

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

KIRK SESSION

AND

BOARD OF MANAGEMENT

OF

St. John's Presbyterian Church

WILLIS STREET, WELLINGTON,

FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31ST DECEMBER, 1895



Wellington, N.Z.:

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1896.

KIRK SESSION.

Moderator :

REV. JAMES PATERSON.

Elders :

J. G. W. AITKEN
WM. ALLAN
JAS. BRUCE
JOHN FERGUSON
F. H. FRASER
W. T. GLASGOW
A. HOPKIRK
R. HOPKIRK
W. HOPKIRK

W. LITTLEJOHN
T. W. MCKENZIE
JAS. MCKERROW
M. MENELAUS
JOHN REITH
WM. SIMM
JAS. SLOAN
JAS. SMITH
G. A. TROUP

JOHN YOUNG.

Session Clerk :

WM. SIMM.

BOARD OF MANAGERS FOR 1896.

JOHN BROWN
JOHN CAMPBELL
T. M. GRANT
R. HANNAH
A. JOHNSTON
D. JONES
H. W. KERSLEY
J. KIRKCALDIE
A. McASKILL

ALEX. McDUGALL
F. MASON
J. MITCHELL
C. S. MOORE
D. PRYDE
W. G. RUNCIE
J. ROBERTSON
A. WILSON
JOHN WILSON

Treasurer :

J. G. W. AITKEN.

Secretary :

T. M. GRANT.

Elders' Districts.

- 1.—Kaiwarra, Crofton, Khandallah, Wadestown.
Mr. JAMES SLOAN, Elder.
- 2.—Brooklyn, Vogeltown, Karori.
Mr. W. SIMM, Elder.
- 3.—Thorndon, from Hill Street to City Boundary, and from Thorndon Quay to Town Belt.
Elder.
- 4.—From Sydney Street to Woodward Street, and Harbour to Town Belt.
Mr. G. A. TROUP, Elder.
- 5.—From Woodward Street to Boulcott Street, and Harbour to Town Belt.
Mr. JAS. SMITH, Elder.
- 6.—From Boulcott Street to Ghuznee Street, and Willis Street to Town Belt.
Mr. JAS. MCKERROW, Elder.
- 7.—From Ghuznee Street to Palmer Street, and Willis Street to Town Belt.
Mr. JOHN REITH, Elder.
- 8.—From Abel Smith Street (West of Willis Street) to Town Belt, and from Cuba Street (East Side) to Mitchelltown.
Mr. JAS. BRUCE, Elder.
- 9.—Manners Street, Dixon Street (East of Willis Street), Taranaki Place.
Mr. F. H. FRASER, Elder.
- 10.—From Ghuznee Street to Abel Smith Street (North Side), and from Willis Street (East Side) to Taranaki Street.
Mr. T. W. MCKENZIE, Elder.
- 11.—From Webb Street to Town Belt, and Taranaki Street to Broadway Terrace.
Mr. W. SIMM, Elder.
- 12.—From Taranaki Street (East Side) to Sussex Square, and Buckle Street to Town Belt.
Mr. JOHN FERGUSON, Elder.
- 13.—From Taranaki Street to Tory Street, and Buckle Street to Harbour.
Mr. WM. ALLAN, Elder.
- 14.—From Harbour to Newtown, and Tory Street to Cambridge Terrace.
Mr. JAS. SLOAN, Elder.
- 15.—From Majoribanks Street (North Side) to Town Belt, and from Harbour to Town Belt.
Mr. WM. HOPKIRK, Elder.
- 16.—From Majoribanks Street (South Side) to Elizabeth Street, and from Kent Terrace to Town Belt.
Messrs. R. HOPKIRK and M. MENELAUS, Elders.
- 17.—From Elizabeth Street to Pirie Street, and from Kent Terrace to Town Belt.
Mr. J. G. W. AITKEN, Elder.
- 18.—From Pirie Street to College, and from Kent Terrace to Town Belt.
Mr. W. T. GLASGOW, Elder.

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, Mrs. Jno. Campbell.
- 9.—**Young Women's Literary and Dorcas Society** meets on alternate Tuesday Evenings at 7.30. Resuming in March. Secretary, Miss Agnes Paul.
- 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 Lessons and Business, Friday Evenings at 8.
- 14.—**Monthly Prayer Meeting of Teachers and Others** after Evening Service, first Sunday of each month.
- 15.—**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, 1895.

IN presenting their Annual Report, your Office-bearers again have to express their thankfulness for blessings vouchsafed during the year. Perhaps the leading test of a Church's prosperity is the number of Members on the Communion Roll, and in this connection we find that 61 Members have joined—23 by examination and 38 by certificate; while those who have disjoined aggregate 30, 5 having been removed by death and 25 by other causes. Thus we have a balance in our favour of 31 for the year, a result for which we are extremely thankful, and which is of refreshing significance.

In June last Messrs. Bruce, Ferguson, Troup, and Meneaus were translated by election from the Management Board to the Eldership, and Mr. Reith was also elected an Elder.

Finance.—We are glad to announce that we commence the New Year with a credit balance of £49 7s. 8d., being £42 18s. 10d. larger than the credit balance which we had at our disposal in January, 1895. An inspection of the details of the Balance-sheet shows an increase in collections of £26 16s., the total amount being £736 9s. 8d. The pew rents show a decrease of £7 3s. 6d., this item totalling £485 6s. 6d. Combining these two main sources of revenue, we have thus an increase for the year of £19 12s. 6d., which we consider

very satisfactory. The total amount from all sources is £1,616 8s. 3d., which is slightly less than last year's receipts, the figures then being £1,631 6s. 1d., the difference of £14 being hardly appreciable in so large an amount. This amount of £1,616 8s. 3d. does not include £500 which was contributed during the year and paid off the Church debt. The collections for Dorcas and charitable purposes, the Maori Mission, the New Hebrides Mission, and the "Day Spring" Fund, per Sunday Schools, are much the same as last year. The Church Extension and Sustentation Fund shows an increase of over £26; the New Hebrides Mission shows an increase of £12 odd; while for other special objects collections have been made to the extent of £66, the largest item comprised in this amount being £30 collected for the Unemployed Relief Fund. Your Committee have to report that in the month of June a special effort was commenced to reduce the debt upon the Church buildings, and, as the result of that effort, it is expected that by the month of May next the debt will be reduced by at least £1,250. It will be seen upon reference to the Balance-sheet that £500 of this amount has already been paid.

General Church Organization.—Imprimis, the Sunday Schools claim our attention, and we here notice that the attendance is much the same as last year. This is not as it should be, for undoubtedly the town is growing rapidly in population, and the Sunday School attendance should bear a reasonable ratio to such increase. The attention of parents is directed to any remissness in this direction, with the earnest desire for their co-operation. The Willis Street School is now assisted by the translation of Mr. William Hopkirk to the position of Deputy-Superintendent from the Mount Cook branch, greatly to the advantage of the former school. This school is still cramped for room, and measures for relief are under the serious consideration of the Managers. Regarding the details of the Schools' Report, the Annual Treat, Sunday School Examination and Anniversary, &c., we commend our hearers to the Statement of the Secretary, Mr. Frank Mason. We draw attention to one remark made by that gentleman in his Report, to the effect that it is increasingly difficult to keep up the teaching staff. While recognising that the main assistance in this line must come from the senior classes, we would strongly urge the congregation to assist to remove this complaint, by such ladies, and especially gentlemen, as are inclined or feel themselves capable of undertaking this work offering their services. A mere mention of this requirement is perhaps all that is necessary in order to elicit the assistance we require. The

Endeavour Society thankfully acknowledges the sympathy and help it has had from the congregation, and urges parents to encourage their young people to join their ranks. The members are abundantly satisfied with the result of their meetings. The Band of Hope and Singing Class still continue their useful paths, and while, perhaps, not showing any very extraordinary progress, are nevertheless engaged in a good and a permanent work, which must command our sympathies. The Young Women's Dorcas and Literary Society require new members to keep up its full working strength. The Visiting and Dorcas Society is progressing favourably in its sphere of usefulness, sufficient funds being available for its beneficent purposes. The Christian Fellowship Association still continues its Sunday morning meetings, but here fresh blood is required to the more effectual working of the Society. Many excellent papers are delivered and intelligently discussed by the members. All are welcome to attend these Sunday morning meetings. A branch of this Society is the Sunday addresses given by one member or another at Wadestown, where such evangelistic assistance is greatly appreciated by the young people.

The Choir, under the able assistance of Mr. M. Barnett, the Organist, render very efficient aid to the Church services. The progress made in the choral part of the Church service is very marked, and great credit is due both to Mr. Barnett and to the Choir.

