the new year. We are also indebted to Mr. R. T. Turnbull, London, for a sum of £5 in aid of the Library Fund, and an order for books to the amount will be forwarded in due course. Our warmest thanks are due to Mr. Turnbull for remembering us so generously in this way.

Anniversary Service.—Teachers and scholars from both Schools met in the Church on the second Sabbath of December, being the Church Anniversary, when interesting addresses were delivered by the Revs. G. Webster, of Christchurch, and W. Shirer, of Newtown.

Teachers' Meetings.—The Friday evening meeting for the study of the lesson is still continued, and fairly attended, but we do not think nearly as well as it ought to be, and we ask teachers to make an effort to be present at some of them at least.

The monthly *Prayer-meeting* has been held in the Church on the first Sabbath of each month. Many friends remain for the short time occupied after the close of the Church service, and it is hoped a still better attendance may be experienced in the coming year.

Picnic.—The annual Picnic was held at Trentham, on Boxing Day, and was a great success, the weather being magnificent. Our best thanks are due to Mr. Barton for his kindness in placing such a lovely spot at our disposal.

A *Social Meeting* was held early in the year, and was so pleasant that it has been suggested they should come more often. It certainly gives opportunity for teachers in the different Schools to make each other's acquaintance, and in this way much good is done, besides the mere enjoyment of the hour.

Treasurer's Statement.—The Statement of Receipts and Disbursements is more satisfactory this year than last; for although there are two small accounts unpaid, yet the credit balance and some amounts for periodicals still outstanding will meet them. Our needs, however, are large, and we ask teachers to encourage their children to remember their pennies, for this is our chief source of revenue.

It is also a matter for congratulation that the sums subscribed for "Dayspring" and New Hebrides mission are much larger this year, showing an increase of fully £4, and we hope this good feature will continue.

We wish to acknowledge the kindness of those who give so liberally at the time of the annual Treat, when occasion is taken to make a special appeal. If it were not for the balance over from the Treat, our finances would show very badly.

We regret to say that our late treasurer, Mr. Thos. McKenzie, feeling that his strength was not equal to the many demands upon it, asked to be relieved of the treasurership this year; and as it was felt that it would be unfair, after his many years in harness, to burden him more than necessary, it was agreed that the Secretary should take over the duties of Treasurer also. Mr. McKenzie has been acting so long in this capacity, and has done so much valuable work, that it was felt we could not quite sever the connection, so at his own suggestion he is kept in reserve for special occasions.

Giris.	Boys.	Total.
95	85	180

We have had several special meetings, all much appreciated, and we hope to get again during next session the assistance of all who helped to make them so successful.

The balance-sheet shows a credit balance; but as the annual tea-meeting has to be provided for, we fear our funds will be rather short.

Conclusion.—In concluding this Report, we would say to parents : Do all you can to encourage the teachers in their work, and one good way of doing so is to see that your children attend school regularly, and prepare their lessons at home. To our fellow teachers we say : You cannot think too highly of your work. It is the grandest and noblest you can engage in, because it has in it the greatest possibilities. Who can tell what, and how far-reaching, the results may be of one child brought to the Saviour's feet. In and through our scholars we may move the world for Christ, and be the means of blessing to countless numbers of our fellow men. Let us, then, follow closely in our Master's footsteps, learn His ways, and catch His spirit, and, with hearts glowing with love to Him who gave Himself for us, go cheerfully forward to another year with renewed determination, and humbly looking upwards for the blessing, being well assured that our "labour is not in vain in the Lord."

WILLIAM ALLAN,
Superintendent, Mount Cook School.

WM. HOPKIRK, Hon. Secretary.
31st December, 1888.

ST. JOHN'S CHURCH REVENUE ACCOUNT,
STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS for Year ending 31st December, 1888.

RECEIPTS.		DISBURSEMENTS.	
	£ s. d.		£ s. d.
Balance at Bank, 31st December, 1887	39 8 10	Mr. Paterson's Stipend, 1888	600 0 0
Collections for year 1888	714 7 4	Mr. Moir's	100 0 0
Seat Rents	492 5 0	Organist	50 0 0
Rent of House in Willis Street	72 0 0	Doorkeeper	56 17 6
Rent of School	48 2 6	Interest on Mortgage to 16th November, 1888	240 0 0
Payment by Tenant on account of Repairs to House	4 0 0	Gas Accounts	68 9 7
Subscription from Church Conference on account of Expenses	2 0 0	Fire Insurance Premiums	54 18 8
		Rev. W. Grant	81 5 0
		Rev. G. Webster	7 0 0
		Ladies Visiting Society	47 15 2
		City Rates and Fees	26 8 4
		Advertising	10 15 4
		Lyon and Blair's Account -	
		"Church Praise" Books	24 13 0
		Anthem Books	10 10 0
		Tokens	4 13 9
		Printing and Stationery	52 11 10
		J. Godber	92 8 7
		J. Wilson	15 10 6
		Plumber	40 8 0
		Repeating Gates	11 5 6
		Treasurer, General Assembly	5 1 6
		Rev. G. Muller	49 1 1
		Indian Mission	8 0 0
		Sunday Schools	5 0 0
		Petone Church	15 0 0
		Church Extension Fund	49 13 0
		Assembly Reports	2 10 0
		Repairing Organ Engine	1 0 0
		Presbytery Clerk	1 0 0
		Tuning Organ	10 0 0
		R. Martin	2 18 0
		Cleaning Walks and Grounds	5 6 0
		Bannatyne and Co.	2 18 6
		Water Account	2 2 0
		Petty Accounts	3 7 3
			£1,675 19 6

Audited and found correct—
 T. KENNEDY MACDONALD,
 Hon. Auditors.

