

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
KIRK SESSION,
AND
COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT
OF
ST. JOHN'S PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH,
WILLIS STREET, WELLINGTON,
FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER, 1889.



Wellington;
LYON AND BLAIR, PRINTERS, LAMBTON QUAY.
—
1890.

Kirk Session.

Moderator :

Rev. JAMES PATERSON.

Elders :

J. G. W. AITKEN
WILLIAM ALLAN
A. BARRON
FRANCIS H. FRASER
W. T. GLASGOW
ALEXANDER HOPKIRK
ROBERT HOPKIRK
WILLIAM HOPKIRK
W. LITTLEJOHN

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

Members of Committee of Management for 1890 :

J. R. BLAIR
JOHN BROWN
WILLIAM CABLE
T. M. GRANT
D. S. GRAY
ROBERT HANNAH
J. KIRKCALDIE
JOSEPH MACKAY

ALEX. MACDOUGALL
F. MASON
ALEXANDER MURRAY
J. H. POPE
D. PRYDE
GEORGE TROUP
GEORGE WILSON.

J. G. W. AITKEN,
TREASURER.

T. M. GRANT,
SECRETARY.

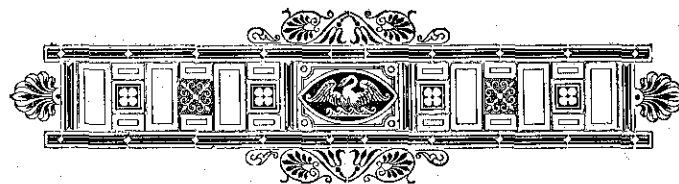
ELDERS' DISTRICTS.

- No. 1.—Kaiwarra, Crofton, and Wadestown.
Mr. W. LITTLEJOHN, Elder.
- 2.—Vogeltown, Karori, Tinakori Road (South West end).
Mr. ROBERT HOPKIRK, Elder.
- 3.—Therndon, 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. GLASGOW, 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.

St. John's Church.

STATED MEETINGS.

- 1.—Divine Service on Sabbath Morning at 11 a.m.; Evening at 6.30. On Wednesday Evenings at 7.30.
 - 2.—Communion on second Sunday of January, and on first Sunday of each quarter following.
 - 3.—Fellowship Meeting in Class-room, on Sabbath Morning, from 10 to 10.45 a.m.
 - 4.—Choir Practice on Wednesday Evenings, after Divine Service.
 - 5.—Children's Music Class on Wednesday Evenings, in School-room, from 6.30 to 7.30.
 - 6.—Literary Society, Tuesday Evenings at 7.30 p.m. Resuming in March.
 - 7.—Ladies' Visiting and Dorcas Society, first and third Tuesdays of each month.
 - 8.—Minister's Bible Class, Thursday Evenings at 7.30 p.m. Resuming in April.
 - 9.—Band of Hope, Friday Evenings, from 7 to 8.
 - 10.—Teachers' Meeting for Study of Lesson, and Business, Friday Evenings at 8 o'clock.
 - 11.—Monthly Prayer Meeting of Teachers and others, after Evening Service, first Sunday of each month.
 - 12.—Sabbath Morning-Children's Service, Mount Cook School, at 11 a.m.
- Sabbath Schools meet in Willis Street and Mount Cook at 2.30 p.m.



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, 1889.

THE Office-bearers and Committee of Management have pleasure in submitting the Annual Report. There is nothing of an exceptional character on which they have specially to remark. The numbers and resources of the Congregation are about the same as last year. There have been the usual changes: some leaving, some joining; the numbers about equal. At the end of the year there were on the Communion Roll 416. Number disjoined during 1889: By death, 4; by certificate and otherwise, 41; total disjunctions, 45. Numbers added: By examination, 14; by certificate, 44; total, 58. Of the four removed by death, one, Mr. John Young, was a member of the Committee of Management; a man of great intelligence and worth, and very loyal to the Church. His death at the end of the year threw a gloom upon us all, and evoked deep sympathy for his bereaved widow and family. It is to be regretted that the number of those joining the Church for the first time is so small. This is a regret felt and expressed in other Churches besides our own. It would be cheering to all true lovers of Christ to see more coming forward to confess His name and to enter into the fellowship of His Church.

The Congregation suffered loss during the year by the removal of several esteemed and attached families to other parts of the Colony, and of one who went to reside in Melbourne.

We refer to the family of Mr. Dawson, who had for the past fourteen years been connected with us. Before leaving, Mr. Dawson presented to the Church a handsome clock, and had it put up in the front of the gallery. This has met a felt want in the equipment of the Church, and it forms a pleasant memento of our esteemed friends, who for so many years were associated with us in Church fellowship.

It would be encouraging to the Minister and Office-bearers, and to all who seek the prosperity of the Church, to see a larger attendance on all occasions at the services of Divine worship. The attendance is good, but it might be better. It is wonderfully cheering to see a full church; and in the interest of the worshippers themselves it is of the utmost importance that they be regular in their attendance. Regularity of attendance forms the habit and deepens the interest in the services of the Church. What we have said applies to the Week Evening Services as well as to the Sunday Services.

Under the leadership of Mr. England, the Choir have been very helpful in sustaining the service of praise in the sanctuary. It is most desirable that this department of our worship should be as beautiful and hearty and in every way efficient as it is possible to make it. No pains should be spared on the part of the Congregation to accomplish this end, and it should be felt to be the duty and privilege of all who can assist, to come forward and do so. The praise of the sanctuary should, above all things, be hearty and sincere; but it should also be tasteful and beautiful. He who has given to all in more or less degree the gift of music, requires that we cultivate it, and consecrate it to Him. We are to "worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness."

The Church is much indebted to Mr. Wm. Hopkirk for the great service he has rendered in training the young people in sacred music. He had a very successful class again this year, and wound up the session with a Carol Service at Christmas, held in the Church, and which was very highly appreciated by a large audience. Mr. Hopkirk's labours in this, as in other departments of our Church work, deserves the hearty thanks of the Congregation.

The Minister's Bible Class, conducted on Thursday evenings from April to December, was well attended, there being 41 on the roll, and an average attendance of about 30. In addition to this class, Senior Bible Classes are taught on Sundays by Mr. Aitken at the Mount Cook School, and by Mr. Troup and Mrs. Lennox at the Willis Street School. The great object of these classes is to get hold of the young people of more advanced age, to keep them under Bible instruction, and under the influences of the Church; and to train them up to become future workers in the service of the Church.

It was felt that something more should be done to get hold of the young men connected with the Church, to bring them together for Christian fellowship, and to give them facilities for mutual help and stimulus in the study of the Bible, and in moral and religious culture. With this view, invitations were issued to a Social Gathering in the School-room, which was largely attended; and the result was the formation of the St. John's Christian Fellowship Association, which meets on Sabbath mornings in the Class-room adjoining the Church, from 10 to 10.45 a.m. On Sabbath morning the 14th July, the Association held its first meeting. It has since continued meeting regularly, with an average attendance of 26 members, there being 50 on the roll. The subject of study has been the life of Christ, as given in the Gospel of Mark.

The Literary Society, which holds its meetings on Tuesday evenings, has had a more or less vigorous existence during its session from March to November, and some spirited debates were held and essays read and criticised by the members. It is hoped that when the Society resumes its meetings it will be with large accession of numbers and with renewed vitality.

The Ladies' Visiting and Dorcas Society has been in full operation during the year, and has been the means of doing much good in a quiet and unostentatious way, and of helping needy and deserving ones who, unless sought out by Christian kindness and sympathy, would not be forward to make their own wants known.

On Sabbath evenings, in the Mount Cook School-room, an important Mission is conducted by Messrs. Aitken, Allan, and others, called the Lads' Mission School. Although this Mission is not formally connected with St. John's, yet it is mainly carried on by those who are members and Office-bearers of this Church, and it is but due to them that the importance of this work and their zealous labours in it should be recognised and appreciated. The object of the Mission is to gather in and place under religious instruction, and the best Christian influences, those who otherwise in regard to their higher interests would be utterly neglected. This truly Christian work deserves hearty sympathy and support.

The Sabbath School Report is so detailed and so complete that little need here be stated in regard to that important department of our Church work. Suffice it to say that the Congregation cannot but rejoice in the extent of that work, and the activity and success with which it is being carried on. To care for the religious instruction and training of the young is a duty laid upon the Church; and on the wise and faithful discharge of that duty is involved the real welfare of the Church. It is gratifying to find that there is a considerable increase both

in the numbers on the roll and the average attendance. Including the two Schools—Mount Cook and Willis Street—the number on the roll is 889, as against 797 for 1888; and the total average shews an advance of 89. The teachers number 65, with an average attendance of 55. In this good work the teachers desire and expect, and will no doubt receive, the sympathy, the prayers, and the generous support of the Congregation.

The Band of Hope should also not be forgotten; it is one of the largest, if not the largest, and most efficient in our Church, and it is certainly one of the most important organisations connected with the Church; its special object being to train the young in the principles of Temperance, and to form within them tastes and habits for what is pure, and righteous, and good.

The Anniversary Services were held on the third Sabbath of December, and were conducted by the Rev. William Grant, of New Plymouth. All were delighted to see and hear him again, and many, it is hoped, were impressed and edified by his earnest and effective ministrations. The collections amounted to over £50. A very successful Social Meeting, kindly promoted by the ladies, was held on the Tuesday evening following.

It is pleasing to find that the finances of the Church are on the whole in a satisfactory state, and will compare favourably with former years, and this despite removals and other drawbacks. The total amount raised for all purposes is £1,523 11s. 8d., or for ordinary revenue, and exclusive of special collections, £1,305. The two main sources of revenue are the Sunday collections and the seat rents, and on these there is a slight increase over last year; and the debit balance has been reduced by £50. There is still, however, the large debt of £4,000 on our Church property, and on which we are paying an annual interest of £240. This burden is too heavy. The drain upon our annual resources is too severe. It is hoped that this year an earnest effort will be made to reduce the debt. If the Congregation set themselves to do it, and all unite and work together in a hearty, earnest, generous spirit—with God's blessing on our efforts the object will be accomplished.

With deep thankfulness to God for all his goodness to us in the past; for all the mercy and blessing we have enjoyed; and looking up to Him, and trusting in Him for a continuance of His grace and kindness, let us go forward with brave heart and earnest spirit to whatever work or duty lies before us. "And let the beauty of the Lord our God be upon us, and establish Thou the work of our hands upon us: yea, the work of our hands establish Thou it."



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

THE time has again come round, when in God's providence we are permitted to review another year's work, this being the twenty-second Report of Willis Street School and the eighteenth of Mount Cook School.

It becomes us, with heartfelt gratitude, to acknowledge the goodness of our Heavenly Father to us throughout the year which has gone, and with a deep sense of our weakness and unworthiness, anew to seek from Him, who is the fountain of mercy and the source of all strength, grace to enable us to continue faithful in His blessed service.

Attendance.—There has been a considerable increase in numbers this year, and we are glad to report a more than corresponding increase in the attendances: the number now on the rolls being 889, as against 797 for 1888, and the total average shewing an advance of 89 on last report. The present year, however, has had particularly few very wet days, but this will account only in a slight degree for the larger averages, for excluding those days in both cases we find the result still to the credit of this year. Our present totals are: Willis Street, 400; Mount Cook, 489; giving a grand total of 889, with a working average of 571. The highest attendance on any one Sabbath was: Willis Street, 276; and Mount Cook, 353. Following is a detailed statement:—

	SCHOLARS.			Average Attendance.	Average Attendance, excluding Wet Sundays.
	Girls.	Boys.	Total.		
Willis Street School ..	251	149	400	252	257
Mount Cook School ..	219	220	439	306	314
Totals ..	470	369	839	558	571

TEACHERS AND OFFICE-BEARERS.

	Ladies.	Gentlemen.	Monitresses.	Total.	Average Attendance.
Willis Street School ..	19	12	2	33	28
Mount Cook School ..	13	16	3	32	27
Totals ..	32	28	5	65	55

The numbers in both Senior and Infant Classes are higher than last year, and are as follows :—

SENIOR CLASSES.

	Girls.	Boys.	Total.
Willis Street School ..	18	24	42
Mount Cook School ..	9	17	26
Totals ..	27	41	68

INFANT CLASSES.

	Girls.	Boys.	Total.
Willis Street School ..	91	62	153
Mount Cook School ..	110	102	212
Totals ..	201	186	385

From a perusal of the foregoing figures we judge that our Schools are still centres of attraction, and we hope our teachers will more and more see to it that they continue such; and parents, too, can help us thus far, in insisting that their children are regular and punctual in their attendance.

Our teaching staff remains nearly the same as far as numbers, but it is a matter of much regret that there should be so many changes. Some classes hardly get settled to work with one teacher before a change is necessary, through the absence or removal of teachers. In order to lessen the effect of this on classes, we would impress on teachers the necessity of at once ascertaining the cause of absence of any scholar, and thus keeping a stricter oversight and at the same time showing their interest in them. We need not say that this can only be accomplished by visitation.

Children's Service.—The Children's Service in Mount Cook School has been continued throughout the year with much success; the average attendance being 103, as against 88 for 1888. The highest attendance was 135. We are much indebted to Mr. F. H. Fraser and Miss Jessie Hutchen for their work here; and we also wish to thank Miss McKerrow and Miss Lily Drummond for presiding so regularly and efficiently at the organ. The sum of £1 2s. 11d. was subscribed for the "Dayspring," and Missions, and will be duly applied to those objects.

Singing Class.—The Children's Singing Class was held as usual, under the leadership of Mr. William Hopkirk. The attendance was for the most part very good, and the behaviour

excellent. The work for the greater part of the session was the learning and practice of hymns from the School Hymnbook. The usual Carol Service was also held at Christmas, and attracted a large audience. The children fairly surpassed themselves, and everyone was delighted with their singing. A collection was taken, which realised £8 17s. 6d., but the expenses of music, printing, &c., totalled £10 9s., leaving a balance, £1 11s. 6d., to come from the School Funds.

We have again to tender to Miss Kirker our best thanks for her valuable services at the harmonium, both for Singing Class and Band of Hope Meetings.

Libraries.—The only addition to School Libraries this year was some 100 volumes, being the proceeds of donation mentioned in last Report, so generously given by Mr. R. T. Turnbull. As the scholars appreciate very highly their Library privileges, it remains with us to keep the shelves well filled, and an effort should therefore be made at an early date to secure further supplies for this important object.

Children's Treat.—The annual Treat was held at Petone, and, as the weather was favourable, a most enjoyable day was spent. We are glad to say that our large party reached home without the slightest mishap, all thoroughly satisfied with the pleasant outing.