Obituaries.—With regret we have again to record the death of several during the year who were were wont to worship with us in St. John's. Two passed away in February—Mrs. Arcus, of Brooklyn, whose death was sudden, and who left a husband and young family to mourn their loss; and Mrs. Moar, whose end came after years of suffering, borne with much patience and Christian resignation. In March another member of the Church, Alexander Munro, was cut down by sudden, sharp illness, while yet in the prime of life and in the midst of the activities of business, leaving a widow and son to lament his death. Again, in May, two more blanks were made in our number. First, Councillor Petherick was taken, a man well-known and much respected in the community; then, on the last day of the month, Mrs. Glover, a bright, hopeful Christian, after much suffering, entered into rest. In June an old member of the Church, and a very regular attendant on the Church's services, Otto Browne, left for "The Better Country." In August we lost an old friend, Robert Greenfield, who at one time was an office-bearer in the Church—a man of most kindly, genial nature, and one who took a deep interest in the

affairs of this congregation, and in many ways sought to be helpful. During the last few weeks of his life he was a great sufferer, but he bore his sufferings with much submission to the Divine will and with humble hope in the Divine Saviour. In September, Miss Riley, and in October, Mr. Carmichael, junior, were called away, after months of much weakness and suffering. Both gave clear testimony to their Christian faith and hope, so that those who mourn for them mourn not as "those that had no hope." Also, in October, the Rev. John Moir, the former Minister of this congregation, was called to his rest and reward. These brief notices of those who have left us for the other world should awaken in us solemn thoughts, and should lead us to ask who will be the next taken. May God grant that each one be ready when the message comes "that calls us home."

A general survey of the branches of Church work is very reassuring, and we cannot but feel deeply thankful for the large amount of prosperity in every way vouchsafed to us during the past year, and in saying this we are deeply sensible of the Divine guidance and help in the administration of the affairs of the Church. With the earnest trust that year by year the Annual Reports may be found to portray a state of things ever progressing and ever more powerful for good, we present this our Statement for the year 1895 for the consideration of the congregation.

Amount omitted to be acknowledged in previous year's report as having been received towards reduction of debt:—
Wm. Ferguson, £1.

Amounts now being collected for same object will be acknowledged when the fund closes in May of this year.



ST. JOHN'S PRESBYTERIAN SABBATH SCHOOLS.

IN presenting our Annual Report, this being the twenty-eighth of Willis Street and the twenty-fourth of Mount Cook, we would thank God for those manifestations of Divine favour which he has bestowed upon us during the year, in giving us to see some of our scholars brought to a knowledge of Christ.

Attendance.—The total number of scholars in our schools is nearly the same as last year. In Willis Street there has been an increase of 28, but in Mount Cook a decrease of 29. The average attendance shows an improvement on last year, but it might be very much better than it is if parents would co-operate more with the teachers and send their children regularly. Following is a detailed statement:—

SCHOLARS.

	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Average Attendance.	Average Attendance, excluding wet Sundays.
Willis Street School ...	200	241	441	295	304
Mount Cook School ...	192	213	405	280	296
Totals ...	392	454	846	575	600

SENIOR CLASSES.

	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Scholars over 15 years of age.
Willis Street School ...	53	48	101	114
Mount Cook School ...	45	36	81	81
Totals ...	98	84	182	195

INFANT CLASSES.

	Boys.	Girls.	Total.
Willis Street School ...	54	70	124
Mount Cook School ...	67	88	155
Totals ...	121	158	279

TEACHERS AND OFFICE-BEARERS.

	Gentlemen.	Ladies.	Total.	Average Roll.	Average Attendance.
Willis Street School ...	13	23	36	35	30
Mount Cook School ...	13	18	31	...	28
Totals ...	26	41	67	...	58

The highest attendance of scholars on one day was : Willis Street, 339, and Mount Cook, 346.

We are again able to record a considerable increase in our senior scholars, who now number no fewer than 182. As separate rooms are required for these classes, the accommodation in Willis Street has been taxed to the utmost. The new room about to be erected will afford much better accommodation for Mr. Troup's Young Men's Bible Class, the present room being quite inadequate.

Our Teachers number three fewer than last year. We have had the usual changes in the staff to contend with—sixteen have joined during the year and nineteen left—and the difficulty of obtaining new teachers is now greater than ever.

Children's Morning Service.—The Sunday morning service in Mount Cook School is still ably and vigorously carried on by Mr. Fraser and Miss Jessie Hutchen, assisted by some of the senior members. The interest is well sustained, and good earnest work is being done.

Library.—While additions have been made to the School Libraries during the year, we are sorry the funds did not allow of a larger sum being voted for new books.

Annual Treat.—The Annual Treat was held at Petone, and passed off with the usual success.

Sunday School Examinations.—Examinations have been held during the year by the Wellington Sunday School Union and the General Assembly of our Church, our schools taking part in both. Many of our scholars who entered took a good place on the list, and we hope to see even better results next year.

Sunday School Anniversary.—The Anniversary Services were held on May 26th, and passed off most successfully, except that the attendance of the congregation was very disappointing. We are sure that those who were present thoroughly enjoyed the splendid singing of the scholars, seconded by Mr. Barnett's magnificent organ playing. As there is a great deal of labour involved in preparing the scholars for these services we hope the efforts made to provide good music on that day will be more appreciated by the congregation next year. On Tuesday evening the Tea Meeting was held, followed by an after-meeting in the Church, when addresses were delivered and several hymns and anthems capitally rendered by the scholars, under the leadership of Mr. Hopkirk, Mr. Barnett presiding at the organ.

Church Anniversary.—December 1st being the Church Anniversary, both schools met in the Church and were addressed by the Rev. J. K. Elliott.

Teachers' Meetings.—The Friday evening and the Monthly Prayer Meeting have been continued throughout the year. More teachers might make a point of attending the Friday Meeting for the preparation of the lesson. There are many school matters requiring to be attended to from time to time. As "Fellow-workers together with Christ," we should be united in our work, labouring together, "in the one mind and the one spirit."

Treasurer's Statement.—The receipts show an increase on last year's amounts, with the exception of two items, viz., "Church Collection," taken at the Sunday School Anniversary Services, and "Dayspring and Missions." The latter would probably have been a little over previous years but for a very wet Sunday afternoon when last collection was taken. We are more concerned about the deficiency—nearly £7—in the Church Collection. As this is one of our chief sources of revenue, and our schools are hampered quite enough for funds without such a serious falling off, we hope this will serve to remind the congregation of the importance of our Anniversary Services from a financial point of view. The Disbursements call for no special remarks, unless we point out that our Sunday School Examinations held during the year cost us about £8. This is a new charge on our funds, but we do not grudge it so long as it leads the scholars to take an increased interest in their work, and to strive to excel in their lessons. We still owe £15 for 1895 periodicals, but against this we have cash in hand £7 9s., and about £9 owing by teachers and scholars for the more expensive magazines, which we expect to be settled without delay.

Band of Hope.—Our Band of Hope still continues to do good work, many of the members taking a lively interest in the meetings. The membership at present on the roll is 200—130 girls and 70 boys. We regret to say that the average attendance is only 90—rather low for our total number. We wish to encourage our young people to persevere in their efforts and to be regular in their attendance, and would urge teachers and parents to give all the sympathy and help they can in this direction. The Treasurer's Statement is satisfactory, and shows a credit balance of £2 2s. 3d.

Conclusion.—In conclusion, we would thank the congregation for the measure of support given to the Sunday Schools during the past year, and hope the attendance at our next Anniversary will show that our criticism has been taken in

a kindly spirit. Our great need at present is for more labourers to help in the work. Our motto is, "The Young for Christ." For this let us unitedly work; for this let us unitedly pray; and in due season we shall reap if we faint not.

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

WILLIAM ALLEN,
Superintendent, Mount Cook School.

F. MASON,
Hon. Secretary.

31st December, 1895.



ST. JOHN'S VISITING AND DORCAS SOCIETY.

THE meetings of this Society have been regularly held on the first and third Tuesdays of every month during the year, and have been fairly well attended.

The Annual Meeting of this Society was held in St. John's Schoolroom on the 6th of August, when Mrs. Paterson was elected President; Mrs. Sloan, Vice-President; Mrs. Moore, Treasurer; Mrs. Campbell, Secretary; Mrs. Reith, Dorcas Superintendent; Mrs. Jenkins, Cutter; Mrs. Barron, Buyer.

The work of this Society is chiefly supported by the Thank Offering Collection taken at Communion Services.

The ladies of the Church are earnestly requested to show their sympathy with the Society by becoming members and joining in its good work.

MARY CAMPBELL,
Hon. Secretary.



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

IN reviewing the work of the last year, we have much to be thankful for; while at the same time we cannot but regret the smallness of our numbers, and consequently much less work done. There were 24 names on the roll, with an average attendance of 15. A number of families were visited and helped with parcels of clothing.

The literary portion of the meetings consisted of Essays, Readings, &c., with an occasional "Musical Evening" by members and friends; when coffee and biscuits were handed round.

The Children's Sewing Class has been very largely attended, all showing great interest in their work, which, when finished, they are allowed to keep. This class meets every alternate Tuesday, from 7 to 8 o'clock, in the infants' room, and is conducted by several of the members of the above Society, of which it is a branch.

The Annual Tea for mothers and children who had been assisted during the year was held on November 19th, and passed off most successfully, all doing their utmost to give pleasure to those present. Mr. Aitken kindly presided, and the Rev. J. Paterson gave a short address, after which Mr. Simms, of Wesley Church, entertained the children with his magic lantern, and to him we would tender our most sincere thanks.

We would also take this opportunity of very specially thanking those gentlemen who so kindly send our Society their quarterly donation; also those who by their sympathy and help have forwarded the good work.

AGNES PAUL,
Hon. Secretary.