JAMES SMITH,

ST. JOHN'S CHURCH BUILDING FUND ACCOUNT.

STATEMENT of RECEIPTS and DISBURSEMENTS for YEAR ending 31st DECEMBER, 1888.

RECEIPTS.	£	s.	d.	DISBURSEMENTS.	£	s.	d.
Special Collections at Anniversary Services	23	6	1	Dr. Balance, 31st December, 1887	44	18	6
Proceeds Conversazione	30	9	9	Balance	9	2	4
	<u>£53</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>10</u>		<u>£53</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>10</u>

Audited and found correct—

T. KENNEDY MACDONALD, } Hon. Auditors.
D. J. McG. McKENZIE, }

JAMES SMITH,
Hon. Treasurer.

STATEMENT of LIABILITIES and ASSETS of ST. JOHN'S CHURCH, 31st DECEMBER, 1888.

ASSETS.	£	s.	d.	LIABILITIES.	£	s.	d.
Estimated Value of Church, School House, Manse, and Grounds	13,230	0	0	Amount of Mortgage on Property	4,000	0	0
Credit Balance Building Fund Open Account	9	2	4	Balance, Revenue Account	114	6	7
Unpaid Seat Rents, estimated to yield	60	0	0	Balance	9,184	15	9
	<u>£13,299</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>4</u>		<u>£13,299</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>4</u>

JAMES SMITH,
Hon. Treasurer.

St. John's Presbyterian Church Sabbath Schools.

STATEMENT of RECEIPTS and DISBURSEMENTS for Year ending 31st December, 1888.

RECEIPTS.	£	s.	d.	DISBURSEMENTS.	£	s.	d.
1888.				1888.			
Jan. 1. To Balance	0	3	0	By N.Z. Bible, Book, and Tract Society, 1887	12	18	11
Dec. 31. Collections—				Do., 1888	73	14	4
Willis Street School—				Do., Library Books	30	6	11
General	21	0	2		104	1	3
Books	10	16	5½	Subscription, Wellington S.S. Union	1	0	0
"Dayspring," and Missions 8 16 10½	15	1		Mr. Ross, Caretaker, Mt. Cook School	3	0	0
	40	13	6	Lyon & Blair's Account	2	0	0
Mount Cook School—				Insurance premium, Mt. Cook Organ	0	5	0
General	19	4	4	Expenses Children's Treat, as per Statement	48	17	4
Books	16	3	7½	Church Treasurer, Collections—			
"Dayspring," and Missions 7 3 6½	7	5		"Dayspring"	10	13	7
	42	11	6	New Hebrides Mission	5	6	10
Church Collection	15	0	0		16	0	5
Children's Treat—				Sundries, per Secretary	0	15	0
Subscriptions	40	7	0	Balance in hand	3	19	4
Proceeds Sale of Tickets, &c. 19 3 0							
	59	10	0				
Net proceeds, Service of Song	8	15	0				
Subscriptions for Library Fund	26	4	3				
	<u>£192</u>	<u>17</u>	<u>3</u>		<u>£192</u>	<u>17</u>	<u>3</u>
To Balance brought down	3	19	4	By Liability: N.Z. Bible, Book and Tract Society 5 16 0			
Accounts for Periodicals unpaid Dec. 31st	5	0	0				
	<u>£8</u>	<u>19</u>	<u>4</u>				

Audited and found correct—

T. KENNEDY MACDONALD, } Hon. Auditors.
D. J. McG. McKENZIE, }

WM. HOPKIRK,
Hon. Secretary and Treasurer.

ST. JOHN'S BAND OF HOPE.—BALANCE-SHEET for 1888.

RECEIPTS.					DISBURSEMENTS.				
				£ s. d.					£ s. d.
To Balance from 1887 .. .. .	..	..	..	4 16 4	By Clark, "Reciters" .. .. .	..	..	..	0 3 10
Members' Subscriptions .. .. .	..	..	..	5 15 8	Godber, providing Tea .. .. .	..	..	..	8 5 0
Donations .. .. .	..	..	..	1 3 6	N.Z. Bible, Tract and Book Society, for Books ..	..	..	..	2 6 5
Collection received at Entertainment .. ..	..	..	..	4 3 10	Lyon & Blair, Printing .. .. .	..	..	..	0 17 6
					Edwards & Co., Printing .. .. .	..	..	..	1 3 0
					Balance in hand .. .. .	..	..	..	3 3 7
				<u>£15 19 4</u>					<u>£15 19 4</u>

Audited and found correct—

T. KENNEDY MACDONALD,
D. J. McG. MCKENZIE,

} Hon. Auditors.

F. MASON,

Hon. Treasurer.

STATEMENT of RECEIPTS and DISBURSEMENTS of ST. JOHN'S CHURCH LADIES' VISITING SOCIETY, for the Year 1888.

RECEIPTS.					DISBURSEMENTS.				
				£ s. d.					£ s. d.
To Balance in hand, 31st December, 1887 ..	..	..	..	2 6 8	By Relief in Cash .. .. .	..	..	..	23 2 5
Cash received from Treasurer during 1888 ..	..	..	..	47 15 2	„ Aliment .. .. .	..	..	..	5 2 10
					„ Clothing .. .. .	..	..	..	12 9 7
					Balance in hand .. .. .	..	..	..	9 7 0
				<u>£50 1 10</u>					<u>£50 1 10</u>

Audited and found correct.

T. KENNEDY MACDONALD,
D. J. McG. MCKENZIE,

} Hon. Auditors.

A. SMITH,

Hon. Treasurer.