Anniversary Services.—The Church Anniversary was celebrated on the 15th December, and, as usual, both Schools met in the Church, when an interesting and instructive address was given by the Rev. Wm. Grant, of New Plymouth. Special hymns were sung by the scholars, but for lack of united practice were not so successful as they might have been. They, however, lent an additional interest to the service, and we trust will be repeated on future occasions.

Teachers' Meetings.—The usual meetings of teachers have been held during the year. We regret to say that the attendance at the Friday evening meeting is still comparatively poor, and we also think many more of the teachers, as well as friends, might remain for the short time after Church service for the *Monthly Prayer Meeting*. Those who have attended can testify to the benefits received at these meetings, and we hope many more will seek to share in them.

Two *Social Meetings* were held, and proved very enjoyable, giving opportunity for social intercourse, the more necessary in our case where we have two Schools, the teachers of which do not as a rule meet together on the Sabbath.

The *Annual Picnic* turned out more successful than at first anticipated. Boxing Day morning opened wet and miserable,

but clearing a little, a start was made for Belmont, where after a few showers the day opened fine and sunny. The threatening morning no doubt prevented some of our number being present, but those who did go had a most enjoyable time. It was unanimously declared that a better place under the circumstances could not have been chosen.

Treasurer's Statement.—The Statement of Receipts and Disbursements shows the balance on the right side, but there are liabilities as shown which more than counterbalance. We have a few items, including an account for library cupboards, £5 15s., which will not recur; and we may therefore conclude that our usual income, with economy, will meet our expenses. We offered congratulations last year that the amount subscribed for "Dayspring" and Missions had been largely increased, and we have much pleasure in recording a further increase by over £6 for the present year. Willis Street School especially having contributed largely to these objects.

Band of Hope.—The membership of the Band of Hope, after purging the roll, remains the same as last year, for although we have added several girls we have lost as many boys, and the Register shows now,—

Girls.	Boys.	Total.
115	65	180

The average attendance has been slightly better, being 114 for the year. The highest attendance was 196.

We appeal to teachers and parents to help us in this work. We must not only hold our own, but make progress in the cause of Total Abstinence, if we are to succeed; and we must, we shall succeed. We have no right to be lukewarm where our children's interests are concerned, and we hope that one and all will see to it that a substantial increase to the membership is made in the coming year.

The Treasurer's Statement shows a balance in hand of £3 14s. 8d., after meeting all liability, and this without any outside aid. We would be glad, however, of a few voluntary donations to our funds, as our work is often cramped for lack of the needful.

Conclusion.—In closing our Report, we would encourage teachers to persevere, and cast into this work their whole strength and energy. No half-hearted efforts will do; yet we can also say no faithful work was ever lost. Work done for God cannot die; and though we see no fruit of our labours, for "one may sow and another reap," yet we shall all rejoice together in the grand "Harvest Home."

We feel our own weakness, but He whose servants we are can sanctify the humblest instruments: only let our faith be

stronger, our love more intense; only let us keep close to the Blessed Master who so loved the children, and success is certain. Remember, it is to those who labour that rest is sweet.

"And they that be wise [the teachers] shall shine as the brightness of the firmament; and they that turn many to righteousness as the stars for ever and ever."

FRANCIS H. FRASER,
Superintendent, Willis Street School.

WM. ALLAN,
Superintendent, Mount Cook School.

WM. HOPKINS,
Hon. Secretary.
31st December, 1889.



STATEMENT of RECEIPTS and DISBURSEMENTS for YEAR ending 31st DECEMBER, 1889.

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

JOHN G. W. AITKEN,
Hon. Treasurer.

STATEMENT of RECEIPTS and DISBURSEMENTS for the Year ending 31st December, 1889.

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

WM. HOPKINS,
Hon. Secretary and Treasurer.

ST. JOHN'S BAND OF HOPE.—BALANCE SHEET for Year ending December, 1889.

RECEIPTS.					DISBURSEMENTS.				
				£ s. d.					£ s. d.
To Balance from 1888				3 3 7	By N.Z. Bible, Tract and Book Society				1 0 8
Members' Subscriptions				6 2 4	Godber's Account for Tea Meeting				7 5 0
Sale of Tickets for Tea Meeting				0 18 0	Balance in hand				3 14 8
Collection at Tea Meeting				1 16 5					
				<u>£12 0 4</u>					<u>£12 0 4</u>

Audited and found correct—

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

F. MASON,
Hon. Treasurer.

ST. JOHN'S BIBLE CLASS.—COLLECTIONS IN AID OF MAORI MISSION FUND.

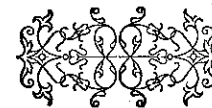
	£ s. d.
Collections for nine months, to 31st December, 1889	3 15 0
E. CHAPPELL, Treasurer.	G. A. TROUP, Teacher.

STATEMENT of ASSETS and LIABILITIES of St. John's Church, 31st December, 1889.

LIABILITIES.					ASSETS.				
				£ s. d.					£ s. d.
Amount of Mortgage on Property				4,000 0 0	Estimated value of Church, School-room, Manse, and Grounds				13,230 0 0
Balance, Revenue Account				63 9 4	Unpaid Seat Rents, estimated to yield				50 0 0
Balance				9,216 10 8					
				<u>£13,280 0 0</u>					<u>£13,280 0 0</u>

JOHN G. W. AITKEN,
Hon. Treasurer.

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
KIRK SESSION
AND
COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT
OF
St. John's Presbyterian Church,
WILLIS STREET, WELLINGTON,
FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31ST DECEMBER, 1890.



Wellington :
LYON AND BLAIR, PRINTERS, LAMBTON QUAY.
1890.

Rich Session.

Moderator :

REV. JAMES PATERSON.

Elders :

J. G. W. AITKEN
W. ALLAN
A. BARRON
F. H. FRASER
W. T. GLASGOW
A. HOPKIRK
R. HOPKIRK
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J. SLOAN
J. SMITH
W. WADDELL
J. WILSON
J. YOUNG

Members of Committee of Management for 1891 :

J. R. BLAIR
J. BROWN
T. M. GRANT
D. S. GRAY
R. HANNAH
J. KIRKCALDIE
J. MACKAY
ALEX. MACDOUGALL

F. MASON
A. MURRAY
J. H. POPE
D. PRYDE
W. S. REID
G. TROUP
G. WILSON

J. G. W. AITKEN,
TREASURER.
T. M. GRANT,
SECRETARY.

ELDERS' DISTRICTS.

- No. 1.—Kaiwarra, 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.
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- 6.—From Boulcott Street to Ghuznee Street (North side), and Willis Street to Town Belt.
Mr. JAMES MCKERROW, Elder.
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- 8.—From Abel Smith Street to top of Thomson Street, and Polhill Gully to Cuba Street.
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- 9.—Manners Street, Dixon Street, West of Willis Street, and Taranaki Place.
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- 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.
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- 13.—Tory Street and Taranaki Street, from Barracks Street to Courtenay Place.
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- 14.—Courtenay Place to Newtown, Tory Street (East side) to Cambridge Terrace.
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Mr. J. R. MACDONALD, Elder.
- 17.—Elizabeth Street to College Street, and Kent Terrace to Town Belt.
Mr. J. G. W. AITKEN, Elder.

St. John's Church.

STATED MEETINGS.

- 1.—DIVINE SERVICE on Sabbath Mornings at 11; Evenings at 6.30. On Wednesday Evenings at 7.30.
- 2.—COMMUNION on second Sunday of January, and on first Sunday of each quarter following.
- 3.—CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP ASSOCIATION meets in Church School Room on Sabbath Mornings from 10 to 10.45. Secretary Mr. A. Johnston.
- 4.—SABBATH MORNING CHILDREN'S SERVICE, Mt. Cook School at 11 a.m. President, Mr. F. H. Fraser.
- 5.—SABBATH SCHOOLS meet in Willis Street and Mt. Cook at 2.30 p.m. Secretary, Mr. W. Hopkirk.
- 6.—CHOIR meets for practice on Wednesday Evenings after Divine Service. Secretary, Mr. A. D. Thomson.
- 7.—LADIES VISITING AND DORCAS SOCIETY meets 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of each month. Secretary, Miss Troup.
- 8.—YOUNG LADIES LITERARY AND DORCAS SOCIETY meets on alternate Tuesday Evenings at 7.30. Resuming in March. Secretary, Miss Agnes Paul.
- 9.—ST. JOHN'S LITERARY SOCIETY meets on Tuesday Evenings at 7.30. Resuming in March. Secretary Mr. W. Miller.
- 10.—CHILDREN'S MUSIC CLASS meets on Wednesday Evenings in School Room from 6.30 to 7.30. Conductor, Mr. W. Hopkirk.
- 11.—MINISTER'S BIBLE CLASS meets on Thursday Evenings at 7.30. Resuming in April.
- 12.—BAND OF HOPE meets on Friday Evenings from 7 to 8.
- 13.—TEACHERS' MEETINGS for study of Lesson and Business, Friday Evenings at 8 o'clock.
- 14.—MONTHLY PRAYER MEETING OF TEACHERS and others after Evening Service, 1st Sunday of each month.



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, 1890.

IN reviewing our Church life and work during the past year, we find much to make us truly thankful to God: much to make us deeply humble before Him: and much to stimulate and encourage us to greater earnestness and devotedness in His service. The continuance of our Christian privileges: the means and ordinances of Divine grace: the enjoyment and refreshment we have had in them: the opportunities of receiving good and of doing good: the peace and harmony existing amongst us: the brotherly fellowship and the tokens of the Divine presence and blessing: for these we should be truly thankful. And yet when we think of our many shortcomings: of the misimprovement of many opportunities: of lack of fervour in devotion and of zeal in service, we may well feel deeply humble. But all this should only stimulate us to renewed effort, to increased zeal in Christian work: to more diligent and prayerful use of the means of grace and to a more entire consecration of ourselves to the service of our Blessed Lord.

As stated in last year's Report, the number then on the Communion Roll was 416. Admissions since, 49; disjunctions 25; leaving an increase of 24. Number on the Roll on 31st December, 440. Of the additions only 9 were for the first time by examination, the others were by certificate. This is a very small proportion of young communicants. It is a matter of deep concern that it should be so small. It is not a healthy sign of spiritual life in the Church when so comparatively few come forward to enter into the full communion of the Church.

Parents should lay this to heart; minister and office-bearers should lay it to heart. The young people themselves should lay it to heart, it is so important that in early life they should come to a true decision for Christ, and to a thorough consecration of themselves to His service, and in token and pledge of this to enter into the fellowship of the Church.

During the year sickness was very prevalent in the congregation, and five of our membership were removed by death. Of these, three were advanced in life—Mr. Henry Schultze, Mr. James Mitchell, and Mr. John Sutherland. They were old and esteemed members of the Church, whose familiar faces we greatly miss. Two were comparatively young, Mr. Alfred Parkinson, and Mr. J. R. Riley junior. The former joined the Church only in April last, and he died on the 25th June, thus only once was he privileged to join in the Communion on Earth before he was removed as we trust to the higher Communion in Heaven. Mr. Riley was called to his rest after long weary months of suffering borne in most patient and Christian spirit. We have also to mourn the removal by death of Mrs. Andrew Lang, who was long connected with the Church, and greatly esteemed by all who knew her. According to her wish, and *in memoriam*, a sum of £5 is given by Mr. Lang and their daughter Mrs. Steel to the New Hebrides Mission Fund. It is comforting to know that all those whom we have mentioned gave clear testimony both in life and in death to their faith and hope in Christ. Those who sorrow for them, sorrow not as those who have no hope.

In the early part of the year, first by reason of the holidays and absence of many from town, and then by a long succession of wet Sundays, the attendance at Church was smaller than usual. A reduced attendance has always a more or less discouraging effect, and it tells materially on the finances of the Church. As a consequence of this, the collections are somewhat less than they were last year. Those who are occasionally absent from Church should remember that the Church by their absence suffers in its finances, as in other ways; but this they could remedy by making up in their contributions when present for what was lacking to the Church when they were absent. In this way it would be seen that the giving was felt to be a Christian duty which should not be omitted. It is gratifying to find that during the latter part of the year the attendance has resumed its normal condition, and indeed in the evening has somewhat exceeded. The large number of young people, and especially of young men, who attend in the evenings is most encouraging. It is hoped they will receive permanent good from their regular attendance at Church, and that they will receive a blessing which will enrich their lives. It is encouraging to the minister; it is cheering to everyone to see a well-filled Church; it gives heart and life to the services.

To our Organist, Mr. England, and to the Choir, the Congregation is greatly indebted for their zealous and efficient services in connection with the Psalmody of the Church. This is an important part of our worship; and in that, as in everything else, we should serve God with our best. The Congregation is also indebted to Mr. Wm. Hopkirk, and those who assist him, for continued efforts to train up the young people in the knowledge and practice of sacred music. This certainly is one most effective way to improve the Psalmody of the Church. A Sacred Concert was given by the Children, assisted by the Choir, and also a Carol Service at Christmas; both were excellent, and were highly appreciated by large audiences.

The Weekly Service has been held regularly on Wednesday evenings, with the usual number in attendance, about fifty. By those who do attend from week to week, we believe the service is highly appreciated, and felt to be very helpful to the Christian life; but surely a much larger number might attend. If once the habit of attending were formed, it would not lightly be discontinued.

It is gratifying to know that the Sabbath morning Fellowship Meeting has proved a great success. A large number of young men attend, and take a deep interest in the work of the Association. They find it very helpful to them in the study of God's Word, and the culture of the spiritual life.

The Literary Society also continued its meetings on Tuesday evenings, carrying on its work with life and vigour, and produced some excellent essays and spirited debates; while the younger members had their special innings at readings and recitations. The meetings of the Society will be resumed in March or April.

Good work was done by the St. John's Ladies' Visiting and Dorcas Society in ministering kindness and help to the needy and deserving in connection with the Church. Their work is carried on in a quiet unobtrusive way; but those who are observant of it can testify to the great benefits resulting from it. Many a case of real hardship and suffering is relieved by it; and but for the thoughtful kindness of the ladies, these cases in all likelihood would be unnoticed and unhelped.

A younger Society of a similar character was also formed by the young ladies of the Church, to promote their own culture by the study of literature; and to aid by their handywork needy cases outside the Church. This Society, under the presidency of Miss Hamilton, has begun well, and it is hoped that it has before it a long and successful career. As special reports will be given of these Dorcas Societies, we do not dwell further on their work, but commend them to the sympathy and support of the Congregation. We say *support*, because the funds with which the ladies carry on their benevolent work are mainly those contributed at the Quarterly Communion.