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

IN presenting this, the Second Annual Report of our Society, we realise how thankful we ought to be to God for the great mercy and kindness he has shown us during the past year. We have had difficulties, but have been enabled to surmount them. Many members have been compelled to resign, owing to pressure of other duties or having left the district, but others have sprung up to take their place and fight in the noble Endeavour Army. We have progressed both numerically and financially. Our figures are now: Active, 58; Associate, 35; Honorary, 25;—Total, 118, as against 114 for last year. During the year 18 new Actives have joined us, while 2 of our old members have returned; 11 have resigned, and 4 been removed from the roll, making an increase of Actives for the year of 5. Twenty-seven new Associates have joined our ranks, 11 have become Active, 4 have resigned, 21 removed from the roll, making a decrease for the year of 9. Eight Honorary Members have joined during the year. It is pleasing to notice that about 38 out of the 58 of our Active Members are Church Members, 17 having become so during the past year. We are pleased to assist our Pastor in bringing so many willing young recruits to the Church ranks. It is an interesting and yet deplorable fact that the young men form less than 25 per cent. of our Active Members. The Prayer Meeting Committee has made great progress lately, and the Sunday Evening Meetings are much better attended than formerly.

Our Society has discontinued collecting for the Chinese Mission, and has taken up the New Hebrides in place of it. The "Sunshine" work has been carried on most satisfactorily, and the good things that have been distributed have brought joy and thanksgiving into many a home. The Literature, Sunday School, and Temperance Committees have also done excellent work; and, on the whole, the Society is to be congratulated on the amount of honest work it has accomplished during the year.

The Musical Committee arranged and carried out visits to the Asylum and Old People's Home, which were much appreciated by the inmates.

About the beginning of this year we experienced the want of a suitable room in which to hold our meetings, as the Schoolroom is too large and the Managers' room too small. The Managers were approached on the subject, and they finally agreed to build us a new room (cost not to exceed a stipulated sum), provided we collected a certain percentage of its cost. We are now within a trifle of this amount, and are making strenuous efforts to secure the required sum, so that the building of our room may be begun.

We have held several gatherings during the year. * On the occasion of our Half-Yearly Social, in April, a charge was made for admission, the funds to go towards our new room, and a substantial amount was realised. On July 15 we held a Special Evangelistic Service, conducted by Mr. R. S. Gray. On July 29th, on the occasion of the "Quarterly Rally," the Schoolroom was fairly well filled with Endeavourers from the different Wellington Societies. On September 3rd we held a "Merrie Evening," in aid of the new room, and realised about £9. We have had printed a number of invitation cards to our meetings, and we would like all members to get a supply and use them to the best of their ability.

And now, in closing, we would earnestly pray that an even greater measure of blessing and prosperity may surround us during this new year than we have experienced in the past. This great blessing can and will be attained if every Active Member will make a complete surrender of self, and put away all thoughts as to what people are saying and thinking. Praying that this may be so, we, under God's guidance, confidently launch forth into another year.

H. WEBSTER,
Hon. Secretary.

St. John's Presbyterian Church Revenue Account.

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS FOR YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER, 1895.

RECEIPTS.		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Balance at Credit, 31st December, 1894	..	6	8	10	900	0	0
Collections for Year 1895	..	735	9	8	83	6	8
Pew Rents	..	432	6	6	4	4	0
Rent of House in Willis Street	..	26	10	0	10	0	0
Proceeds Conversation	..	44	0	0	14	19	0
Sundries	..	1	14	6	50	0	0
Collection for Dorcas and Charitable Purposes	..	58	4	3	185	0	0
Church Extension and Sustentation Fund	..	98	12	3	42	5	10
New Hebrides Mission	..	38	8	0	57	6	8
Maori Mission	..	25	0	0	4	0	0
Collected for "St. John's Scholarship"	..	25	0	0	10	0	0
Proceeds Lecture by Rev. Scott West, for Young	..	4	0	0	6	15	0
Ladies Dorcas Society	..	3	0	0	11	6	4
Special Collection, Unemployed Fund	..	30	0	0	1	18	0
" " Dr. Cook	..	8	0	0	3	15	0
" " Sunday Schools	..	28	7	7	8	16	0
" " Day Spring, per Sunday Schools	..	13	10	4	3	11	4
New Hebrides Mission, per Sunday Schools	..	6	15	4	1	4	0
					10	0	0
					2	19	0
					1	7	0
					1243	1	10
					38	4	3
					7	0	9
					98	12	3
					38	8	0
					3	0	0
					30	0	0
					8	0	0
					25	0	0
					28	7	7
					30	5	11
					338	18	9
					49	7	8
					£1,616	8	3
DISBURSEMENTS.							
Rev. J. Paterson, Stipend, 1895	..	900	0	0	83	6	8
Rev. J. Mair's Retiring Allowance (10 months)	..	83	6	8	4	4	0
Rev. Dr. Elmshie's Expenses, Anniversary Services	..	10	0	0	14	19	0
Pulpit Supply	..	14	19	0	50	0	0
Organist's Salary	..	50	0	0	42	5	10
Organist's Supply (special)	..	42	5	10	57	6	8
Church Officer	..	57	6	8	4	0	0
Interest to Mortgage to 16th November, 1895	..	4	0	0	6	15	0
Gas Account	..	10	0	0	11	6	4
Fire Insurance Premium	..	6	15	0	1	18	0
Expenses Annual Business Meeting	..	1	18	0	3	15	0
Tuning Organ	..	3	15	0	8	7	6
Plumber's Repairs	..	8	16	0	8	19	0
City Rates, half-year	..	8	19	0	3	11	4
Water Rate	..	3	11	4	1	4	0
Advertising	..	1	4	0	4	18	0
Printing Stationery, Hymn Books, &c.	..	4	18	0	10	0	0
Cutting Grass, Cleaning Church Ground, &c.	..	10	0	0	6	16	6
Building Repairs and Alterations	..	6	16	6	10	0	0
Stamps, £2 11s. 4d.; Cheque-book, £1	..	10	0	0	2	19	0
Clerk of Presbytery, Dues	..	2	19	0	1	7	0
Repairs to Engine	..	1	7	0			
Crockery	..						
Treasurer, Assembly Expenses Fund	..						
Aged and Infirm Ministers' Fund	..						
Sundries	..						
Treasurer, Ladies Visiting and Dorcas Society	..						
Young Ladies' Dorcas Society	..						
Church Extension Sustentation Fund	..						
New Hebrides Mission	..						
Maori Mission	..						
Unemployed Relief Fund	..						
Dr. Cook	..						
Treasurer, Scholarship Fund	..						
Sunday Schools	..						
" " Day Spring, and New Hebrides Mission	..						
Balance	..						
					£1,616	8	3

Vouchers examined and found correct—

JOHN KNOX,
ALLAN MACDOUGALL,

Hon. Auditors.

JOHN G. W. AITKEN,
Hon. Treasurer.

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER, 1895.

Vouchers examined and found correct—

JOHN KNOX,
ALLAN MACDOUGALL. } Hon. Auditors.

WM. HOPKINS,
Hon. Treasurer.

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS FOR YEAR ENDING 31ST DECEMBER, 1895.

JOHN G. W. AITKEN,
Hon. Treasurer.

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES, 31ST DECEMBER, 1895.

JOHN G. W. AITKEN,
Hon. Treasurer.

St. John's Band of Hope.

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER, 1895.

RECEIPTS.			EXPENDITURE.		
	£	s. d.		£	s. d.
Balance from 1894	1	1 43	Stationery	0	1 3
Members' Subscriptions	2	1 1	N.Z. Bible and Tract Depot Account	0	8 6
Collection at Annual Tea Meeting	2	6 3 1/2	Tea Meeting Expenses	3	2 9
Collection at Lantern Entertainment	0	16 0	Lantern Expenses	0	10 0
			Balance—Cash in hand	2	2 3
	<u>£6</u>	<u>4 9</u>		<u>£6</u>	<u>4 9</u>

JOHN B. GERRAND,
Hon. Treasurer.

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

BALANCE-SHEET, 1895.

RECEIPTS.			DISBURSEMENTS.		
	£	s. d.		£	s. d.
Balance in Hand	3	13 8	Material for Working	5	15 7
W. C. A.	5	0 0	Money Given to the Poor	51	12 0
January Collection for Poor	11	17 1	Balance in hand	9	10 4
April	15	14 2			
July	14	14 3			
October	15	13 9			
	<u>£66</u>	<u>17 11</u>		<u>£66</u>	<u>17 11</u>

C. W. MOORE,
Hon. Treasurer.

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

SIXTH SESSION, 1895.

DR.			CR.		
	£	s. d.		£	s. d.
March, 1895—Cash in hand	2	11 10	Stationery	0	4 0
Members' Subscriptions	2	10 0	Goods Purchased	8	12 7
Cheque, per Lecture by Rev. Scott West	3	0 9	Children's Tea	0	16 0
Cheque, per Managers	2	0 0	Balance in hand	2	19 0
Cheque,	2	0 0			
Subscription from Members for the Tea	0	9 0			
	<u>£12</u>	<u>11 7</u>		<u>£12</u>	<u>11 7</u>

ELLA REITH,
Treasurer.

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

BALANCE-SHEET FOR YEAR ENDING 30th SEPTEMBER, 1895.

RECEIPTS.			DISBURSEMENTS.		
	£	s. d.		£	s. d.
Credit Balance, 24th September, 1894	25	3 11 1/2	Missions—		
Ordinary Collections	8	17 11 1/2	Chinese	30	17 6
Special Collections, Sunshine Work	9	13 4	New Hebrides	12	18 0
Donations and Interest	1	7 6	Korean	1	0 0
Honorary Members	0	9 0			44 15 6
Golden Links	0	16 0	Convener Sunshine Committee	9	13 4
			Convener Social and Corresponding Secretary	2	1 9
Missions—					11 15 1
Chinese	42	8 1	Bock, and Corlett and Co.	2	7 0
New Hebrides	14	8 5 1/2	Circulars, Postage, &c., Building Fund	3	5 10
Korean	1	0 0			5 12 10
			Bible Book Society	2	8 5
Building Fund, New Room—Subscriptions	58	9 6	Books, &c.	1	10 4
Proceeds of Socials	18	19 6	Brown and Johnston	1	9 0
			Petty Accounts	0	11 6
					5 19 3
	<u>£181</u>	<u>13 3 1/2</u>	Balance	113	10 7 1/2
				<u>£181</u>	<u>13 3 1/2</u>
			Balance—		
			General Fund	1	4 8
			New Hebrides Mission	3	19 10 1/2
			Chinese Mission	34	2 11
			Building Fund	74	3 2
					£113 10 7 1/2

I have examined vouchers for the within amounts, and certify the above to be a correct statement.

WM. HOPKIRK.

F. MASON,
Treasurer.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

KIRK SESSION

AND

BOARD OF MANAGEMENT

OF

St. John's Presbyterian Church

WILLIS STREET, WELLINGTON,

FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31ST DECEMBER, 1896.



Wellington, N.Z.:

PRINTED BY J. E. INNES, PRINTER, BOOKSELLER AND STATIONER,
WILLIS, BUCKLE AND TORY STREETS.

1897.

Elders' Districts.

- 1—Kaiwarra, Crofton, Kandallah, Wadestown.
Mr. JAMES SLOAN, Elder.
- 2—Brooklyn, Vogeltown, Karori.
Mr. W. SIMM, Elder.
- 3—Thorndon, from Hill Street to City Boundary, and from Thorndon Quay to Town Belt.
Elder.
- 4—From Hill Street to Woodward Street, and Harbour to Town Belt.
Mr. G. A. TROUP, Elder.
- 5—From Woodward Street to Boulcott Street, and Harbour to Town Belt.
Mr. JAS. SMITH, Elder.
- 6—From Boulcott Street to Ghuznee Street, and Willis Street to Town Belt.
Mr. JAS. MCKERROW, Elder.
- 7—From Ghuznee Street to Palmer Street, and Willis Street to Town Belt.
Mr. JOHN REITH, Elder.
- 8—From Abel Smith Street (West of Willis Street) to Town Belt, and from Cuba Street (East Side) to Mitchelltown.
Mr. JAS. BRUCE, Elder.
- 9—Manners Street, Dixon Street (East of Willis Street), Taranaki Place.
Mr. F. H. FRASER, Elder.
- 10—From Ghuznee Street to Abel Smith Street (North Side), and from Willis Street (East Side) to Taranaki Street.
Mr. T. W. MCKENZIE, Elder.
- 11—From Webb Street to Town Belt, and Taranaki Street to Broadway Terrace.
Mr. WM. SIMM, Elder.
- 12—From Taranaki Street (East Side) to Sussex Square, and Buckle Street to Town Belt.
Mr. JOHN FERGUSON, Elder.
- 13—From Taranaki Street to Tory Street, and Buckle Street to Harbour.
Mr. WM. ALLEN, Elder.
- 14—From Harbour to Newtown, and Tory Street to Cambridge Terrace.
Mr. JAS. SLOAN, Elder.
- 15—From Majoribanks Street (North Side) to Town Belt, and from Harbour to Town Belt.
Mr. WM. HOPKIRK, Elder.
- 16—From Majoribanks Street (South Side) to Elizabeth Street, and from Kent Terrace to Town Belt.
MESSRS. R. HOPKIRK and M. MENELAUS, Elders.
- 17—From Elizabeth Street to Pirie Street, and from Kent Terrace to Town Belt.
Mr. J. G. W. AITKEN, Elder.
- 18—From Pirie Street to College, and from Kent Terrace to Town Belt.
Mr. W. T. GLASGOW, Elder.

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 Sundays of April, July and October.
- 3—**Christian Fellowship Association** meets in 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. Secretary, Mr. H. Drummond.
- 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 Boys' School, Tarānaki Street, at 2.30 p.m. Secretary, Mr. F. Mason.
- 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, Mrs. Jno. Campbell.
- 9—**Young Women's Literary and Dorcas Society** meets on alternate Tuesday Evenings at 7.30. Resuming in March. Secretary, Miss M. E. Brown.
- 10—**Band of Hope** meets on Friday Evenings from 7 to 8.
- 11—**Teachers' Meetings** for Study of Lessons and Business, Friday Evenings at 8.
- 12—**Monthly Prayer Meeting of Teachers and Others** after Evening Service, first Sunday of each month.
- 13—**Meeting of Board of Managers** on Second Wednesday in month at 8.30 p.m.

THE ANNUAL REPORT OF THE KIRK SESSION AND BOARD OF MANAGERS

SUBMITTED TO THE
CONGREGATION

AT A MEETING

HELD IN THE SCHOOLROOM ON 3rd FEBRUARY, 1897.

YEAR by year the Session, in making their report to the Congregation, have had occasion to call upon the Members to raise an Ebenezer to mark their gratitude to God for help and guidance constantly vouchsafed to us.

The work, by the good hand of our God upon us, has been carried on with vigour, zeal, and earnestness, and the outcome must be the extension of Christ's kingdom.

We have cause for thankfulness when we report that our Minister has had strength given to him to carry on his work among us for another year without break by illness. He has now served the Congregation for 28 years, and has been an ordained Minister for 40 years. To few men it is given to have such a record.

Attendance at the services on the Sabbath and on the week evening, while fairly satisfactory, might be much improved if there was that hungering for the Word of God which we would like to see. The Session would earnestly plead that an effort be made by all to maintain and increase the numbers.

On the 6th December, the Anniversary Sermons were preached by the Rev. Wm. Hewitson, M.A., and were much appreciated.

The Membership, on 31st December, 1896, stood at 469. The addition to the roll during the year, by examination, was 17. We feel that if there was a greater sense of the privilege of partaking of the "Lord's Supper" by our people that the number would have been greater. So many overlook the injunction, "This do in remembrance of Me." We would affectionately press upon all who have not yet taken this step to earnestly think and pray about it, and so find what their duty, as well as their privilege, is.

The loss to the membership by death during the year was three. Two of our Elders were bereaved of their wives, Mrs. James Bruce being called away suddenly, as the result of an accident, but although suddenly called we firmly believe was fully prepared for the great change. Mrs. W. T. Glasgow, after prolonged and painful suffering, borne with a meek and quiet spirit, entered into the "rest that remaineth." Mrs. Cochran, who after years of sore affliction, was called at the end of the year into the presence of her Master, whom she had served below.

The Session desire to commend all bereaved ones in the Congregation to the loving tender care of the Good Shepherd.

The Session would seek to place on record their heartfelt appreciation of the great and efficient service rendered to the Congregation by the Choir, under the able leadership of Mr. Maughan Barnett, our Organist.

Our Sunday Schools have a separate report of their own, and so the Teachers tell their own story, which will be found to be interesting reading. We would seek to emphasize the hint given in their report to the necessity of parents seeing that their children attend Sunday School regularly. We deplore any appearance of laxity on the part of parents, and we trust that they will see that their children receive systematic and thorough instruction in the best of all books. We are much indebted to the Teachers for their self-sacrificing work.

The Fellowship Association has held its meetings regularly during the year, and those who have attended confess to having received much benefit. The regret is that the attendance is so small, and we would urge upon all young men the desirability of becoming members. "The Gospel of Luke" was the work of the year, and now "The Acts of the Apostles" is to engage the attention of the members. The Association has carried on the Sabbath morning service for children at Wadestown, under the direction of Mr. B. Lynneberg, with much success.

The Young People's Society of Christian Endeavour has continued its meetings and work with much earnestness and great vigour. A special report was issued by this Society some two months ago, entitled "Golden Sheaves." It is, therefore, unnecessary to give any details here. We commend this Society to the young people.

Our Ladies' Visiting and Dorcas Society and the Young Women's Dorcas and Literary Society have each, in their own sphere, carried on their work with steadfastness of purpose and whole-heartedness. Many in our midst, and further afield, are grateful for the help received from these sisters. Their reports are appended.