Bible Classes.—Of these, it is gratifying to know there are a considerable number in connection with the Church Sunday School. The Minister's Bible Class met on Thursday evenings, from 1st May till the end of October, and numbered 84. Senior Bible Classes are also taught by Mr. Aitken and Miss Hamilton at the Mount Cook Sunday School, and by Mr. Troup and Mrs. Lennox at the Willis Street School. The importance of these Senior Classes cannot be over-estimated. They train up our youths in a more thorough knowledge of Divine truth, and keep them under the influences of the Church just at a time when they are apt to drift away from these influences.

Special Reports will be given of our Sunday Schools. From these it will be seen that that important department of our Church work is being efficiently carried on. Our two Sunday Schools are in a prosperous condition. The numbers on the roll of the Willis Street School are 435; on the Mount Cook roll 490, or a total of 925. This large number of children is being taught by 75 teachers. Of course this number of teachers would be quite inadequate if all the scholars were able to read and were arranged in classes; but there is a large infant class attached to each school, where the children are taught simultaneously. But, notwithstanding, there is certainly a lack of teachers, and it is earnestly hoped that others of the Congregation whose heart would lie to this good work will come and help in it.

A Children's Sabbath Morning Service, presided over by Mr. F. H. Fraser, assisted by some of the teachers in turn, is held in Mount Cook Schoolroom, and is well attended. The object of this service is to give opportunity for worship and religious instruction to those young people who otherwise might be uncared for, and to train them up to Church-going habits.

On Sunday evenings (also in the Mount Cook Schoolroom) an important mission for young lads is conducted by Messrs. Aitken and Allan, assisted by some of the teachers of St. John's. This is known as the lads' mission. Good work has been done by it. Through the care and kindness of those conducting it, many young lads have been brought out from the worst influences and placed under the best; they have been trained up in good habits; and provided with situations where they have done credit to themselves and to those who take an interest in them. Everything is done to help and encourage the lads to a life of well-doing: the Ladies' Society assist with clothing, and an annual treat is given to the lads. Through the generous kindness of the late Capt. Williams, the steamer *Mama* was placed at disposal for an Excursion to Soames' Island, and there the lads had a day's thorough enjoyment. This good work—this truly Christian work—deserves recognition and support.

In connection with what is done for the young by the

Church, mention must also be made of the Band of Hope, which must be regarded as an important institution for the instruction in Christian morality, and especially in Christian temperance, of those who are hereafter to take their place in the Church and in society. The importance of this work cannot be over-estimated. It would well repay any of the members of the Church to pay a visit to the meetings on Friday evenings and witness the heartiness with which the work is carried on, and the interest which the children take in the instruction given, and in their own readings and recitations. The Band of Hope is under the superintendence of Mr. Wm. Hopkirk, and he is assisted by a number of the teachers. Over 180 names are on the roll.

Anniversary Services were held on the second Sabbath of December, and were conducted by the Rev. J. G. Paterson of Napier, who preached with his usual earnestness and power, and addressed a large gathering of the children in the Church in the afternoon. The collection amounted to £41. Under the good auspices of the ladies a most pleasant re-union of the Congregation was held on the Tuesday evening following.

The Revenue of the Church shows a slight deficiency from last year. The long succession of wet Sundays accounts for a decrease in the amount of the collections, and the circumstance that some £30 of Pew Rents belonging to last year were not received till after the books were closed for the year, accounts for a reduction in the amount for Seat Rents. But for this the Revenue would have been quite equal to any former year, and we should not have had so large a debit balance.

The Income of the Church from all sources amounted to £1,488 18s. 4d.; or deducting special collection for special objects, £1,244 3s. 9d., the sum wherewith to meet ordinary expenditure.

As the Congregation are aware an appeal was made to reduce the mortgage debt of £4,000 on the Church property. This appeal was liberally responded to, and the result was a reduction of the debt by £650, and there is also a sum of £35 in hand. It is hoped that those in the Congregation who did not see their way to subscribe last year will do so this year; so that the reduction of the debt may reach £1,000. The burden is still too heavy. The drain upon the revenue for interest too great. Each member and adherent of the Church should seriously consider his duty in connection with this matter.

For the Assembly's Church Extension Fund there is reported a sum of £59, the result of the quarterly contributions by the envelope system. Certainly this is one of the most important, if not the most important scheme in the Church, and it deserves the hearty and liberal support of all the members of the Church. By means of this fund the Church is enabled to plant and to

maintain ordinances in districts where without this aid they could not be maintained. Grants are also given in supplement to the stipends of hard-working ministers in weak and scattered country charges, where even with this little help the stipend is quite inadequate. Surely more of the Congregation realizing the importance of this fund might join in giving their quarterly contributions to it.

The Foreign Mission Scheme has also a strong claim on the generous support of the Church. This year we are incurring increased liability by the appointment of a second Missionary, the Rev. Mr. Fairlie, to labour on the Island of Ambrim, and this should be met by increased liberality.

Does it seem to any as if the calls and appeals to the Congregation were too many and too persistent? Think of the work to be done, of its importance, its urgency. Think of our many blessings and privileges, and of our corresponding duties and obligations. We value our Church privileges, our Church fellowship, and these carry with them responsibility. We have each to do our part in the work of the Church, and to bear our share in supporting its ordinances and institutions. *Does any one complain of what he is called upon to do or to give? After all what is it that the most liberal gives in proportion to what he receives? "Thy life was given for me, what have I given for Thee?" Let us only realize that truth and act in the spirit of it. "Ye are not your own, for ye are bought with a price; therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit which are God's."



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

ANOTHER year has gone, and we are again called upon to give an account of our work, this being the twenty-third Report of Willis Street, and the nineteenth of Mount Cook School.

We have abundant cause for thankfulness, and we desire, with grateful hearts, to acknowledge the many mercies and blessings we have received from our gracious and loving Heavenly Father. We have also to mourn many sins and shortcomings, for which we would humbly seek forgiveness, and pray that by God's grace we may be made more diligent and faithful in the discharge of every duty in the coming year.

Attendance.—As the attendance at our Schools is the most tangible and easily tabulated proof of our condition, we place it first on our Report, and we are glad that it is so encouraging, and that our numbers still increase. Willis Street shows a total of 435, as against 400 for last year; and Mount Cook 490, as against 439.

The average attendance, as should be expected, is also higher, although we think it might have been better. Excluding wet Sundays, we have 263 and 338 for Willis Street and Mount Cook respectively, whilst our highest numbers for any one day were Willis Street 298, and Mount Cook 390. Following is a detailed statement:—

			SCHOLARS.			
	Girls.	Boys.	Total.	Average Attendance.	Average Attendance, excluding wet Sundays.	
Willis Street School ..	265	170	435	247	263	
Mount Cook School ..	280	210	490	320	338	
Totals ..	545	380	925	567	601	

TEACHERS AND OFFICE-BEARERS.

	Ladies.	Gentlemen.	Ministresses.	Total.	Average Attendance.
Willis Street School ..	19	12	2	33	27
Mount Cook School ..	13	16	3	32	28
Totals ..	32	28	5	65	55

We have always tabulated the Senior and Infant Classes separately, as we think it important to know how they are attended, and for 1890 the numbers are as follows:—

SENIOR CLASSES.

	Girls.	Lads.	Total.	Scholars over 15 years of age.
Willis Street School ..	17	14	31	71
Mount Cook School ..	16	19	35	70
Totals ..	33	33	66	141

INFANT CLASSES.

	Girls.	Boys.	Total.
Willis Street School ..	95	68	163
Mount Cook School ..	153	97	250
Total ..	248	165	413

There is one thing appears from the foregoing figures which we think requires attention, that is, the great difference between the number of the girls and the boys. It seems to us that girls should not be 20 per cent. more numerous than boys, and we point out this weakness that effort may be made to remedy it.

Our teaching staff, in spite of many changes, totals the same as last year, and whilst regretting the absence of some who from various causes have left us, we also cordially welcome those who have joined our ranks. As the numbers of scholars increase, it is absolutely necessary that we should have additional help; in fact, we believe that the Schools would grow even more rapidly if more teachers of the right stamp would come forward. We say the call is urgent, and we hope that some, realising what great things God has done for them, will offer themselves in the beginning of the new year for this blessed and noble work.

Children's Service.—The Children's Service, held every Sabbath morning in Mount Cook School, has been well sustained, the average attendance being 98, and the highest 119. The amount collected by Mission Box was £2 16s. 8d., as against £1 2s. 11d. in 1889.

A few of the girl members have paid monthly visits to the Hospital to sing to the patients, and we have reason to know that their sweet young voices have been much appreciated. It is also a practical training for themselves to take pleasure in kind and unselfish actions, and deserves every encouragement.

The Social Meeting, for those who made a high percentage of attendance, was held in April, and was very successful.

Singing Class.—The Children's Singing Class has been carried

on vigorously, and has been well attended, the average being about 100.

A Children's Concert, which realised a net sum of £7 15s. 8d. in aid of the School funds, and the usual Christmas Carol Service, were the chief items of interest. The singing in both was exceedingly good, and the Carol Service was attended by a very large audience, the Church being crowded in most parts. We regret that the financial result should have been so small, only £1 17s. 8d. remaining for the School funds after the expenses had been met.

Libraries.—Early in the year the teachers decided to make an effort to get funds for additional books. Over £15 8s. 7d. was the result of their canvas for subscriptions. If all the teachers had taken part in it, no doubt a larger sum might have been obtained; however, the sum mentioned enabled us to buy several new volumes, and it has been agreed to send home for a further supply with the balance (£7 19s. 5d.) still remaining in the Treasurer's hands.

Children's Treat.—As the 22nd January was the centre of the celebrations connected with the Jubilee of the settlement of the Colony, the Treat was held on the Saturday afternoon previous at Khandallah, when a very pleasant time was spent. As our Schools grow, it becomes more and more difficult to provide for them; and we have to thank the many friends who so readily subscribed for this object. We believe there is nothing the children appreciate so much as the Annual Treat.

Anniversary Services.—The children of both Schools met in the Church on Sabbath, 14th December, as usual on the occasion of the Anniversary Services, when the Rev. J. G. Paterson, of Napier, delivered an interesting address. Seldom have we seen our children more attentive and well-behaved; and the singing of the special hymns was particularly good, giving evidence of careful and painstaking practice beforehand.

Teachers' Meetings.—We reckon the teachers' meeting, for the study of the lesson, and the monthly prayer-meeting the most important; yet, we regret to say, neither of them are attended so well as they ought to be. If we had a deeper sense of our responsibility, none of us would think lightly of these privileges, but would use them gladly and thankfully. Those of our number who attend can testify to the help they get through them for their work.

Treasurer's Statement.—The Statement of Receipts and Disbursements shows a balance of £8 15s. 2d. in the Treasurer's hands, but of this £7 19s. 5d. belongs to the Library fund, and cannot be used for general purposes. We have several liabilities, against which, however, there are some amounts for periodicals still to come in.

It will be noticed that our subscription for *Dayspring* and New Hebrides Missions is slightly higher this year, the increase being from the Children's Morning Service Mission Box. The senior lads in Willis Street also raised during the year £5 5s. for Maori Mission, making a total of about £30 subscribed towards Missionary purposes.

Band of Hope.—Our Band of Hope shows still considerable vitality, although the number on the roll, after due purging, is not so large as last record. We think both parents and teachers might use more of their influence in support of this department of our work. There can be no question of its importance; and we cannot expect children to be enthusiastic if their elders are cold and indifferent.

The total number at present on the register is 172, with an average attendance of 106, excluding wet nights.

The Treasurer's statement shows a credit balance of £2 8s. 2d., which we consider very satisfactory.

The annual meeting was held at mid-winter, when 150 members sat down to tea. The Schoolroom was crowded for the public meeting afterwards, when the children rendered a varied programme in first-class style. The large audience thoroughly enjoyed the different items, and were loud in their praise of the whole entertainment. The collection taken realised £5 9s.

Conclusion.—In our concluding remarks, we can only add that we feel it is impossible to over-estimate the importance of the great work we have laid to our charge. It demands from us much labour and self-sacrifice; but it is a grand and noble calling: it is God's work, and has in it the greatest possibilities, and by the Divine blessing will be crowned with richest fruits.

Let us go on with it, never faltering, keeping the goal in view, which to us is "Our Scholars for Christ." We believe more immediate results should follow our labours; and we would counsel our fellow-teachers by a more direct and personal dealing, as well as by living example, to make the coming year one of blessing and success. Let us also be instant in prayer, never doubting. "Faithful is He who has promised who also will do it."

F. H. FRASER,
Superintendent, Willis Street School.

WM. ALLAN,
Superintendent, Mount Cook School.

WM. HOPKIRK,
Hon. Secretary.

Wellington, 31st December, 1890.

ANNUAL REPORT OF ST. JOHN'S DORCAS AND VISITING SOCIETY,

FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER, 1890.

WE are pleased again in presenting this report to be able to state that our Society is still in a healthy condition, notwithstanding that during the past year we have had many difficulties to contend with, as several of the members who have done good service in the past, have been unable to attend many of our meetings. This refers principally to such energetic members as Mesdames Kirkcaldie (Secretary and Cutter), and Smith (Vice-President), both of whom went on a visit to the Old Country.

The interest in our meetings does not in any way flag, and very often the ladies take home work to finish off, sooner than allow the needy families to be kept waiting for the required garment.

During the past year twenty four families have received gifts of clothing and of money. Two hundred garments have been distributed, and in addition the sum of £48 7s. 7d. has been given away.

There are two families belonging to the Church which regularly receive monthly allowances. The families of several other members of the Church who have had sickness and trouble in their homes have been considerably helped.

Not mentioned among these families are many lads attending Mount Cook Mission School, who have also received numerous articles of clothing, these being principally left-off garments rendered serviceable by the ladies of the Society, and which are very acceptable to the poor and needy.

Contributions of left-off garments have been received from many members of the Church, and we would here take the opportunity of thanking them. I will not here mention the many articles of dress which have been received, it is sufficient to say we are most grateful for all donations, and we hope our stock will be as plentiful in the future, as it has been in the past, as we have a great demand for all kinds of clothes.

Looking back over the past year we find abundant cause for thankfulness, and we would render all praise and honour to the Lord whom we serve. We feel greatly encouraged, when we think of how the poor and needy have been cheered and comforted by the ladies visiting them from time to time.

C. W. TROUP,
Acting Secretary.

LIST OF SUBSCRIPTIONS RECEIVED, on behalf of the CHURCH
DEBT EXTINGUISHMENT FUND.—Year 1890.

Allen, Wm. ..	20	0	0	McKelvie, Jno. ..	25	0	0
Anderson, Miss ..	1	0	0	McKenzie, James ..	1	1	0
Atkins, S. ..	1	10	0	McKerrow, James ..	100	0	0
Bainbridge, Mrs. ..	1	0	0	Mitchell, James ..	5	0	0
Barton, Alex. ..	1	0	0	Mitchell, James D. ..	3	0	0
Bair, J. R. ..	5	0	0	Moir, Andrew ..	1	0	0
Brown, John ..	10	0	0	Murray, Mrs. Wm. ..	2	0	0
Campbell, J. ..	1	0	0	Nasmith, A. ..	5	0	0
Chinnside, R. ..	1	0	0	Paterson, Rev. James ..	0	10	0
Cook, John ..	1	1	0	Paul, Mrs. ..	1	0	0
Duncan, Geo. ..	0	10	0	Quee, Robt. ..	1	0	0
Duthie, Jno. ..	1	0	0	Rankin, John ..	2	0	0
Dutton, G. W. ..	50	0	0	Reeves, Edward ..	0	10	0
Flanagan, F. W. ..	3	0	0	Reid, W. S. ..	2	2	0
Fraser, F. H. ..	1	0	0	Renner, Ralph ..	20	0	0
Glasgow, W. T. ..	1	0	0	Renner, Robt. ..	1	0	0
Gordon, Henry ..	13	0	0	Richardson, J. H. ..	1	0	0
Gray, Mrs. Wm., and	5	0	0	Riley, W. ..	5	0	0
Greenfield, Robert	5	5	0	Robertson, James ..	0	10	0
Hall, A. ..	10	0	0	Sloan, James ..	2	0	0
Halley, John ..	5	0	0	Steel, John ..	25	0	0
Hamilton, Miss ..	5	0	0	Steel, Wm. ..	1	0	0
Hannah, Robt. ..	2	2	0	Steel, Miss ..	1	0	0
Hay, P. S. ..	80	0	0	Steuhouse, Geo. ..	1	0	0
Hopkirk, Wm. ..	2	0	0	Sutherland, Mrs. ..	1	0	0
Howden, P. G. ..	5	0	0	Thompson, Alex. ..	5	0	0
Hunter, Robt. ..	1	1	0	Thompson, A. D. ..	1	0	0
Jones, David ..	2	2	0	Troup, Geo. ..	3	13	6
Kirkcaldie, Jno. ..	5	0	0	Turnbull, Thomas ..	1	0	0
Lang, Andrew ..	50	0	0	Walls, Mrs. ..	5	0	0
Levin, W. H. ..	1	0	0	Warnock, Thos. ..	1	1	0
Mackay, Joseph. ..	5	0	0	Wilkinson, D. ..	5	0	0
Mason, Hon. John ..	50	0	0	Wilson, James ..	2	0	0
Mason, James ..	2	0	0	Wilson, George ..	10	0	0
Mason, Frank ..	3	0	0	Young, John ..	5	0	0
McCorquodale, Mrs. ..	1	0	0	Young, Mrs. John ..	6	0	0
McDonald, Mrs. A. G. ..	3	0	0	Young, M. G. ..	1	0	0
McDonald, J. R. ..	2	0	0	W. A. ..	50	0	0
McDowan, Miss Jessie ..	1	0	0	Interest on deposit ..	3	12	0
McGregor, Dr. ..	5	0	0				

ST. JOHN'S CHURCH REVENUE ACCOUNT.

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS for Year ending 31st DECEMBER, 1890.

RECEIPTS.				DISBURSEMENTS.								
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.			
Collections for year 1890	690	13	6				Balance at debit, 31st December, 1889 ..	63	9	4		
Pew Rents	471	15	0				Rev. Mr. Paterson's Stipend, 1890 ..	600	0	0		
Collection Rev. J. G. Paterson's Lecture ..	4	10	6				Rev. Mr. Moir's Retiring Allowance, 1890 ..	100	0	0		
Rent of House in Willis Street	26	0	0				Rev. J. G. Paterson's expenses at An-					
Rents of School	11	0	0				niversary	5	10	0		
Defaced Coin	1	11	0				Organist: Salary 1890	50	0	0		
Proceeds Conversazione	38	13	9				Church Officer	50	0	0		
				1,244	3	9	Interest on Mortgage to 16th Nov., 1890 ..	240	0	0		
Collections for Dorcas and Charitable							Gas Account	47	2	9		
purposes				45	7	11	Fire Insurance Premiums	68	4	2		
Church Extension and Sustentation							Expenses Annual Business Meeting ..	6	15	0		
Fund				59	4	6	Tuning Organ	10	0	0		
Sunday Schools				15	0	0	Plumbers' Repairs, pr. Thos. Ballinger ..	9	16	11		
SPECIAL COLLECTIONS—							City Rates	21	9	2		
Assembly Expenses. Local Fund ..				7	0	0	Water Account	0	17	8		
" " General Fund	10	0	0				Advertising	2	12	0		
Aged and Infirm Ministers	10	0	0				Printing and Stationery	24	2	8		
Maori Mission	1	10	9				Stamps £2, Cheque Book 16/8	2	16	8		
New Hebrides Mission	12	2	5				Cutting Grass and Clearing Grounds, 1889 ..	5	18	0		
" " per Mr. A.							" " 1890	4	14	6		
Lang and Mrs. Steel conjointly,							Gravel for Grounds	1	8	0		
In Memoriam, and in fulfilment							Petty Accounts	6	10	0		
of the wish of the late Mrs. Lang.							Interest on Overdraft at Bank	3	9	7		
Annual Subscription	5	0	0									
				38	13	2				1,324	16	5
New Hebrides Mission, pr. Sunday							Treasurer: Assembly Expenses Local Fund ..			7	0	0
School	8	3	0				" Ladies' Visiting and Dorcas Society ..			45	7	11
"Dayspring," pr. Sunday School ..	16	6	0				" Church Extension and Sustentation Fund ..			59	4	6
							" Sunday Schools			15	0	0
				24	9	0	" General Assembly Funds			38	13	2
Balance				80	12	8	" " pr. Sunday Schools ..			24	9	0
				£1,514	11	0				£1,514	11	0

Audited and found correct— D. J. McG. MCKENZIE, } Hon Auditors.
ALLAN MACDOUGALL,

JOHN G. W. AITKEN,
Hon. Treasurer.

LIST OF SUBSCRIPTIONS RECEIVED, on behalf of the CHURCH
DEBT EXTINCTION FUND.—Year 1890.

Allen, Wm. ..	20	0	0	McKelvie, Jno. ..	25	0	0
Anderson, Miss ..	1	0	0	McKenzie, James ..	1	1	0
Atkins, S. ..	1	10	0	McKerrow, James ..	100	0	0
Balingall, Mrs. ..	1	0	0	Mitchell, James ..	5	0	0
Barton, Alex. ..	5	0	0	Mitchell, James D. ..	3	0	0
Baird, J. R. ..	10	0	0	Moir, Andrew ..	1	0	0
Brown, John ..	1	0	0	Murray, Mrs. Wm. ..	2	0	0
Campbell, J. ..	1	0	0	Nasmith, A. ..	0	10	0
Campbell, Campbell ..	1	1	0	Paterson, Rev. James ..	50	0	0
Chinnide, R. ..	0	10	0	Paul, Mrs. ..	1	0	0
Cook, John ..	1	0	0	Quee, Robt. ..	2	0	0
Dunnean, Geo. ..	50	0	0	Rankin, John ..	0	10	0
Duthie, Jno. ..	3	0	0	Reeves, Edward ..	2	2	0
Dutton, G. W. ..	1	0	0	Reid, W. S. ..	20	0	0
Flanagan, F. W. ..	1	0	0	Renner, Ralph ..	1	0	0
Fraser, F. H. ..	13	0	0	Renner, Robt. ..	1	0	0
Glasgow, W. T. ..	3	0	0	Richardson, J. H. ..	5	0	0
Gordon, Henry ..	12	0	0	Riley, W. ..	0	10	0
Gray, Mrs. Wm., and ..	5	5	0	Robertson, James ..	2	0	0
Greenfield, Robert ..	10	0	0	Sloan, James ..	25	0	0
Hall, A. ..	5	0	0	Steel, John ..	1	0	0
Halley, John ..	5	0	0	Steel, Wm. ..	1	0	0
Hamilton, Miss ..	2	2	0	Steel, Miss ..	1	0	0
Hannah, Robt. ..	80	0	0	Stenhouse, Geo. ..	1	0	0
Hay, P. S. ..	2	0	0	Sutherland, Mrs. ..	1	0	0
Hopkin, Wm. ..	5	0	0	Sutherland, Alex. ..	1	0	0
Howden, P. G. ..	1	1	0	Thompson, John ..	3	13	6
Hunter, Robt. ..	5	5	0	Thompson, A. D. ..	1	0	0
Jones, David ..	2	2	0	Troup, Geo. ..	1	0	0
Kirkcaldie, Jno. ..	50	0	0	Turnbull, Thomas ..	5	0	0
Lang, Andrew ..	1	0	0	Walls, Mrs. ..	1	1	0
Levin, W. H. ..	5	0	0	Warnock, Thos. ..	2	0	0
Mackay, Joseph ..	5	0	0	Wilkinson, D. ..	10	0	0
Martin, Hon. John ..	2	0	0	Wilson, James ..	6	0	0
Mason, James ..	3	0	0	Young, John ..	5	0	0
Mason, Frank ..	1	0	0	Young, Mrs. John ..	0	5	0
McCorquodale, Mrs. ..	2	0	0	Young, M. G. ..	1	0	0
McDonald, Mrs. A. C. ..	3	0	0	W. A. ..	50	0	0
McDonald, J. R. ..	1	0	0	Interest on deposit ..	3	12	0
McDowan, Miss Jessie ..	5	0	0				
McGregor, Dr. ..	5	0	0				

ST. JOHN'S CHURCH REVENUE ACCOUNT.

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS for Year ending 31st DECEMBER, 1890.

RECEIPTS.		DISBURSEMENTS.	
	£ s. d.		£ s. d.
Collections for year 1890	690 13 6	Balance at debit, 31st December, 1889 ..	63 9 4
Pew Rents	471 15 0	Rev. Mr. Paterson's Stipend, 1890 ..	600 0 0
Collection Rev. J. G. Paterson's Lecture ..	4 10 6	Rev. Mr. Moir's Retiring Allowance, 1890 ..	100 0 0
Rent of House in Willis Street ..	26 0 0	Rev. J. G. Paterson's expenses at Anniversary ..	5 10 0
Rents of School	11 0 0	Organist: Salary 1890	50 0 0
Defaced Coin	1 11 0	Church Officer	50 0 0
Proceeds Conversazione	38 13 9	Interest on Mortgage to 16th Nov., 1890 ..	240 0 0
		Gas Account	47 2 9
Collections for Dorcas and Charitable purposes	45 7 11	Fire Insurance Premiums	68 4 2
Church Extension and Sustentation Fund	59 4 6	Expenses Annual Business Meeting ..	6 15 0
Sunday Schools	15 0 0	Tuning Organ	10 0 0
SPECIAL COLLECTIONS—		Plumbers' Repairs, pr. Thos. Ballinger ..	9 16 11
Assembly Expenses. Local Fund ..	7 0 0	City Rates	21 9 2
" " General Fund	10 0 0	Water Account	0 17 8
Aged and Infirm Ministers	10 0 0	Advertising	2 12 0
Maori Mission	1 10 9	Printing and Stationery	24 2 8
New Hebrides Mission	12 2 5	Stamps £2, Cheque Book 16/8 ..	2 16 8
" " per Mr. A. Lang and Mrs. Steel conjointly, In Memoriam, and in fulfilment of the wish of the late Mrs. Lang. Annual Subscription	5 0 0	Cutting Grass and Clearing Grounds, 1889 ..	5 18 0
		" " " 1890	4 14 6
		Gravel for Grounds	1 8 0
New Hebrides Mission, pr. Sunday School	8 3 0	Petty Accounts	6 10 0
"Dayspring," pr. Sunday School ..	16 6 0	Interest on Overdraft at Bank ..	3 9 7
Balance	80 12 8		
		Treasurer: Assembly Expenses Local Fund ..	7 0 0
£1,514 11 0		" Ladies' Visiting and Dorcas Society ..	45 7 11
		" Church Extension and Sustentation Fund ..	59 4 6
		" Sunday Schools	15 0 0
		" General Assembly Funds	38 13 2
		" " pr. Sunday Schools ..	24 9 0
		£1,514 11 0	

Audited and found correct— D. J. McG. MCKENZIE, Hon Auditors.
ALLAN MACDOUGALL,

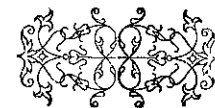
JOHN G. W. AITKEN,
Hon. Treasurer.

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
KIRK SESSION
AND
COMMITTEE of MANAGEMENT

OF
St. John's Presbyterian Church,

WILLIS STREET, WELLINGTON,

FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER, 1894.



Wellington:
LYON AND BLAIR, PRINTERS, LAMBTON QUAY.
1894.

10. 3 9 1/8
4
4 14 2 1/2
3 9 10 5/6
8. 4 1 1/5

23

down in the deeps

ELDERS' DISTRICTS.

Kirk Session.

Moderator :

REV. JAMES PATERSON.

Elders :

J. G. W. AITKEN
W. ALLAN
A. BARRON
F. H. FRASER
W. T. GLASGOW
A. HOPKIRK
R. HOPKIRK
W. HOPKIRK

W. LITTLEJOHN
T. W. MCKENZIE
J. MCKERROW
W. SIMM
J. SLOAN
J. SMITH
W. WADDELL
J. YOUNG

Board of Managers for 1894.

J. BROWN
J. BRUCE
J. FERGUSON
T. M. GRANT
R. HANNAH
P. HOWDEN
D. JONES
A. JOHNSTON
J. KIRKCALDIE

F. MASON
M. MENELAUS
A. MURRAY
J. H. POPE
D. PRYDE
J. ROBERTSON
A. ROSS
G. A. TROUP
A. WILLIAMSON

J. G. W. AITKEN,
TREASURER.

T. M. GRANT,
SECRETARY.

No. 1.—Kaiwarra, Crofton, 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. GLASGOW, Elder.

8.—From Abel Smith Street to top of Thompson 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 SLOAN, 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. ROBERT HOPKIRK, Elder.

17.—Elizabeth Street to College Street, and Kent Terrace to Town Belt.

Mr. J. G. W. AITKEN, Elder.

St. John's Church.

STATED MEETINGS.