Finance.—The Committee of Managers are pleased to report that the Balance-sheet shows a considerable credit balance, amounting to £137 odd. The receipts for the year for congregational purposes amount to £1,304 11s 11d, and the expenditure to £1,166 17s 4d. This credit balance is, however, more apparent than real, as at least £100 has been promised and will be expended almost immediately upon the erection of a class-room for the accommodation of the large Young Men's Bible Class, under the leadership of Messrs. Troup and Moore, and the meetings of the Y.P.S.C.E. For General Assembly schemes and charitable purposes the amount contributed is £312 13s 10d. We would impress upon the Congregation the great importance of two of these schemes, viz., the Church Extension and Sustentation Fund and the New Hebrides Mission Fund. The amount contributed by us to the former is £75 1s 4d, and to the latter, from the Church direct, £30 14s 10d, and through our Sunday Schools, £18 3s 9d, in all £48 18s 7d. We would urge every one to become contributors through the envelopes issued to seat-holders each quarter.

In addition to the foregoing, your Committee are pleased to report that you placed them in a position to pay £750 in reduction of the mortgage on the Church property. The mortgage now stands at £1,500. It should be borne in mind that £500 was reported as being paid under this head the previous year. This reduces the debt by £1,250, which sum was contributed within a period of twelve months, although part was in 1895 and part in 1896.

The total sum, for all purposes, received by your Treasurer during year ending 31st December, 1896, was £2,336 14s 1d.



ST. JOHN'S PRESBYTERIAN SABBATH SCHOOLS.

IN submitting our Annual Report, this being the twenty-ninth of Willis-street and the twenty-fifth of Mount Cook School, we would first record our thankfulness to God for his unceasing goodness to us throughout the year.

Attendance.—We regret to state our numbers show a decrease in both schools. The loss is almost entirely confined to the intermediate classes, and will have to be carefully guarded against if the present large Senior Classes are to be maintained. We would, therefore, ask parents to see that their children are not only sent regularly to school, but that they have been there.

The average attendance is also slightly below that of last year.

The following is a detailed statement:—

SCHOLARS.

	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Average Attendance.	Av. Attend. excluding wet Sundays.
Willis Street ...	191	234	425	267	278
Mount Cook ...	150	234	384	263	269
Totals ...	341	468	809	530	547

SENIOR CLASSES.

	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Scholars over 15 years of Age.
Willis Street ...	58	36	94	120
Mount Cook ...	37	32	69	69
Totals ...	95	68	163	189

INFANT CLASSES.

	Boys.	Girls.	Total.
Willis Street ...	51	76	127
Mount Cook ...	51	100	151
Totals ...	102	176	278

TEACHERS AND OFFICE-BEARERS.

	Gentlemen.	Ladies.	No. Roll.	Average Attendance.
Willis Street ...	15	25	34	30
Mount Cook ...	13	18	30	27
Totals ...	28	43	64	57

The highest attendance of Scholars on one Sunday was—

Willis Street ...	322
Mount Cook ...	318

Total ... 640

Our Senior Scholars number 190.

The want of the long-delayed Class-room is very much felt in Willis Street, the Manager's room being far too small for the Class which meets there.

Teachers.—Our numbers show an increase of four over last year. We have had the usual changes in the teaching-staff during the year, acting detrimentally on the classes. It is felt that too much is being left to young teachers while older and more experienced Christians in the congregation hold aloof from the work—the only religious teaching which many of our scholars receive.

The Children's Morning Service is still ably conducted by Mr. Fraser, assisted by Miss Jessie Hutchen and others. Good work is being done among the children who attend.

Library.—No addition has been made to the Libraries during the year for want of funds, but a special effort will be made at the next Children's Anniversary to increase the usefulness of this necessary accessory to our school-work.

The Annual Treat was held at Day's Bay and was greatly enjoyed by those present. We would take this opportunity of specially thanking those friends who materially assisted to make the outing so pleasant.

Sunday School Anniversary.—Favoured with beautiful weather and large congregations, the Anniversary passed off most successfully. The singing of the children, trained by Mr. W. Hopkirk, with Mr. Barnett presiding at the organ, was, as before, the special feature of the day. The services closed with a tea, followed by a public meeting in the Church.

The Teachers' Meeting on Friday evenings and the Monthly Prayer-meeting have been held regularly throughout the year. The importance of the Preparation Class

cannot be over estimated, but it does not receive the support which is due to it. "Study to shew thyself approved unto God."

The Treasurer's Statement shows a credit balance of £1 6s 2d. We regret to see a falling off in the Dayspring and Mission Fund. Our income is barely sufficient to carry on the maintenance of our two schools, and we are often hampered in our work for want of funds.

Band of Hope.—The Band of Hope has had a membership during the past session of 90, with an average attendance of 58. Lantern, and other forms of entertainment, have been given to keep up the interest of the members.

We cannot conclude this report without heartily thanking the congregation for its support and sympathy; these we need more than ever. The varied attractions on every side for the young on Sunday afternoon are making our work more difficult each year, and it will require our utmost care to guard against these evils.

Let us, therefore, go forward in the name of the Lord of Hosts and "Work while it is to-day, for the night cometh when no man can work."

F. H. FRASER,
Superintendent, Willis Street.

WM. ALLAN,
Superintendent, Mount Cook.

F. MASON,
Hon. Secretary.

31st December, 1896.

ST. JOHN'S VISITING AND DORCAS SOCIETY.

THE meetings of this Society are held in the Classroom on the first and third Tuesday of every month. Greater interest has been taken in the work this year, there being a very fair attendance at the meetings. The Committee would be pleased to see attending as many of the ladies of the Congregation as can find it convenient, and feel sure that they would not regret the time spent in this way.

During the year about two hundred articles have been made and distributed among various families, while others have received monetary assistance. At Christmas there was the usual distribution of gifts.

M. CAMPBELL,
Secretary.

ST. JOHN'S YOUNG WOMEN'S DORCAS & LITERARY SOCIETY'S ANNUAL REPORT, 1896.

IN presenting this report we realise how much we have to be thankful for during the past year, though still regretting the smallness of our numbers. There were thirty names on the roll, with an average attendance of twenty-two.

During the year about eighteen families were visited and helped with clothing.

The portion of the Society's time devoted to literary work was both profitably and pleasantly spent, and consisted mainly of essays and readings by members and friends.

Another branch of the Society—the Children's Sewing Class, for instructing the children of the families we assist—is held in the Infant's-room every alternate Tuesday evening, from 7 to 8 o'clock. It is very well attended, about fifty names being on the roll, and is managed by several of the members.

On July 17th, we held a Social Gathering in the School-room, to raise funds for Dorcas work, and realised about £6.

On November 17th, we held our Annual Tea for the mothers and children who had been helped during the year. Messrs. Allan and Aitken presided, and the Rev. J. Paterson gave a short address, after which games were indulged in by the little ones.

In closing, we would thank those who have helped us by their sympathy as well as by their practical assistance.

M. E. BROWN,
Secretary.

St. John's Presbyterian Church Revenue Account.

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS FOR YEAR ENDING 31ST DECEMBER, 1896.

RECEIPTS.		£	s.	d.	DISBURSEMENTS.		£	s.	d.
Balance at Credit, 31st December, 1895	..	49	7	8	Rev. J. Paterson, Stipend, 1896	..	600	0	0
Collections for Year 1896	..	695	8	8	Rev. W. Hewitson's Expenses, Anniversary Services	..	6	0	0
Pew Rents	..	477	1	4	Pulpit Supply	..	116	13	4
Rent of House in Willis Street	..	26	0	0	Organist's Salary	..	50	0	0
Proceeds Conventions	..	45	5	9	Church Officer's Salary	..	108	15	0
Maughan Barnett's Society for Gas	..	10	15	0	Interest on Mortgage	..	45	10	11
Sundries	..	0	13	6	Gas Account	..	48	0	8
Collection for Dorcas and Charitable Purposes	..	47	15	0	Fire Insurance Premium	..	12	2	6
Church Extension and Sustentation Fund	..	75	1	4	Expenses Annual Business Meeting	..	40	10	0
New Hebrides Mission	..	30	14	10	Tuning and Repairing Organ	..	38	7	1
Collection for Church of Scotland Zenana Mission	..	3	1	9	Plumber's Repairs	..	2	14	2
" Brunner Relief Fund	..	40	0	0	City Rates	..	13	14	6
" Sunday Schools	..	33	8	7	Water Rate	..	1	6	0
" Assembly Local Expenses	..	12	4	3	Advertising	..	61	3	0
" British and Foreign Bible Society	..	12	13	0	Cleaning Stationery, &c.	..	17	11	3
" Chinese Mission	..	11	1	4	Builder's Repairs	..	2	14	0
" Assembly Expenses	..	10	10	0	Retaining Wall on Embankment	..	1	0	0
" Special Contribution for "Dayspring"	..	8	0	0	Repairs to Water Engine	..	1	5	6
" Dayspring, per Sunday Schools	..	10	0	0	Tea Urns, Spoons, &c.	..	1	0	0
New Hebrides Mission, per Sunday Schools	..	6	1	3	Glazing	..	2	7	6
					Presbytery Dues	..	3	0	0
					Music, &c.	..	0	10	6
					Communion Wine	..	1	18	3
					Church Officer, Special	..	47	15	0
					Stamps	..	11	1	4
					Sundries	..	30	14	10
					Treasurer, Ladies' Dorcas Society	..	11	1	4
					Chinese Mission Society	..	75	1	4
					Church of Scotland Zenana Mission	..	30	14	10
					Church Extension Sustentation Fund	..	40	0	0
					New Hebrides Mission	..	33	8	7
					Brunner Relief Fund	..	12	4	3
					"Dayspring" Fund	..	8	0	0
					General Assembly Local Expenses Fund	..	10	10	0
					Aged and Infirm Ministers' Fund	..	12	13	0
					Assembly Expenses Fund	..	18	3	9
					British and Foreign Bible Society	..			
					"Dayspring" and New Hebrides Mission	..			
					Balance	..			
							£1,617	5	9
							312	13	7
							137	14	10
							£1,617	5	9

Audited and found correct—

JOHN KNOX,

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, 1896.