- 1.—DIVINE SERVICE on Sabbath Mornings at 11; Evenings at 6.30. Prayer Meeting on Wednesday Evenings at 7.30.
- 2.—COMMUNION on Second Sunday of January, and on first Sunday of each quarter following.
- 3.—CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP ASSOCIATION meets in Church Managers' Room on Sabbath Mornings from 10 to 10.45. Secretary, Mr. A. Johnston.
- 4.—YOUNG PEOPLE'S CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOUR SOCIETY meet every Monday evening at 7.30. Acting Secretary, Mr. Kersley.
- 5.—SABBATH MORNING CHILDREN'S SERVICE, Mount Cook School at 11. President, Mr. F. H. Fraser.
- 6.—SABBATH SCHOOLS meet in Willis Street and at Mount Cook at 2.30 p.m. Secretary, Mr. W. Hopkirk.
- 7.—CHOIR meets for practice on Wednesday Evenings after Prayer Meeting.
- 8.—LADIES' VISITING AND DORCAS SOCIETY meets first and third Tuesdays of each month. Secretary, Miss Troup.
- 9.—YOUNG LADIES' LITERARY AND DORCAS SOCIETY meets on alternate Tuesday Evenings at 7.30. Resuming in March. Secretary, Miss H. McGowan.
- 10.—ST. JOHN'S LITERARY SOCIETY meets on Tuesday Evenings at 7.30. Resuming in March. Secretary, Mr. J. Duthie.
- 11.—CHILDREN'S MUSIC CLASS meets on Wednesday Evenings in School Room from 6.30 to 7.30. Conductor, Mr. W. Hopkirk.
- 12.—MINISTER'S BIBLE CLASS meets on Thursday Evenings at 7.30. Resuming in April.
- 13.—BAND OF HOPE meets on Friday Evenings from 7 to 8.
- 14.—TEACHERS' MEETINGS for Study of Lessons and Business, Fridays Evenings at 8.
- 15.—MONTHLY PRAYER MEETING OF TEACHERS AND OTHERS after Evening Service, first Sunday of each month.
- 16.—MEETING OF BOARD OF MANAGERS on second Monday in month at 8 p.m.



THE ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Kirk Session & Board of Managers

TO THE

MEMBERS AND ADHERENTS
OF

St. John's Presbyterian Church, Wellington,

FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31ST DECEMBER, 1893.

THE pleasant duty again devolves upon the Office-bearers of submitting their Annual Report to the Congregation. During the past twelve months we find abundant cause for thankfulness, and much cheering evidence of vitality and increased energy. Although the channels of Christian work in connection with the Church are becoming rather more numerous, yet a freshness and life characterize them all, and they give us some idea of the available resources of energy of a large Congregation such as St. John's. While the ordinary members of the different Associations are earnest and zealous, we are very grateful to those particular leaders amongst us who, by their persistent energy, give so bright an example to others.

The Communion Roll shews a slight increase this year; 48 new members have been added to the Church—20 by examination and 28 by certificate; while 37 erstwhile members have left us, three of these latter by the hand of death. The net increase to the Communion Roll is, therefore, 11, and the number of Communicants on the 31st December, 1893, was 444. That there is a more than latent disinclination on the part of the young people of the Congregation to take upon themselves the obligations and privileges of a member of the Church, is quite apparent; and we would appeal to heads of families and guardians of the young amongst us to so guide their hearts and consciences that to be a member of a Christian Church may be esteemed by them a sacred privilege to be embraced and clung to during life. So only can we ensure a good and Christian life being led by our young people, in whom we are all so deeply and affectionately interested.

During the past year we have lost from our midst three members whom we could ill spare. We refer to Mrs. Wm. Ferguson, Mrs. Robt. Hunter, and Mrs. Linklater. It is comforting to know that, in each case, while there was much suffering, there was also much consolation. Having given their hearts to the Lord, they recognized His Fatherly hand in all His dealings with them, and were humble and submissive—assured that all things would be made to work for their good, and that the sufferings of the present were not worthy to be compared with the joy of the future. So they bore patiently their sufferings, and, when the end came, they calmly fell asleep in Jesus.

The financial position of the Church is a very satisfactory one, thanks to the liberality of the Congregation, and the good services of the Board of Managers and the Church Treasurer. The total Collections for the year amount to £758 Os. 11d., as against a sum of £732 Os. 6d. for 1892. The Pew Rents also shew an increase, being, for 1893, £485 9s., as against £475 11s. 6d. for 1892. To compare a few other leading items, we have, for 1893, the Church Extension and Sustentation Fund, £85 8s. 9d., as against £50 16s. 3d.—a considerable increase. New Hebrides Mission, £29 4s. 9d., as against £38 9s. 9d.; but, as an off-set to this decrease, we must mention that the special contribution to the New Hebrides Disaster Fund amounted in itself to £42. The Chinese and Maori Missions together received £6 from the Church during the year. The contributions to the New Hebrides from the Sabbath Schools were £7 8s. 10d., and to the Day Spring Fund £14 17s. 9d., totalling £22 6s. 7d., as against £23 6s. 4d. for 1892—a slight decrease. Sunday School Day realized £33 8s.; while for the previous year we received the rather larger amount of £35 19s. 7d. We have contributed £59 14s. 7d. to the Poor Fund, as against £51 15s. 9d. during 1892. The painting of the Church cost £171, £83 16s. of which was raised by contributions of members and friends of the Church. The Sale of Work—not yet quite over—has hitherto realized £375, and it is expected that the even hundred will be easily reached. Finally, the total receipts of the Church for 1893 were £2,103 5s. 4d., as against £1,747 7s. 4d. for 1892. The Church Debt was reduced during 1893 by £450; while in 1892 the amount paid off was £150. We thus see how, in almost every department, we are in a progressive and healthy state; and we are very thankful to be able to place so satisfactory a statement before you. Moreover, we make no apology for going thus fully into these items, because many of you have assisted, by your considerate and untiring zeal, to place the Church finances in their present position; and such being the case, you will be glad to hear the result of your liberal assistance.

The debt upon the Church is now reduced to £2,750, and,

although we are anxious to efface this gradually from our balance-sheets, we are more than thankful for what has been done hitherto in that direction; and we would especially thank all the ladies who did so much in connection with the Sale of Work to make it a success. To particularize individuals would be invidious, where so many did so much. To all these very particularly we owe the reduction of the Church Debt, and we beg to thank them very heartily; for, as a matter of fact, the annual interest upon the debt is a very heavy item which the Management have to provide for, and a lessening of this is a proportionate lessening of anxiety.

The attendance at the Sabbath Services and Weekly Prayer-meetings is about the same as last year; but it is observed with regret that in some cases there is a less regular attendance at these services than there was wont to be.

In this Report it is not thought necessary to give any detailed information with regard to the different Associations connected with the Church, which are in excellent hands, and are engaged in good and prosperous work. These are the Christian Fellowship Association, the Sabbath Morning Children's Service, the Ladies' Visiting and Dorcas Society, the Young Ladies' Literary and Dorcas Society, the Literary Association, the Children's Music Class, the Minister's Bible Class, the Band of Hope, the Young People's Christian Endeavour Society, and last, but certainly of the first importance, the Sabbath Schools. The Young People's Christian Endeavour Society was initiated during the close of the year, and is now in a vigorous state. Its object, as you are probably aware, is to bring every member of the Church into active co-operation in some branch of Christian work. No Society could, perhaps, have higher aims, or could, with greater justice, claim the sympathy of the Church members. The Sabbath Schools have a special notice to themselves, but, in passing, we observe with regret the combined St. John's and Mt. Cook Schools total 40 less scholars on their rolls than appeared last year; that is, on December 31st, 1892, there were 859, as against 819 for 1893. The average attendance was also diminished, being 598 in 1892, as against 576 in 1893. It may be that special circumstances have combined to cause this decline; but, in the ordinary course, other things being equal, the number of scholars in the Sabbath Schools should certainly increase year by year.

We are of opinion that the *Church Record* is of material assistance in disseminating information regarding the different ramifications of the work of the Church; and, as space is available, it is proposed to include in its columns news of the Christian Church of a less local nature. Any correspondence which, of course, does not engender undue controversy, is welcomed by the Editor. We recommend this little quarterly to the attention of our members.

And so we close our review of the spiritual life and work of the Congregation during the past year, with a deep feeling of thankfulness to God for all His goodness, and for the measure of prosperity which He has granted to us, notwithstanding our many shortcomings; and with the prayer that He may give us grace to be more earnest, and zealous, and faithful in time to come, and may bless and prosper us more and more in our duty and service to Him and to the Church.

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

HEREWITH we have pleasure in submitting our Report for the past year, the present being the twenty-sixth of Willis Street and the twenty-second of Mount Cook School.

We have given quarterly in the *Record* some general account of our School work, but from the limited space we were unable to set forth the details which more accurately help us to gauge the results.

In reviewing the year we have abundant cause for gratitude, and would thankfully acknowledge that all our sufficiency is of God, and we ascribe to him alone all the glory. At the same time we see many shortcomings and lack of service for which we ask forgiveness, and pray that grace may be vouchsafed to us to follow more closely in our Master's footsteps who said: "Suffer little children to come unto Me and forbid them not."

Attendance.—On the whole the attendance has been good, yet it might and ought to have been better. The number of our scholars is less than last year, a result we much regret. Our schools with others suffered very severely from the epidemic of measles which visited the city about the middle of the year, and it seems to us have not even yet fully recovered from its effects. We hope, however, that this decrease will be remedied shortly, for with a growing population we must increase too.

Following is a detailed statement:—

SCHOLARS.						
	Girls.	Boys.	Total.	Average Attendance.	Average Attendance excluding wet Sundays.	
Willis Street School ...	215	192	407	...	262	272
Mount Cook School ...	210	202	412	...	302	304
Totals ...	425	394	819		564	576
SENIOR CLASSES.						
	Girls.	Boys.	Total	Scholars over 15 years of age.		
Willis Street School ...	...	22	25	47	77	
Mount Cook School ...	...	23	22	45	48	
Totals ...	...	45	47	92	125	

INFANT CLASSES.

	Girls.	Boys	Totals.
Willis Street School	61	67	128
Mount Cook School	80	100	180
Totals	141	167	308

TEACHERS AND OFFICE-BEARERS.

	Ladies.	Gentlemen.	Total.	Average Roll.	Average Attendance.
Willis Street School	24	14	38	38	35
Mount Cook School	19	15	34	34	29
Totals	43	29	72	72	64

The highest attendance of scholars on one day was: Willis Street 302, and Mount Cook 365, giving a total of 667.

There is one point in the foregoing statistics worthy of special note. It is the increase in senior scholars, which is very marked. We rejoice at it and trust this good feature may increasingly continue.

The Infant Classes are lower than last year, but there have been large numbers (71 in Mount Cook School alone) sent up to higher classes, and taking this into consideration the totals are satisfactory.

Our Roll of Teachers and Office-bearers shows a decided advance in numbers, but we have plenty of work for all, and more if we had them, especially is this the case with male Teachers, and we would be particularly glad to welcome an addition to their ranks. There have been the usual large number of changes in the personnel of our staff and this too has a bad effect on the attendance of our scholars. We have much pleasure in getting added to our band of Teachers many who have grown up as scholars in our schools. This is as it should be, and we cordially welcome them, and would encourage them in this noble work.

Children's Service.—The Sunday Morning Service in Mount Cook School continues well attended, the average for the year being 80, and the highest attendance 109. It is rather remarkable that the boys outnumber the girls at this service, whilst in the afternoon schools the girls largely predominate.

The annual visit was paid on Christmas morning to the Hospital and Old Men's Home, and the carol singing greatly delighted the inmates.

During the year £2 2s. 8d. was put in the Missionary Box and was duly forwarded along with the other amounts subscribed by the schools.

Singing Classes.—The Singing Class did good work during the year, their special training and practice being very helpful at the different services. This was particularly noticeable in the Anniversary Hymns and Christmas Carols. Greater difficulty, however, has been experienced with the attendance than formerly. Parents no doubt have objections, with which we sympathise, to

their children leaving home after dark; but it is almost impossible to hold any of our extra meetings except in the evening, and we would like to point out that any chance of evil arising would be minimised if not altogether done away with if there were no loitering on the way to and from the meetings.

The collection taken at the Carol Service amounted £5 3s. 9d., being sufficient to meet all expenses.

Library.—The School Libraries have been much improved within the last few months by the addition of 219 volumes, at a cost of £16 18s. 9d. We hope, as funds avail, to add books regularly, as this adjunct to our work is much appreciated by our scholars.

Annual Treat.—The Annual Treat was held at Khandallah on the 22nd January, and, as the weather was favourable, a most enjoyable day was spent, all reaching their homes without accident or mishap of any kind.

Sunday School Anniversary.—Our Anniversary Services were held on the last Sabbath of May, and were fairly successful. The attendance at Church in the forenoon and afternoon was much smaller than was anticipated; but in the evening the building was well filled. The Rev. Jas. Paterson preached special sermons morning and evening, and the Rev. W. Shirer in the afternoon. The scholars also rendered a number of special hymns and anthems very effectively. The Collection realised the satisfactory sum of £33 8s.

On the Tuesday evening the Tea Meeting was held in the Schoolroom, which was crowded, followed by a meeting in the Church, when several addresses were delivered, and the scholars again delighted the audience with their singing. During the evening Miss May Blair, on behalf of the Singing Class, presented Mr. Wm. Hopkirk, their Conductor, with a handsome silver-plated ink-stand and epergne, and small time-piece, in token of their esteem and appreciation of his services.

We have to thank the lady teachers who provided the Tea, and all those who helped in any way to make the services so successful. Especially would we thank Mr. England for presiding at the organ; not only on those occasions, but at any time when asked, he, in the most hearty and generous way, was ever ready to respond.

Church Anniversary.—Both Schools met in the Church on the afternoon of December 3rd, being the Church Anniversary, when the Rev. R. Urwin gave a suitable address, which was listened to very attentively and, we trust, with profit also.

Teachers' Meetings.—The Friday Evening Meeting for the study of the lesson and the Monthly Prayer Meetings have been held regularly, with varying success as far as attendance goes. We urge teachers to make larger use of these in the coming year.

A Social Meeting was held in October, which, in spite of inclement weather, passed off very successfully.

Treasurer's Statement.—The Statement of Accounts shews a small credit balance of 2s. 8d., with no outstanding debts. This is very satisfactory, seeing that the receipts from Anniversary Services were rather less than the previous year, and the payments include extra items such as £16 18s. 9d. for library books, and £6 odd for joiner work at Mt. Cook School.

The amount remitted on account of Missions (£29 6s. 7d.) is much the same as last year; but we should like to shew an increase here, and hope teachers will encourage their scholars in giving in this direction.

Band of Hope.—We are glad to report that the attendance at our Band of Hope meetings has much improved, especially during the latter part of the session; so much so that the question of continuing without a recess was brought forward, but, on consideration, it was deemed advisable to have the summer vacation as usual. We attach great importance to this organization, and trust teachers and parents will give it their hearty sympathy and support. The number at present on the Register is 134, and the average attendance has been 70. The Annual Meeting was held in August, and was most enjoyable. The members provided the entertainment at the public meeting held after the Tea, consisting of music, dialogues, &c., and they quite excelled themselves. The Treasurer's Statement is a most favourable one, shewing a credit balance of £3 2s. 3d.

Conclusion.—In closing our Report we would encourage one another to continued effort. The work indeed is great, and if viewed as to its results of momentous importance. It demands therefore our best service, and God will accept and bless our labours if done in faith and with a single eye to His glory. There is no room for failure if we go forward with the Blessed Spirit influencing and guiding us, and this we can have in answer to fervent prayer. And if at times we are discouraged and are led to ask, "Who is sufficient for these things?" may we hear a voice saying, "My grace is sufficient for thee; for My strength is made perfect in weakness."

F. H. FRASER,
Superintendent, Willis Street School.

WILLIAM ALLAN,
Superintendent, Mount Cook School.

WILLIAM HOPKIRK,
Hon. Secretary and Treasurer,
31st December, 1893.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF

ST. JOHN'S DORCAS AND VISITING SOCIETY,

FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31ST DECEMBER, 1893.

THE Members of our Society met on twenty occasions during the past year, and made many articles of clothing of all descriptions. While our work meetings were stopped for a few months owing to the sale of work, the Committee met regularly to consider any needful cases and distribute help to them.

In all seventeen families in connection with the Church were assisted, in most instances by monetary gifts. When Christmas time came round many by receiving visits and Christmas boxes from the members were cheered and comforted.

We would convey our hearty thanks to the congregation for the very liberal manner in which they subscribed to our funds.

During the past year we note a still further increase in our collections, there having been collected in all during the year the sum of £59 14s. 7d., made up as follows:—

					£	s.	d.
January	...	...	...	...	14	3	9
April	...	...	...	...	14	7	9
July	...	...	...	...	14	13	4
October	...	...	...	...	16	9	9
Total	...	...	...	...	£59	14	7

Of this sum £52 14s. 7d. has been expended, and the balance £7 we have in hand to begin the new year with.

We still feel that our membership is small, and that had we more members to help us with the work more good could be accomplished. We invite all who have the time to attend our meetings which are held once a fortnight and are regularly intimated by the Minister on each previous Sunday.

We hope with increased accessions to our ranks and the blessing of God on our labours to have a successful year, and would close by reminding all who could but have not as yet helped us of the Master's words, "Go, work in My vineyard."

C. W. TROUP,
Hon. Secretary.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

ST. JOHN'S YOUNG LADIES' DORCAS AND LITERARY SOCIETY,

FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31ST DECEMBER, 1893.

THIS Society held seventeen meetings during the session, most of which were well attended. The members engaged heartily in the work, and, as the result of their labours, thirty families were supplied with parcels of clothing. A few of those relieved contributed towards the cost of material used.

There were 56 names on the Roll, with an average attendance of 32.

Towards the end of the session, a Sewing Class for girls was most successfully conducted by a few of the members, the attendance of pupils during eight meetings increasing from 18 to 45, showing the great need of such an effort, and also the high appreciation shewn by the girls of the kindness of the ladies who held those meetings.

The Annual Tea for mothers and children (numbering 181), who had been assisted during the year, was held on November 21st, and passed off most successfully, every member doing the utmost to give pleasure to those present. In the absence of the Rev. J. Paterson, Mr. Aitken very kindly presided at the entertainment which followed the Tea.

In conclusion, we wish to convey our best thanks to the Committee of Management for so generously granting the use of the room; also to Mr. Moar, the Church officer, for his uniform kindness and courtesy during the year.

HARRIET MCGOWAN,

Hon. Secretary.

ST. JOHN'S CHURCH REVENUE ACCOUNT.

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS FOR YEAR ENDING 31ST DECEMBER, 1893.

		RECEIPTS.		DISBURSEMENTS.	
	£ s. d.		£ s. d.		£ s. d.
Balance at Credit, 31st December, 1892	59 7 10	Balance at Credit, 31st December, 1892	59 7 10	Rev. J. Paterson's Stipend, 1893	600 0 0
Collections for year 1893	733 9 11	Collections for year 1893	733 9 11	Rev. J. Moir's Retiring Allowance, 1893	100 0 0
Pew Rents	485 9 0	Pew Rents	485 9 0	Rev. Robert Erwin's Expenses	5 0 0
Rent of House in Willis Street	25 0 0	Rent of House in Willis Street	25 0 0	Organist's Salary, 1893	50 0 0
Rent of School-room	4 5 0	Rent of School-room	4 5 0	Church Officer's Salary, 1893	50 0 0
Proceeds of Conversations	23 1 9	Proceeds of Conversations	23 1 9	Interest on Mortgage to 16th November, 1893	192 0 0
Specially Collected for Painting Church and School	83 15 0	Specially Collected for Painting Church and School	83 15 0	Gas Account	40 13 0
	1,439 0 6		1,439 0 6	Fire Insurance Premium	61 18 2
Collections for Dorcas and Charitable Purposes	59 14 7	Collections for Dorcas and Charitable Purposes	59 14 7	Expenses of Annual Business Meeting	2 3 0
Church Extension and Sustentation Fund	85 8 9	Church Extension and Sustentation Fund	85 8 9	Tuning Organ	10 0 0
New Hebrides Mission	29 1 9	New Hebrides Mission	29 1 9	Plumber's Repairs and Alterations	6 12 0
Do. do. Disaster Fund	42 0 0	Do. do. Disaster Fund	42 0 0	City Rates	33 5 0
Chinese Mission	1 0 0	Chinese Mission	1 0 0	Water Rate	2 4 8
Maori Mission	5 0 0	Maori Mission	5 0 0	Advertising	5 9 0
	222 8 1		222 8 1	Printing and Stationery	37 0 2
SPECIAL COLLECTIONS.—		SPECIAL COLLECTIONS.—		Cutting Grass, Cleaning Grounds, Gravel, &c.	11 18 6
General Assembly Local Expense Fund	10 0 0	General Assembly Local Expense Fund	10 0 0	Builder's Repairs	2 7 6
London Missionary Society	33 8 0	London Missionary Society	33 8 0	Stamps	5 0 0
Sunday Schools "Sunday School Day"	7 8 10	Sunday Schools "Sunday School Day"	7 8 10	Treasurer Aged and Infirm Ministers' Fund	5 0 0
New Hebrides Mission, per Sunday Schools	14 17 9	New Hebrides Mission, per Sunday Schools	14 17 9	Treasurer General Assembly Expense Fund	10 0 0
"Day Spring," per Sunday Schools	22 6 7	"Day Spring," per Sunday Schools	22 6 7	Painting Church and School-room	171 0 0
Part Proceeds Sale of Work by Ladies	375 0 0	Part Proceeds Sale of Work by Ladies	375 0 0	Chairs for School-room	5 11 2
				Music for Choir	1 2 0
				Presbytery Clerk Dues	2 0 0
				Sundries	5 0 3
					1,417 12 11
				Treasurer Ladies' Visiting and Dorcas Society	59 14 7
				Do. Church Extension and Sustentation Funds	85 8 9
				Do. New Hebrides Disaster Fund	43 0 0
				Do. General Assembly Funds	57 11 4
					244 14 8
				Treasurer General Assembly Local Expense	10 0 0
				Do. London Missionary Society Fund	3 0 0
				Do. Sunday Schools	33 8 0
				Transferred to Debt Extinction Account	46 8 0
				Balance	375 0 9
					21 7 7
					£2,105 3 2

Audited and found correct—

ALEX. PAUL,

ALLAN MACDOUGALL, } Hon. Auditors.

JOHN G. W. AITKEN,
Hon. Treasurer.

ST. JOHN'S PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH SABBATH SCHOOLS.

STATEMENT of RECEIPTS and DISBURSEMENTS for the Year ending 31st DECEMBER, 1893.

RECEIPTS.				DISBURSEMENTS.			
1893.	£	s.	d.	1883.	£	s.	d.
Credit Balance, 31st December, 1892			6 10 4	Wellington S.S. Union, Cards & Subscrip'n			2 3 4
Collections—				Mrs. Geo. Ross, Cleaning Mount Cook School	3	0	0
Willis Street School—				Mrs. Chernside	4	10	0
General	25	9	6	N.Z. Bible, Tract, and Book Society—			7 10 0
Books and Periodicals	15	12	5½	Sundries	20	2	3
Day Spring and Missions	12	12	1	Library Books	16	18	9
			53 14 0½	Periodicals	79	5	3
Mount Cook School—							116 6 3
General	22	3	9½	R. C. Harding, Printing Hymns, &c. ..			5 4 6
Books and Periodicals	19	6	5	W. J. Lankshear, Music			1 0 0
Day Spring and Missions	7	11	9	Geo. Reichardt			1 8 2
Children's Morning Service—				Brown & Johnston, Repairs	3	3	0
Day Spring and Missions	2	2	9	Additions, Mount Cook			
			51 4 8½	Library Case	3	5	9
Sunday School Anniversary—							6 8 9
Church Collection	33	8	0	Jas. Robertson's Account			0 6 6
Net proceeds Tea Meeting	13	11	9	Lyon & Blair's Account			1 15 0
			46 19 9	Insurance Premium, Mount Cook Organ..			0 5 0
Annual Treat—				Disbursements on Account Annual Treat..			50 3 7
Subscriptions	42	2	6	Social, Children's Morning Service			2 6 0
Proceeds Sale of Tickets	17	15	6	Church Treasurer—			
			59 18 0	Collection for Day Spring	14	17	9
Mr. Geo. Troup's Bible Class			7 0 0	Do. New Hebrides Mission	7	8	10
							22 6 7
				Sundries, per Secretary			1 0 6
				Treasurer, for Maori Mission	5	0	0
				Do. New Hebrides Disaster Fund	1	0	0
				Do. Dr. Bernardo	1	0	0
							7 0 0
				Balance, Cash in hand			0 2 8
							£225 6 10
Balance brought down			£0 2 8				

This Statement of Accounts has been carefully examined, and is, to the best of our knowledge and belief, correct.

ALEX. PAUL,
ALLAN MACDOUGALL, } Hon. Auditors.

WM. HOPKIRK,
Hon. Sec. and Treasurer.

ST. JOHN'S BAND OF HOPE.

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE FOR YEAR ENDING 31ST DECEMBER, 1893.

RECEIPTS.				DISBURSEMENTS.			
	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
To Balance forward	2	9	4	By Stationery			0 5 0
Subscriptions from Members, &c. ..	2	11	9	Account N.Z. Bible and Tract Depot			1 1 3
Collection and Subscription at the Annual Tea				Printing Account			0 12 6
Meeting	3	3	4	Provisions for Tea Meeting			3 0 0
Collection at the Lantern Exhibition	0	14	1	Subscription Band of Hope Union			0 10 6
Interest	0	3	0	Do. Lantern			0 10 0
			£9 1 6	Balance			3 2 8
To Balance forward	£3	2	3				£9 1 6

Vouchers attached.

Wellington, 26th January, 1894.

ALEX. WILLIAMSON,
Hon. Treasurer.

ST. JOHN'S DEBT EXTINCTION ACCOUNT.

STATEMENT of RECEIPTS and DISBURSEMENTS for Year ending 31st DECEMBER, 1893.

RECEIPTS.				DISBURSEMENTS.			
	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
To Balance brought forward	37	10	0	By Barry & McDowell, in Reduction of Mortgage ..	450	0	0
Subscriptions	57	10	0	Balance	20	0	0
Transferred from Church Revenue Account, part							
proceeds Sale of Work	375	0	0				
			£470 0 0				£470 0 0

JOHN G. W. ATKEN,
Hon. Treasurer.

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES, 31ST DECEMBER, 1893.

JOHN G. W. AITKEN,
Hon. Treasurer.

Received or promised on behalf of the Church Debt Extinction Fund since last report :—

Fraser, Mr. A., Sydney	£	1	0	0
Holmes, Hon. M.	..	10	0	0
Holmes, Mrs. ..	..	10	0	0
"Lydia," ..	..	2	0	0
McGowan, Miss Harriet	..	0	0	0
Mackenzie, Dr. F. W.	..	1	10	0
Quin, Miss ..	..	1	0	0
Smith, Mrs. James ..	..	10	0	0
Troup, Mr. Geo. A. ..	..	3	0	0
Wilson, Mrs. Helen ..	..	5	0	0

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
KIRK SESSION
AND
COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT
OF
St. John's Presbyterian Church

WILLIS-STREET, WELLINGTON

FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER, 1894.



Wellington, N. Z.

PRINTED BY R. COUPLAND HARDING, BALLANCE STREET

1895.

Kirk Session.

Moderator :

REV. JAMES PATERSON

Elders :

J. G. W. AITKEN
W. ALLAN
A. BARRON
F. H. FRASER
W. T. GLASGOW
A. HOPKIRK
R. HOPKIRK

W. HOPKIRK
W. LITTLEJOHN
T. W. MCKENZIE
J. MCKERROW
W. SIMM
J. SLOAN
J. SMITH

J. YOUNG

Board of Managers for 1894.

R. ANGUS
J. BROWN
J. BRUCE
J. FERGUSON
T. M. GRANT
R. HANNAH
D. JONES
A. JOHNSTON
H. W. KERSLEY

J. KIRKCALDIE
F. MASON
M. MENELAUS
A. MURRAY
J. H. POPE
D. PRYDE
J. ROBERTSON
G. A. TROUP
A. WILSON

Treasurer :

J. G. W. AITKEN.

Secretary :

T. M. GRANT.

Elders' Districts.

- 1.—Kaiwarra, Crofton, Wadestown.
Mr. W. LITTLEJOHN,
- 2.—Vogeltown, Karori, Tinakori Road (South-west end).
Mr. ROBERT HOPKIRK
- 3.—Thorndon, from Town Belt to Hill Street.
Mr. A. BARRON, Elde
- 4.—From Sydney Street to Woodward Street, and Harbo
E
- 5.—From Woodward Street to Boulcott Street, and Hart
Mr. JAMES SMITH, El
- 6.—From Boulcott Street to Ghuznee Street (North
Street to Town Belt. Mr. JAMES MCKERROW
- 7.—From Ghuznee Street (South Side) to Abel Smith
Street (West Side) to Town Belt.
Mr. W. T. GLASGOW, I
- 8.—From Abel Smith Street to top of Thompson Street,
to Cuba Street. Mr. JAMES SLOAN, El
- 9.—Manners Street, Dixon Street, West of Willis Str
Place. Mr. F. H. FRASER, El
- 10.—From Ghuznee Street to Ingestre Street, and Will
Street. Mr. JOHN YOUNG, El
- 11.—Ghuznee Street (East of Cuba Street), and Cuba S
and Taranaki Street (West Side) to Webb Str
Mr. T. MCKENZIE, El
- 12.—Hopper Street (and streets off) to Bidwill Street, e
and Taranaki Street to Webb Street; Barra
Terrace, and Tasman Street.
Mr. WILLIAM SIMM, I
- 13.—Tory Street and Taranaki Street, from Barracks S
Place. Mr. WILLIAM ALLAN,
- 14.—Courtenay Place to Newtown, Tory Street (East S
Terrace. Mr. JAMES SLOAN, El
- 15.—Oriental Bay to Majoribanks Street (North Side).
Mr. WILLIAM HOPKIE
- 16.—Majoribanks Street (South Side) to Elizabeth Stree
to Town Belt. Mr. ROBERT HOPKIRK
- 17.—Elizabeth Street to College Street, and Kent Terrac
Mr. J. G. W. AITKEN,

St. John's Church.