RECEIPTS.				DISBURSEMENTS			
	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Credit Balance, 31st December, 1895..	..	..	9 8 1	N.Z. Bible, Tract, and Book Society—	..	..	..
Collections—	..	..	..	Balance Periodicals, &c., 1895 ..	15	0	0
Willis Street School—	..	..	..	Periodicals, &c., 1896 ..	76	15	3
General ..	24	4	5	Sundries and School Requisites..	21	6	2
Books and Periodicals ..	11	13	10½				113 1 5
"Dayspring" and N.H. Mission ..	8	8	3	Caretaker, Mount Cook School, for Cleaning	..	..	6 0 0
			46 6 6½	R. C. Harding, Printing Hymns, &c...	..	..	7 17 0
Mount Cook School—	..	..	..	Brown and Johnston, Repairs ..	..	..	0 17 6
General ..	19	18	4½	Whitcombe and Tombs, Ltd., Stationery ..	..	..	1 14 9
Books and Periodicals ..	15	10	0	Social—Children's Morning Service ..	..	..	2 7 0
"Dayspring" and N.H. Mission ..	6	13	6	Wellington Sunday School Union—	..	..	..
Corean Mission ..	0	11	6	Subscription ..	1	0	0
			42 13 4½	I.B.R. Association Cards..	2	0	0
Children's Morning Service—	..	..	..				3 0 0
"Dayspring" and N.H. Mission ..	..	..	3 2 0	South British Insurance Premium, Mt. Cook Organ	..	..	0 5 0
Annual Treat—	..	..	..	D. Pryde, Repairs ..	..	..	0 2 0
Subscriptions ..	33	17	6	George and Kersley, Books ..	..	..	1 0 0
Proceeds Sale of Tickets ..	24	7	0	Church Treasurer—	..	..	..
			58 4 6	"Dayspring" ..	12	2	6
Sunday School Anniversary—	..	..	..	New Hebrides Mission ..	6	1	3
Church Collection ..	33	8	7				18 3 9
Net Proceeds Tea Meeting ..	13	7	5	Expenses Annual Treat ..	..	..	50 15 11
			46 16 0	Cash on Hand to Balance ..	..	..	1 6 2
Mr. Troup's Bible Class—	..	..	..	Mr. Troup's Bible Class account ..	..	..	..
Subs. for Maori Mission ..	5	0	0	Maori Mission ..	5	0	0
Cash Received from Library Association ..	12	10	0	Library Books ..	11	12	2
			17 10 0	Cash in Hand of Class Treasurer ..	0	17	10
							17 10 0
			£224 0 6				£224 0 6
Balance Brought Down ..	..	..	£1 6 2				

WM. HOPKIRK,
Hon. Treasurer.

St. John's Debt Extinction Fund.

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS FOR YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER, 1896.

RECEIPTS.				DISBURSEMENTS.			
	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
To Balance brought forward ..	56	7	6	By Barry and McDowell, in Reduction of Mortgage..	750	0	0
„ Subscriptions ..	733	16	0	„ Balance ..	40	3	6
			£790 3 6				£790 3 6

JOHN G. W. AITKEN,
Hon. Treasurer.

St. John's Church.

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES, 31st DECEMBER, 1896.

LIABILITIES.				ASSETS.			
	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Amount of Mortgage on Property ..	1,500	0	0	Estimated Value of Church, Schoolroom, Manse, Ground, &c. ..	13,230	0	0
Balance ..	11,937	18	4	Unpaid Seat Rents, estimated to yield ..	30	0	0
				Balance to Credit, Church Debt Extinction Fund ..	40	3	6
			£13,437 18 4	Balance to Credit, Revenue Account ..	137	14	10
							£13,437 18 4

JOHN G. W. AITKEN,
Hon. Treasurer.

St. John's Band of Hope.

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER, 1896.

RECEIPTS.					EXPENDITURE.				
				£ s. d.					£ s. d.
Balance from 1895..	..	..	..	2 2 3	Stationery..	..	..	..	0 3 5
Subscriptions	..	..	..	0 1 9	Balance—Cash in hand	..	..	..	2 6 1
Balance Lantern Entertainment	..	..	..	0 5 6					
				<u>£2 9 6</u>					<u>£2 9 6</u>

JOHN B. GERRAND,
Hon. Treasurer.

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

BALANCE-SHEET, 1896.

RECEIPTS.					DISBURSEMENTS.				
				£ s. d.					£ s. d.
Balance in Hand ..	..	..	..	9 10 4	Sewing Material ..	..	..	..	16 4 4
January Collection for Poor	..	..	..	10 19 3	Distributed to Poor	..	..	..	37 17 7
April ..	..	..	..	10 18 6					
July ..	..	..	..	12 10 9					
October ..	..	..	..	13 6 6	Balance in hand ..	..	..	..	54 1 11
				<u>£57 5 4</u>					<u>£57 5 4</u>

C. W. MOORE,
Hon. Treasurer.

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

SEVENTH SESSION, 1896.

DR.					CR.				
				£ s. d.					£ s. d.
Cash in Hand, March ..	..	..	..	2 19 0	Goods Bought ..	..	..	..	4 8 11
Subscriptions ..	..	..	..	1 5 0	Stationery ..	..	..	..	0 3 6
Donations ..	..	..	..	0 12 6	Dresses for Girl at Home ..	..	..	..	0 16 3
Proceeds of Social, June 7th	..	..	..	7 7 0	Fruit, etc., for Tea ..	..	..	..	0 13 3
				<u>£12 3 6</u>	Hymn Book ..	..	..	..	0 12 6
					Balance ..	..	..	..	5 4 1
									<u>£12 3 6</u>

LILY PATERSON,
Treasurer.

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

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31st OCTOBER, 1896.

RECEIPTS.					DISBURSEMENTS.				
				£ s. d.					£ s. d.
Balance at credit, 31st October, 1895	..	..	..	113 10 8	Convener, Sunshine Committee	..	..	..	7 5 9
Ordinary Collections	..	..	..	6 13 9	Corresponding Secretary and Convener Social	..	..	..	1 1 6
Special Collections, Sunshine Work	..	..	..	5 4 2	Literature Distribution ..	..	..	..	0 5 0
Donations, Sunshine Work	..	..	..	1 18 4	Golden Rule ..	..	..	..	0 10 0
Honorary Members	..	..	..	0 6 0	Petty Accounts ..	..	..	..	0 14 6
Golden Links ..	..	..	..	1 5 10					
Donations to Literature	..	..	..	1 3 6	Bible, Book, and Tract Society ..	..	..	..	1 19 0
				<u>16 11 7</u>	Turnbull, Hickson and Palmer ..	..	..	..	5 10 0
Subscription to New Room	..	..	..	8 5 0					
Interest on Deposit ..	..	..	..	3 2 3	Missions—				
				<u>11 7 3</u>	Chinese ..	..	..	..	20 0 0
New Hebrides Mission ..	..	..	..	21 4 5	New Hebrides ..	..	..	..	12 13 6
				<u>£162 13 11</u>					
					Balance at Bank	..	..	..	112 14 8
									<u>£162 13 11</u>
BALANCE—									
General Fund ..	..	..	..	0 10 6					
Chinese Mission ..	..	..	..	14 2 11					
New Hebrides ..	..	..	..	12 10 10					
New Room ..	..	..	..	35 10 5					
				<u>112 14 8</u>					

Vouchers examined and Statement Certified correct—WM. HOPKIRK,
Auditor.

F. Mason,
Treasurer.

SUBSCRIPTIONS RECEIVED IN AID OF CHURCH DEBT EXTINCTION FUND.