STATED MEETINGS.

- 1.—Divine Service on Sabbath Mornings at 11; Evenings at 6.30. Prayer Meetings on Wednesday Evenings at 7.30.
- 2.—Communion on Second Sunday of January, and on the first Sunday of each quarter following.
- 3.—Christian Fellowship Association meets in Church Managers' Room on Sabbath Mornings from 10 to 10.45. Secretary, Mr. A. Johnston.
- 4.—Young People's Christian Endeavour Society meets every Monday evening at 7.30. Acting Secretary, Mr. A. Kersley.
- 5.—Sabbath Morning Children's Service, Mount Cook School at 11. President, Mr. F. H. Fraser.
- 6.—Sabbath Schools meet in Willis Street and at Mount Cook at 2.30 p.m. Secretary, Mr. W. Hopkirk.
- 7.—Choir meets for Practice on Wednesday Evenings after Prayer Meeting.
- 8.—Ladies' Visiting and Dorcas Society meets first and third Tuesdays of each Month. Secretary, Miss Troup.
- 9.—Young Women's Literary and Dorcas Society meets on alternate Tuesday Evenings at 7.30. Resuming in March. Secretary, Miss Agnes Paul.
- 10.—St. John's Literary Society meets on Tuesday Evenings at 7.30. Resuming in March. Secretary, Mr. J. Duthie.
- 11.—Children's Music Class meets on Wednesday Evenings in School Room, from 6.30 to 7.30. Conductor, Mr. W. Hopkirk.
- 12.—Minister's Bible Class meets on Thursday Evenings at 7.30. Resuming in April.
- 13.—Band of Hope meets on Friday Evenings, from 7 to 8.
- 14.—Teachers' Meetings for Study of Lessons and Business, Friday Evenings at 8.
- 15.—Monthly Prayer Meeting of Teachers and Others after Evening Service, first Sunday of each month.
- 16.—Meeting of Board of Managers on second Wednesday in month, at 8 p.m.



THE ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

KIRK SESSION AND BOARD OF MANAGERS

TO THE

MEMBERS AND ADHERENTS

OF

St. John's Presbyterian Church, Wellington

FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER, 1894.

YOUR Office-bearers feel, in submitting their Report to the Congregation, that there is very much to be thankful for in their experiences of the past year. Certain branches of the Church work have evinced more vigour and vitality than others, and our duty is to point out those directions in which increased effort is required. One important sphere of work is that occupied by the Sabbath School Teachers; and the Annual Report upon the Schools appeals for more teachers, especially men, and urges more continuous and persistent duty on their part. Practically the last year has witnessed the birth and growth of the St. John's Christian Endeavour Society, the initiation meeting being held on the 19th October, 1893, and the membership is at present 126. This Society has been of great benefit to the Church and Congregation. The Communion Roll shows an increase of 5 members this year; 54 new members have been added to the Church, 29 by examination and 25 by certificate; while 29 erstwhile members have left us, 44 by certificate, and 5 by the hand of death. The number of communicants on 31st December, 1893, was 449, 5 more than last year.

Membership.—It is gratifying to find that at each quarterly Communion a few of the young people of the Congregation came forward to join the Church, and take their seat at the Lord's Table. During the year 28 thus joined; and in this we gladly recognize the influence of the Senior Bible Class, and of the Society of Christian Endeavour. The number, however, of those thus joining is not so large as we would desire. Feeling deeply the importance of our young people early connecting themselves with the Membership of the Church and sharing in all its privileges, we would affectionately entreat them to take serious thought in this matter and to realize their duty and responsibility. To become Members of the Church, and to confess Christ at His own table and in the solemn commemoration of His death, is both their duty and their privilege, and with God's blessing it will have a beneficial influence on their character and life.

Obituary.—Every year as it passes witnesses changes in the Membership of the Congregation by removals and death, and the past year has been no exception.

In January, Mr. Leadbetter, a man in the prime of life, after a short illness, died, leaving a widow and young family to mourn their loss.

In April, Mr. William Bell, of Karori, an old respected member of the Church, long in weak health, entered into the eternal rest. He was a man of great simplicity of character and of genuine piety and worth.

Early in June Mrs. George Wilson, greatly esteemed and beloved, passed away from the earthly to the heavenly home.

In June we lost our late excellent organist, Mr. Magnus Peterson. The sad circumstances of his death made a deep impression at the time, and are still fresh in the memory of all. Though but a few months with us he had gained a great hold on the esteem and affection of the Choir, and of those in the Congregation with whom he was brought into closest contact. His ability and skill as a musician, and his earnest efforts to promote the efficiency of the Psalmody of the Church were highly appreciated. His widow and family returned to Scotland.

In November, Mrs. Grant, the wife of our esteemed Secretary, after much suffering was called to her rest. For some years past she had suffered at intervals from severe attacks of asthma, and her strength was much reduced, but the end came more suddenly than was expected. It found her, however, prepared, and she met it with Christian faith and fortitude, and entire resignation to the Divine will.

Finance.—The financial position of the Congregation is satisfactory, having closed the ordinary revenue account with a balance in hand of £6 8s. 10d. We regret to have to report

that in the item from which we obtain our largest revenue, viz. : collections—there has been a falling off during the past year, £709 13s. 8d. this year as against £758 0s. 11d. in the previous year. We are conscious of the fact that this has been contributed to by the long succession of wet Sundays during the winter, but surely, if each member made it a matter of conscience, and had a system of giving in proportion to income, this could not have happened, as in the event of one being detained at home from weather or other cause, on any one day, the contribution would be put aside to be given on the first favorable opportunity. We believe that this system has been adopted by some in our Congregation, and we should be pleased to learn that it was more universal. We would strongly urge the claims of the Church Extension and Sustentation Fund, and the New Hebrides Mission Fund on the members of the Congregation. We are grateful to those who have contributed through the envelopes during the year, but we think that many more might seize the opportunity of contributing to these important funds. This year we contributed to the former £72 3s. 7d. and to the latter £25 18s. 0d.

General Church Organizations.—The Ladies' Visiting and Dorcas Society, while thankful for assistance rendered both by personal efforts and gifts, would welcome active members to their meetings, feeling that the attendance is not what it should be. The same applies in some degree to the Young Women's Dorcas and Literary Society, and we would most earnestly commend both these agencies for good to the favorable attention of our members and adherents. Charity, and all good offices, should begin at home, but the domestic circle should not limit the active influence of those who have leisure to help the poor and distressed. The Literary Society is not in a very flourishing condition, but active steps are to be taken during this recess to re-organize it and to lend it fresh energy and life. Should opportunity offer we trust that no one of the Congregation will be unwilling to do what lies in his power to help on so good an object. In this age of sport a Literary Society, especially one under good guidance, is a healthy counter-balance to what bids fair to become an evil. The Band of Hope and Singing Classes, under the energetic leadership of Mr. W. Hopkirk, are still wending their useful way, and command our sympathy and admiration. The leaders in these classes feel that while the tree is green is the time to instil good principles and high motives, and we cannot but wish them and all teachers of our children God speed in their good work. The Christian Fellowship Meetings are still well attended, and interesting papers are given every Sabbath morning. Yet we have

the temerity to suggest that a more active sympathy would be elicited from the young men of the Church if the Association could see its way to take up, say one line of outside useful work, in addition to the profitable and commendable study of scripture upon which they are now engaged. For details of the work and financial positions of the several Organizations we refer the Congregation to the reports and balance-sheets appended.

The Anniversary Services were conducted by the Rev. Wm. Grant with much acceptance.

We cannot refrain from referring briefly to the sad necessity which arose for a change of Organist in this Church. You will observe that besides our deep and heartfelt sympathy, assistance of a practical kind was tendered to and very thankfully accepted by Mrs. Peterson. We pray that time may, in God's good providence, assuage her grief. In the interval which followed, the services of Messrs. J. H. H. Jack and R. H. Pope were tendered and gladly accepted by the Church Management, until a permanent appointment was made. We have been fortunate in securing the services of Mr. Barnett, late of Napier, as Organist, and we have no doubt that the choral service of the Church will benefit very largely by so talented a leader.

As years roll on the work in connexion with the Church does not grow less, and we assure the Congregation that their office-bearers, Sabbath School Teachers, and all helpers in the Church are animated by a desire to do their best to advance the doctrine of Christ upon earth, and we believe that the interest of St. John's Church will not suffer in our hands. With earnest wishes for a happy and prosperous future we commend our Report to your consideration.



ST. JOHN'S PRESBYTERIAN SABBATH SCHOOLS.

WE have again the pleasure of submitting our Annual Report, the present being the twenty-seventh of Willis Street and the twenty-third of Mount Cook School.

The past year, like its predecessors, provides abundant cause for thankfulness to our Almighty Father for His goodness and the measure of success granted to us, and whilst rejoicing at the renewed tokens of His grace and love we have also to confess many failures and shortcomings. We offer our service, however, not because of its worthiness or of any merit of our own, but for the sake of our blessed Master who so loved the children, and we feel assured of its acceptance for His name's sake.

Attendance.—The number of our scholars has increased by 28 but our average attendance does not show so well. This is to be regretted and the reasons for this retrogression must be discovered, if not already known, with a view to their removal. Towards this end teachers have begun to furnish parents with quarterly reports, and they will work with us in our endeavours to obtain better results.

Following is a detailed statement:—

SCHOLARS.

	Girls.	Boys.	Total.	Average Attendance.	Average Attendance excluding wet Sundays.
Willis Street School ..	218	195	413	275	285
Mount Cook School ..	224	210	434	268	274
Totals ..	442	405	847	543	559

SENIOR CLASSES.

	Girls.	Boys.	Total.	Scholars over 15 years of age.
Willis Street School ..	36	43	79	102
Mount Cook School ..	26	29	55	60
Totals ..	62	72	134	162

INFANT CLASSES.

	Girls.	Boys.	Totals.
Willis Street School ..	50	60	110
Mount Cook School ..	98	97	195
Totals ..	148	157	305

TEACHERS AND OFFICE-BEARERS.

	Ladies.	Gentlemen.	Total.	Average Roll.	Average Attendance.
Willis Street School ..	25	11	36	37	81
Mount Cook School ..	19	15	34	34	29
Totals ..	44	26	70	71	60

The highest attendance of scholars on one day was: Willis Street, 333, and Mount Cook 351, giving a total of 684.

Last report we were able to congratulate the schools on the increase of our senior scholars, but that was small compared with this year. Our senior classes now number 134, being an advance of no less than 42 members during the year. Surely this is proof that our senior class teachers must be the right men and women in their proper places. We would encourage our young people to stick to their classes and be still more and more an influence for good in our schools.

Our Teachers number two fewer at present, and we are anxious that our staff should be strengthened. We have made sundry appeals through the *Church Record*, for gentlemen especially, but they have not been productive of any increase. We renew our requests, and would press them more urgently, for, if our schools are to progress as we would wish, we must have a full supply of Teachers.

Another matter requiring our careful attention is the number who join our ranks and straightway leave us. We have had no fewer than 28 changes within the past twelve months—no doubt many unavoidable on account of removals to other parts; but there are some who seem to have left for very insufficient reasons, and we regret this, as we believe these constant changes act disastrously on the regular attendance of the scholars.

Children's Morning Service.—The Sunday Morning Service in Mount Cook School is still in a healthy state, a result due in a great measure to the regular and self-denying work of the Secretary, Miss Jessie Hutchen. We are also indebted for assistance to some of the senior members, who take a pride in being in their places every Sunday.

The subscriptions to the Mission Fund amounted to £2 12s. 1½d., an increase on last year's total.

Singing Class.—After the Anniversary Services the Singing Class disbanded until shortly before Christmas, when, at the request of the late members, practices for carols were resumed, and these beautiful hymns were duly rendered in the Schoolroom with much acceptance.

Library.—The School Libraries are still much appreciated by our Scholars. We have added £10 worth of books during the year, and hope to make further additions at regular intervals.

The Senior Lads (Mr. Geo. Troup's class) with praiseworthy zeal have started a small Library of their own, which now contains some 120 volumes. They also raised £1 10s towards expense of bookcase, which is placed in Manager's room.

We may add, as shewing what united effort will do, that they also subscribed £3 10s. towards cost of small American organ which was required for the use of the class.

Annual Treat.—The Annual Treat was held at Khandallah, and was a thorough success. The cost of our Picnic is very considerable, but it is an expense we are in a measure bound to meet, and we believe is not money spent in vain.

Sunday School Anniversary.—Our Anniversary Services were held on May 20th, and were a decided success, the congregation attending in large numbers. Special Sermons were preached by our own minister in the morning and the Rev. Mr. Murray in the evening, whilst Messrs. Reith and Fraser gave addresses to the scholars in the afternoon. The collections for the day were £35.

On the Tuesday evening the usual Tea Meeting was held, the lady teachers providing the Tea in a most satisfactory style. Addresses were given by several friends at the after meeting in the Church, and the scholars rendered in a first-class manner several hymns and anthems.

We tender our thanks to one and all who helped to make this occasion so attractive and enjoyable, and congratulate the young singers on their proficiency.

Church Anniversary.—As usual, both schools met in the Church on the 2nd December, being the Church Anniversary, when the Rev. Wm. Grant gave them an interesting address, which was listened to with marked attention.

Teachers' Meetings.—There have been the Ordinary Meetings held during the year, but we do not think they have been so well attended as they might. Surely, if our teachers realized fully the necessity for preparation and prayer, our Friday Evening Meetings for study and the Monthly Prayer Meetings would be larger. We commend them to teachers for the coming year.

A Teachers' Social and the usual Picnic on Boxing Day were held and much enjoyed.

Treasurer's Statement.—The Statement of Accounts shows a debit balance of over £5, i.e.:—including unpaid amount owing for periodicals. Of course the whole of the periodicals for one year are not supplied until the beginning of the ensuing one, so that this is hardly a debt; yet still we close our books in a worse position than shown last balance sheet. The chief reason for this is that subscriptions towards Annual Treat were considerably less—indeed, not quite sufficient to clear the expenses; whereas in previous years there has been a balance left for general purposes.

We regret to record a falling off in our Mission subscriptions, the amount remitted this year being £27 9s. 10d., against £29 6s. 7d. last year. We have, however, sent three Mission boxes, one from the Senior Lads' Bible Class to Mr. Watt, and two from the Senior Girls' to Dr. Lamb.

Band of Hope.—We have much pleasure in reporting a large addition in the Membership of our Band of Hope, and also a great improvement in the attendance.

We have now on the roll 70 boys and 110 girls—a total of 180, with an average attendance of 110 during the latter part of the session.

This result is due in a great measure to the members themselves, and we hope they will continue their good work. We have also to thank the Temperance Committee of the Y.P.C.E. for valued assistance in this direction, and trust that present success may lead to yet greater effort.

The Annual Meeting was held in August, and through the kindness of Mr. W. Lawson we had a Magic Lantern Exhibition for our closing meeting before the summer recess.

The Treasurer's Statement is a favourable one, shewing a credit balance of £1 ls. 4½d.

We are gratified to state that through the kindness of the office-bearers of the Band we are now in possession of a handsome silk banner, with our motto beautifully in-wrought: "God speed the right."

Conclusion.—This brings us to our concluding remarks, which we wish to be of an encouraging nature.

Our organization is in a fairly complete state and the teachers are in good heart for their work, and rightly so; for we have had tokens of rich blessing, which we pray may be the first droppings of the full shower. The Congregation too, have been shewing, by their attendance and monetary help, that they are interested in our welfare, and we hope this will be increasingly shewn every succeeding year.

We close, ascribing all praise to God our loving Father, and pray for His grace to sustain and bless in the coming year.

F. H. FRASER,
Superintendent, Willis Street School.

WILLIAM ALLAN,
Superintendent, Mount Cook School.

WILLIAM HOPKIRK,
Hon. Secretary and Treasurer.

31st December, 1894.



ST. JOHN'S VISITING AND DORCAS SOCIETY.

THE Committee have pleasure in submitting to the members of the Church, a short summary of what has been done during the year.

The Committee has met on eleven occasions, while there have been twenty-three sewing meetings.

The attendance at our meetings is not at all what it should be for so large a Congregation as ours is.

The Collections taken up for the poor during the year are short of last year by £5 17s 7d. We would thank the members of the Congregation for their contributions, and can assure them that every penny collected is urgently required for relief to those not so fortunately circumstanced as they are.

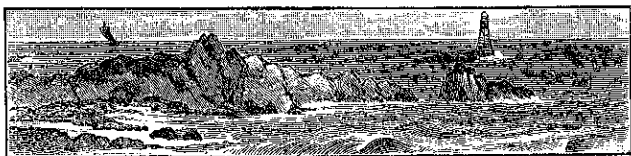
We have on our list three persons who regularly receive 12s, and two persons who receive 6s per month.

During the year nineteen families have been aided by monetary gifts and articles of clothing.

The usual gifts were distributed at Christmas.

C. W. TROUP,
Hon. Secretary.





ST. JOHN'S YOUNG WOMEN'S DORCAS AND LITERARY SOCIETY.

IN reviewing the work of this Society for the last year we feel that we have much cause for thankfulness.

The meetings on the whole have been fairly well attended and the work carried on satisfactorily, though we regret that our numbers have been smaller than any previous session, having 34 names on the roll with an average attendance of 17. This has affected the amount of work done, but still we know that many homes have been brightened by the sympathy and help given.

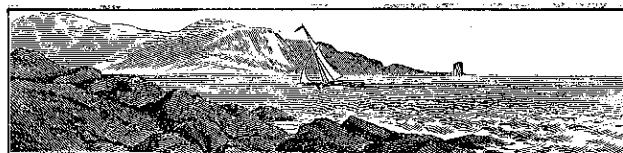
Garments cut out, 96; garments finished, 82; garments given away, 122 (some of these were old garments given as donations by friends); and 34 yards of flannelette, serge, &c. Supplied to "little girl" in Cottage Home, 21 articles of clothing and 1 pair of boots.

The Literary portion of the meetings has been both profitable and enjoyable, many good essays and papers being read by members and friends.

We would take this opportunity of sincerely thanking those who have so kindly assisted us, both in our literary work and also by donations of money and garments.

The Children's Sewing Class was very largely attended, the little ones showing great interest in their work.

AGNES PAUL,
Secretary.



ST. JOHN'S YOUNG PEOPLE'S SOCIETY OF CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOUR.

IN reviewing our work we feel that we have great cause for thankfulness for what we have been enabled to do, and every reason for encouragement in the progress made by our Society. We take this opportunity of thanking all who have in any way helped us, for their sympathy as well as for any practical assistance given. Our Society was formed on the 19th of October last year, with 9 active and 7 associate members, of which we formed two committees. At the present time our membership comprises 56 active, 45 associate and 17 honorary members, making a total of 126. The average attendance at our meetings is between 80 and 90. We have now ten committees fully engaged in practical work of different kinds. During the year 11 of our members have entered into church membership, and 5 have become Sabbath School teachers.

Weekly visits are paid to the hospital by the members of the Sunshine committee, and flowers and tracts given to the patients. Sick ones are also visited, and a little time spent with them in singing, reading, or prayer. Our Missionary Committee was formed in February last. Their first work was to dispose of 24 copies of the Cycle of Prayer for Missions. These were taken by our members, each promising to remember in prayer a certain part of the Mission field every day. £7 was collected and sent to Dr. Lamb, to support a native teacher in Ambrim. Our cottage meetings were started in March, and are held every Sunday and Wednesday evening, and we are glad to say not without tokens of encouragement. In June a Mission box was filled and sent to the Rev. Mr. Watt on the Island of Tanna. The collection of used postage stamps is another part of our work, and the money we get for these will go towards our Missionary work. Our Society has guaranteed to collect £20 per annum for two years to support a Chinese Missionary here in Wellington, and we are pleased to

report, that in three months we have collected over £20. Tracts and the Gospels, translated into their own language, have been already given to the Chinese, and were gladly received. The Literature Committee has distributed religious literature and tracts amongst the poorer families around us, and we have also sent parcels to Hunterville and Stratford, for the use of the working men there who are not able to get good reading matter; some books were left on the ships in port, and one parcel sent to the "Old People's Home," and every week parcels of periodicals have been sent to the Lighthouses, Brunnerton, and the Wairarapa. One of the members of this committee goes up to the Home once a week to read to the inmates, several of whom are blind and seem to appreciate it greatly. The Sunday Committee began work in May; the members have placed themselves in the hands of the teachers, and have looked up many absent scholars for those who were not able to do so for themselves. They have adopted the plan of taking up small streets and asking at every house if the children belong to any Sunday School. If they do not, an invitation is left, and they are called for next Sunday. In this way a good number of new scholars have been procured. Several teachers have been added to our list, with the promise of more shortly. We are still in need of more, for, as the scholars increase, so must the teachers, and we would earnestly urge those who can, to come forward and help in this good work. The Temperance Committee was also formed in May, and works in conjunction with the Band of Hope. Sick members have been visited, and twenty-five names added to the roll, and during the five months one hundred and seventeen have been obtained in our pledge book. The Prayer-meeting Committee has only been in existence three months, but it is encouraging to see even in that short time, a larger number of young people at the Wednesday evening service. On 12th Sept. it was decided to have an Endeavour "rally," when we were pleased to see about forty of our members present, and hope to see them there oftener. The Social Committee was formed about May. It was decided to have a banner made for the convention which was held in July. On the second of September, at the close of our meeting, a "surprise supper" (hot coffee and biscuits) was handed round by the Social Committee. Two entertainments have been given at the Asylum—one on Christmas morning, and another about a month back—both being appreciated by the inmates.

The opening of our second year was celebrated by a social gathering held in the schoolroom, which was tastefully decorated, on Monday, 15th October, when there were about two hundred Endeavourers and their friends present, and a most enjoyable evening was spent. Reports of the year's work were read by the different conveners, interspersed with music, singing, &c., and a

good supper was provided by the members. On the following Tuesday evening, all the poor people who had been assisted by the Society during the year, were given a tea, and afterwards entertained by some of the members. On Christmas morning several of our members visited the Asylum and sang carols to about 100 of the inmates. At the close, bags of lollies and flowers were given to each patient. One hundred and fifty letters were written by some of our active members, and were sent to the Gaol to be read to the prisoners. The gifts to the poor are of a most heterogeneous description, and are detailed at length in the *Record*. The prayer meetings are still continued on Wednesday evenings from 7 to 7.30, and on Monday evenings previous to the ordinary meetings—both being well attended, and it is believed that great blessing is derived from them.

G. TROUP,
Secretary.



List of Subscriptions

Received on behalf of the Church Debt Extinction Fund since last report :—

A Friend, per Rev. J. Paterson	..	..	..	£5	5	0
Mrs. Helen Sutherland	..	..	..	2	0	0
Miss Anderson	..	..	..	1	0	0

St. John's Presbyterian Church Sabbath Schools.

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER, 1894.

RECEIPTS.				DISBURSEMENTS.			
	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Credit Balance, 31st December, 1893			0 2 8	N.Z. Bible Tract and Book Society—			
Collections—				Periodicals, &c.	70	4	2
Willis Street School—				Library Books	10	0	0
General	28	19	8½	Sundries and School Requisites	20	19	0
Books and Periodicals	18	8	7½				
"Day Spring" and Missions	11	1	4	Mrs. Chirnside, Cleaning Mount Cook School			
			53 9 8	R. C. Harding, Anniversary Hymns	5	10	0
Young Men's Bible Class—				Do. Printing	1	5	0
Account Small American Organ	2	10	0				
Ambrym Hospital Building Fund	2	0	0	Disbursements on account of Annual Picnic			53 6 0
Maori Mission	5	0	0	Geo. Denton, Repairs, 5/6, 2/6			0 8 0
			10 10 0	Geo. Reichardt, Music			2 7 5
Mount Cook School—				Wellington S.S. Union, Subscriptions and Cards			1 11 8
General	20	9	5½	Social—Children's Morning Service			2 3 0
Books and Periodicals	18	19	5½	Brown and Johnston, Bookcase			3 5 0
"Day Spring" and Missions	6	16	4½	Lyon and Blair's Account, 10/10, 11/6			1 2 4
Children's Morning Service—				George Winder's Account			0 2 0
"Day Spring" and Missions	2	12	1½	Insurance Premium, Mount Cook Organ			0 5 0
			48 17 5	Sundries, per Secretary			0 16 6
Annual Treat—				Church Treasurer—			
Subscriptions	35	11	6	Collections for "Day Spring"	18	13	3
Proceeds Sale of Tickets	15	15	9	Do. do. Missions, New Hebrides	6	16	7
			51 7 3				20 9 10
Sunday School Anniversary—				Treasurer—			
Church Collection	35	0	0	Ambrym Hospital Building Fund	2	0	0
Net Proceeds Tea Meeting	10	4	9	Small American Organ	3	10	0
			45 4 9	Maori Mission	5	0	0
							10 10 0
				Balance—Cash on hand			0 6 10
							£209 11 9
			£209 11 9				
Balance—Cash on hand brought down			£0 6 10	Liabilities—N.Z. Bible, Tract and Book Society, Balance			
				Periodical Account	6	0	0

Audited and found correct JOHN KNOX,
ALLAN MACDOUGALL, } Hon Auditors.

WM. HOPKIRK,
Hon. Treasurer.

St. John's Band of Hope.

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER, 1894.

RECEIPTS.				LIABILITIES.			
	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Balance from 1893			3 2 3	N.Z. Bible and Tract Depot account			1 0 6
Members' Subscriptions			2 15 4	Banner Expenses			1 12 10
Donation			0 2 6	Tea Meeting Expenses			2 14 9½
Collection at Annual Tea Meeting			2 13 3	Lantern Expenses			0 10 0
Collection at the Lantern Entertainment			0 11 8	E. C. Harding's account			2 0 0
				Stationery			0 5 6
			£9 5 0	Balance—Cash in hand			1 1 4½
							£9 5

JOHN B. GERRAND,
Hon. Treasurer.

St. John's Ladies' Visiting and Dorcas Society.

RECEIPTS.				EXPENDITURE.			
	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Balance in hand			7 0 0	Material for Sewing			6 7 7
January, Collection for Poor			13 12 9	Given to the Poor			50 15 9
April			12 5 9	Balance in hand			3 13 8
July			14 2 8				
October			13 16 3				
			£60 17 0				£60 17 0

C. W. TROUP,
Treasurer.

St. John's Young Women's Dorcas and Literary Society.

FIFTH SESSION, 1894.

CREDIT.					EXPENDITURE.				
				£ s. d.					£ s. d.
Cash in hand, March 13th	..	..	..	5 16 10	Stationery	..	..	..	0 10 9
Subscriptions	..	..	..	3 12 6	Goods bought	..	..	..	9 8 8
Donations and Work	..	..	..	0 16 6	Fruit, &c., for Tea	..	..	..	0 18 9
Cheque (Young Men's Society)	..	..	..	2 19 2	Balance	..	..	..	2 11 10
				<u>£18 5 0</u>					<u>£18 5 0</u>

January 26th, 1895.

ELLA REITH,
Treasurer.

St. John's Young People's Society of Christian Endeavour.

BALANCE SHEET FOR YEAR ENDING 24TH SEPTEMBER, 1894.

RECEIPTS.					DISBURSEMENTS.				
				£ s. d.					£ s. d.
Ordinary Collections	..	..	..	6 18 9½	Subscriptions towards Native Teacher	..	..	..	6 1 0
Special Collections	..	..	..	6 5 0	Convener "Sunshine" Committee	..	..	..	5 15 6
Subscriptions from Hon. Members	..	..	..	0 14 0	Do. "Social" do.	..	..	..	3 4 0
Books	..	..	..	0 11 0	Book and Co.	..	..	..	2 11 6
Subscriptions towards American Organ	..	..	..	4 2 6	N.Z. Book and Tract Society	..	..	..	1 18 5
Chinese Mission	..	..	..	22 12 4	Corresponding Secretary, Stationery, &c.	..	..	..	0 15 0
New Hebrides Mission	..	..	..	8 10 5	Petty Accounts	..	..	..	0 7 6
				<u>£49 14 4½</u>	Payment towards Organ	..	..	..	4 2 6
					Balance on hand	..	..	..	25 3 11½
									<u>£49 14 4½</u>
					General Fund	..	..	..	£0 2 2½
					New Hebrides Mission	..	..	..	2 9 5
					Chinese Fund	..	..	..	22 12 4
									<u>£25 3 11½</u>

Audited and found correct,
WM. HOPKIRK.

F. MASON,
Treasurer.