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Walter Turnbull ..	100	0	0	James Mason ..	2	0	0
James McKerrrow ..	100	0	0	F. Flanagan ..	2	0	0
John Duthie ..	100	0	0	Andrew Moar ..	2	0	0
John Kirkcaldie ..	100	0	0	John Steel ..	2	0	0
James Smith ..	100	0	0	Robt. Quicc ..	2	0	0
Anonymous ..	100	0	0	Wm. Ferguson ..	2	0	0
Rev. James Paterson ..	50	0	0	John Campbell ..	2	0	0
Alex. Macdougall ..	50	0	0	Miss Harriet McGowan ..	2	0	0
Wm. Allan ..	25	0	0	A. Johnston ..	1	10	0
James Sloan ..	25	0	0	M. Russell ..	1	10	0
W. S. Reid ..	25	0	0	W. Badden ..	1	10	0
A. Hall ..	25	0	0	B. Lynneberg ..	1	10	0
Robt. Hannah ..	25	0	0	G. W. Dutton ..	1	10	0
James McLellan ..	20	0	0	Samuel Atkins ..	1	5	0
Robt. Glendinning ..	10	10	0	W. Monerleff ..	1	1	0
John Yule ..	10	0	0	W. F. Hilson ..	1	1	0
Allan Macdougall ..	10	0	0	David Scott ..	1	1	0
W. A. Waddell ..	10	0	0	Miss Annie Smith ..	1	1	0
Wm. Cable ..	10	0	0	G. Jones ..	1	1	0
Mrs. Wm. & Mr. D. Gray ..	10	0	0	John Knox ..	1	1	0
Captain Gibb ..	10	0	0	J. W. Wallace ..	1	1	0
Anonymous ..	10	0	0	W. J. Hanlon ..	1	1	0
F. H. Fraser ..	6	0	0	Robt. Kirker ..	1	1	0
James Mitchell ..	5	10	0	P. G. Howden ..	1	1	0
James Mowatt ..	5	5	0	Percy Salmon ..	1	1	0
R. C. Niven ..	5	5	0	T. M. Grant ..	1	1	0
David Jones ..	5	5	0	Wm. Hendry ..	1	1	0
John Thompson ..	5	0	0	Hugh Jones ..	1	1	0
James Lockie ..	5	0	0	Mrs. Paul ..	1	0	0
Robt. Hunter ..	5	0	0	R. Woodman ..	1	0	0
T. D. Seoular ..	5	0	0	Mrs. Chappell, Senr. ..	1	0	0
Hon. M. Holmes ..	5	0	0	F. Jones ..	1	0	0
H. W. Kersley ..	5	0	0	Robt. Renner ..	1	0	0
J. Sutherland ..	5	0	0	W. Hendricksen ..	1	0	0
J. H. Pope ..	5	0	0	A. Naismith ..	1	0	0
Wm. Hopkirk ..	5	0	0	Miss Mitchell ..	1	0	0
J. Halley ..	5	0	0	J. Mallvide ..	1	0	0
Thos. Whitehouse ..	5	0	0	Miss Isa. McGowan ..	1	0	0
Alex. Cameron ..	5	0	0	Miss Jeanie Sinclair ..	1	0	0
J. D. Ritchie ..	5	0	0	Mrs. James Mitchell ..	1	0	0
W. M. Muir ..	5	0	0	Jos. Hopkirk ..	1	0	0
Captain Johnson ..	5	0	0	Mrs. John Young ..	1	0	0
W. T. Glasgow ..	5	0	0	Miss Stevenson ..	1	0	0
Anonymous ..	5	0	0	J. C. Buchanan ..	1	0	0
M. Menelaus ..	4	4	0	Roland Pope ..	1	0	0
John Ferguson ..	4	0	0	John Brown ..	1	0	0
Miss Duncan ..	3	3	0	A. Blacklock ..	1	0	0
Alex. Smith ..	3	3	0	A. Purdie ..	1	0	0
D. R. Caldwell ..	3	3	0	Samuel Ramsbottom ..	1	0	0
Wm. Paterson ..	3	3	0	R. Mowatt ..	1	0	0
John Reith ..	3	3	0	James Bruce ..	1	0	0
Campbell Campbell ..	3	3	0	J. E. Hendricksen ..	1	0	0
Mrs. Kirker ..	3	0	0	Miss Quin ..	1	0	0
Wm. Simm ..	3	0	0	David Barr ..	0	15	0
Wm. Simm, Jr. ..	3	0	0	P. Thompson ..	0	12	0
Mrs. Lennox ..	3	0	0	F. Summonds ..	0	10	0
P. S. Hay ..	3	0	0	Miss Atkins ..	0	10	0
Miss Steel ..	3	0	0	W. Parker ..	0	10	0
Mrs. James Chappell ..	2	10	0	John Paul ..	0	10	0
Davis & Clater ..	2	2	0	A. McBean ..	0	10	0
John Craig ..	2	2	0	Miss Wilson ..	0	10	0
Mrs. Salmon ..	2	2	0	Miss C. Dunning ..	0	10	0
F. Mason ..	2	2	0	Miss G. Dunning ..	0	10	0
H. C. Schlaadt ..	2	2	0	Miss E. Chappell ..	0	10	0
Miss McGhec ..	2	2	0	Miss K. Chappell ..	0	10	0
James G. Smith ..	2	2	0	Miss M. Salmon ..	0	10	0
Miss Hamilton ..	2	2	0	Miss B. Smith ..	0	10	0
John Turnbull ..	2	2	0	Henry Drummond ..	0	10	0
J. H. Richardson ..	2	2	0	Fred. Pope ..	0	10	0
Robt. Murray ..	2	2	0	Alex. Wallace ..	0	7	6
Captain Coleman ..	2	2	0	Fred. Dunning ..	0	5	0
Mrs. Taylor ..	2	0	0	Mrs. Orr ..	0	5	0
Robt. Miller ..	2	0	0	Mrs. Schultze ..	0	5	0
G. M. ..	2	0	0	Mrs. Hale ..	0	2	6
T. B. Hewitt ..	2	0	0	Miss E. A. Hale ..	0	2	6
Mrs. James Wilson ..	2	0	0	Miss A. Hale ..	0	2	6
G. A. Troup ..	2	0	0	A. E. Cousins ..	0	2	6
A. Ross ..	2	0	0				

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

KIRK SESSION

AND

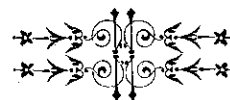
BOARD OF MANAGEMENT

OF

St. John's Presbyterian Church

WILLIS STREET, WELLINGTON,

FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER, 1897.



Wellington, N.Z.:

J. B. Innes, Printer, Bookseller and Stationer, Willis Street.

1898.

KIRK SESSION.

Moderator :

REV. JAMES PATERSON.

Elders :

J. G. W. AITKEN
WM. ALLAN
JAS. BRUCE
JOHN FERGUSON
F. H. FRASER
W. T. GLASGOW
A. HOPKIRK
R. HOPKIRK
W. HOPKIRK
W. LITTLEJOHN
T. W. MCKENZIE

JAS. MCKERROW
JOHN MACKAY
M. MENEIAUS
JAMES MITCHELL
C. S. MOORE
JOHN REITH
WM. SIMM
JAS. SLOAN
JAS. SMITH
G. A. TROUP
JOHN WILSON

Session Clerk :

WM. SIMM.

BOARD OF MANAGERS FOR 1898.

ROBT. ANGUS
JOHN BROWN
JOHN CAMPBELL
DR. CHAPPLE
T. M. GRANT
R. HANNAH
JOS. HOPKIRK
T. H. HUSTWICK
A. JOHNSTON
D. JONES
H. W. KERSLEY

J. KIRKCALDIE
JOHN KNOX
A. McASKILL
F. MASON
J. MITCHELL
C. S. MOORE
D. PRYDE
ARCH. PURDIE
W. D. RUNCIE
A. WILSON
JOHN WILSON

Treasurer :

J. G. W. AITKEN.

Secretary :

T. M. GRANT.

Elders' Districts.

- 1—Kaiwarra, Crofton, Kandallah, Wadestown, and Thorndon, from Hill Street to City Boundary, and from Thorndon Quay to Town Belt.
Mr. JAMES SLOAN, Elder.
- 2—Brooklyn, Vogeltown, Karori.
Mr. W. SIMM, Elder.
- 3—From Hill Street to Woodward Street, and Harbour to Town Belt.
Mr. G. A. TROUP, Elder.
- 4—From Woodward Street to Boulcott Street, and Harbour to Wellington Terrace.
Mr. JAS. SMITH, Elder.
- 5—From Wellington Terrace to Town Belt, and from Aurora Terrace to Mount Street.
Mr. C. D. MOORE, Elder.
- 6—From Boulcott Street to Ghuznee Street, and Willis Street to Town Belt.
Mr. JAMES MCKERROW, Elder.
- 7—From Ghuznee Street to Palmer Street, and Willis Street to Town Belt.
Mr. JOHN REITH, Elder.
- 8—From Abel Smith Street (West of Willis Street) to Town Belt, and from Cuba Street (East Side) to Mitchelltown.
Mr. JAS. BRUCE, Elder.
- 9—Manners Street, Dixon Street (East of Willis Street), Taranaki Place.
Mr. F. H. FRASER, Elder.
- 10—From Ghuznee Street to Abel Smith Street (North Side) and from Willis Street (East Side) to Taranaki Street.
Messrs. T. W. MCKENZIE and JOHN MACKAY, Elders.
- 11—From Webb Street to Town Belt, and Taranaki Street to Broadway Terrace.
Mr. JOHN WILSON, Elder.
- 12—From Taranaki Street (East Side) to Sussex Square, and Buckle Street to Town Belt.
Mr. JOHN FERGUSON, Elder.
- 13—From Taranaki Street to Tory Street, and Buckle Street to Harbour.
Mr. WM. ALLAN, Elder.
- 14—From Harbour to Newtown, and Tory Street to Cambridge Terrace.
Mr. JAMES MITCHELL, Elder.
- 15—From Majoribanks Street (North Side) to Town Belt, and from Harbour to Town Belt.
Mr. WM. HOPKIRK, Elder.
- 16—From Majoribanks Street (South Side) to Elizabeth Street, and from Kent Terrace to Town Belt.
Messrs. R. HOPKIRK and M. MENELAUS, Elders.
- 17—From Elizabeth Street to Pirie Street, and from Kent Terrace to Town Belt.
Mr. J. G. W. AITKEN, Elder.
- 18—From Pirie Street to College, and from Kent Terrace to Town Belt.
Mr. W. T. GLASGOW, Elder.

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 First Sunday of April, July and October.
- 3—**Christian Fellowship Association** meets in 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. Secretary, Mr. J. T. Gunn.
- 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 Boys' School, Tara-naki Street, at 2.30 p.m. Secretary, Mr. F. Mason.
- 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, Mrs. Jno. Campbell.
- 9—**Young Women's Literary and Dorcas Society** meets on alternate Tuesday Evenings at 7.30. Resuming in March. Secretary, Miss Agnes Paul.
- 10—**Band of Hope** meets on Friday Evenings from 7 to 8.
- 11—**Teachers' Meetings** for Study of Lessons and Business, Friday Evenings at 8.
- 12—**Monthly Prayer Meeting of Teachers and Others** after Evening Service, first Sunday of each month.
- 13—**Meeting of Board of Managers** on Second Wednesday in month at 8.30 p.m.

THE ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

KIRK SESSION AND BOARD OF MANAGERS

SUBMITTED TO THE

CONGREGATION

AT A MEETING

HELD IN THE SCHOOLROOM ON 25th JANUARY, 1898.

ANOTHER year past enables us to report to you upon the state of the Church and its connected Societies, and to offer our congratulations upon the healthy and vigorous condition of the work of St. John's. Despite the usual vicissitudes we have great cause for thankfulness for spiritual success vouchsafed.

The attendances have been more than fairly maintained, especially at the evening services. If being engaged in God's work we should not be discouraged by apparent failures, but proceed with cheerfulness, how much more then should we be thankful and encouraged by such manifold marks of Divine favour and success granted.

We have also to express our gratification at the financial position of the Church, a state which is due to the good feeling and liberality of members of the Congregation.

We desire to record our thankfulness to God for the happy deliverance of the beloved wife of our Pastor from a critical

and dangerous illness. We join with our Minister in his gratitude to God for such a happy issue from a threatened danger.

On the first Sunday in December the Anniversary Services were conducted by the Rev. Dr. Wardell, with much edification and pleasure to the Congregation.

Changes.—Every year witnesses changes in the Congregation. Last year was no exception. Some joined our membership by examination, though not so many as we could have desired, others by certificate from other congregations. There were also removals by changes of residence.

The Membership, on 31st December, 1897, stood at 498. The additions to the roll during the year were—by examination, 24; by certificate, 29; total, 53. Disjoined—by certificate, &c., 20; by death, 4; total, 24. There are many who practically form part and parcel of our Congregation who have not taken the important step of active Membership, and we would earnestly point out to them the urgency of placing themselves upon the Lord's side, and of partaking of the sacred ordinance of Communion. Especially upon the young would we press this matter with all affectionate earnestness.

Obituaries.—We have to mourn a great many removals by death during the past year—Mrs. Schultze, Mrs. Chirnside, Nellie Hutchens, Maggie Bell, Agnes Hales, Grace Wallace, and Robert Blacklock, all of whom have passed away from amongst us, leaving sad blanks in homes and sacred memories in sorrowing hearts, but all of whom we have good ground to believe have gone to the better home in the Father's house.

The Session, with pleasure, acknowledge the obligation the Congregation are under to the Choir, who, under the efficient direction of Mr. Maughan Barnett, so worthily lead the Church Psalmody.

The report of the Sunday Schools will be found elsewhere, and we would commend it to the close attention of the Congregation. The report shows a year of progress numerically and spiritually. The large number attending the Bible Classes is very gratifying, while several scholars have joined the Church during the year. The responsibility of the Church to the Sunday Schools increases year by year with their growth, and the Teachers have no light task to provide religious instruction for nearly 1000 children. We ask the parents to help as far as possible in seeing that the

children are regular in attendance, and give due attention to preparation of the lessons.

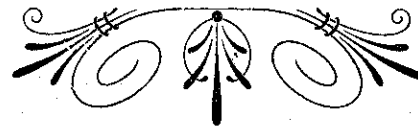
There are four Bible Classes, consisting of 128 lads and 58 girls. The amount raised for Mission purposes in the schools during the year was £32 10s. 3d.

The Fellowship Association meetings closed at the end of November for a few months recess. Number on roll, 20; average attendance through year, 12. The Wadestown forenoon meeting is still carried on successfully by the Association.

The Y. P. S. of C. E. present a short special report, to be found elsewhere. The Class-room, which has been erected during the past year, has been a great boon to this Society, as well as to the Young Men's Bible Class, and has done much to make their meetings comfortable. Special thanks are due to those liberal persons who assisted in supplying this most useful addition to our Church buildings.

The St. John's Dorcas Society and the Young Woman's Dorcas and Literary Society have each supplied a short report of their labours in the past year, and each will gladly welcome as members any ladies who have leisure to assist in the good work.

Special attention is directed to the Organ Fund Balance-Sheet. To Mr. James Smith's untiring exertions we are indebted to a large extent for the fine instrument we now possess.



ST. JOHN'S PRESBYTERIAN SABBATH SCHOOLS.

In presenting this, the thirtieth Annual Report of Willis-street, and the twenty-sixth of Mount Cook School, we are pleased to be able to record a considerable increase of scholars in both schools. The numbers are detailed as follows :—

SCHOLARS.					
			Male.	Female.	Total.
Willis Street ...	...	...	254	216	470
Mount Cook ...	...	...	197	220	417
Totals ...	...	...	451	436	887
	Infant Classes.	Intermediate Classes.	Senior Classes.	Total.	Scholars over 15 years of Age.
Willis Street ...	109	251	110	470	150
Mount Cook ...	176	165	76	417	
Totals ...	285	416	186	887	
The highest attendance of Scholars on one Sunday was—					
Willis Street ...	...	...	...	...	344
Mount Cook ...	...	...	...	...	339
Total ...	...	...	...	...	683

TEACHERS AND OFFICE-BEARERS.

			Male.	Female.	Total.
Willis Street ...	...	...	15	23	38
Mount Cook ...	...	...	12	21	33
Totals ...	...	...	27	44	71

Or, one more than last year.

The New Class-room has been a great benefit to the Young Men's Bible Class ; and we are greatly indebted to the Young People's Society of Christian Endeavour for the persistent efforts put forth by the members to obtain this useful and beautiful room.

Teachers.—Our teaching staff has been taxed to the utmost during the year. While changes have not been quite so frequent as formerly, some Classes have suffered severely from the irregularity of their teachers.

The Children's Morning Service, efficiently carried on by Mr. F. H. Fraser and Miss Jessie Hutchen and others, is a valuable help to our school work in the Mount Cook district, and deserves every encouragement.

Library.—Considerable additions, thanks to generous donors at our Anniversary Services, have been made to our

School Libraries during the year, and they now contain about 1100 books, with an additional 350 of a superior class, belonging to the Young Men's Bible Class.

Annual Treat.—We have much pleasure in again thanking those friends who provided us with the necessary funds for this pleasant outing, which was held at Day's Bay.

Sunday School Anniversary.—This was one of the most successful of our Anniversary Services. The Sunday services, conducted morning and evening by our Pastor, and the afternoon by the Rev. C. Dallaston, were exceedingly profitable to all present. On the Tuesday following the cantata, "Esther, the Beautiful Queen," was rendered to an audience which completely filled the Church in all parts. Mr. W. Hopkirk conducted, Mr. Maughan Barnett presiding at the organ, while Miss Kirker acted as practice organist.

The Teachers' Meeting for the Study of the Lesson, the Monthly Prayer-Meeting, and the Band of Hope, have all received due attention.

The Treasurer's Statement shows a considerable increase in receipts, especially in Mount Cook School. Proceeds of Anniversary Services, thanks to one or two generous donors, were £5 to £6 more than 1896. Subscriptions for Missions are also higher. £9 and £3 19s. 2d. respectively were collected by Mrs. Moore's and Mr. Kersley's classes for Native Teachers. £20 have been spent on Library Books, leaving a credit balance, which will be required for present demands.

In conclusion, we would again ask for the hearty support, the prayers, and sympathy of the Congregation. We have had evidence during the year that our work is not in vain, and that the true aim of our teaching is being realized, in seeing one and another ranging themselves on the Lord's side.

F. H. FRASER,

WM. HOPKIRK,

Superintendents, Willis-street.

WM. ALLAN,

Superintendent, Mount Cook.

F. MASON,

Hon. Secretary.

31st December, 1897.



ST. JOHN'S VISITING AND DORCAS SOCIETY.




THIS Society has met in the Schoolroom on the first and third Tuesday of each month, with an average attendance of fourteen, being much the same as last year.

During this, as in previous years, a considerable amount of work has been done in affording assistance, in the form of money and clothing, to the poor of the Church.

It is desirable that a greater number of ladies should take an interest in this good work, and the Committee would be pleased to welcome any so inclined.

M. CAMPBELL,
Secretary.



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



THE meetings of this Society have been held in the Managers' room. There were twenty-four names on the roll, with an average attendance of sixteen.

During the year nineteen families were visited and relieved; also, a large box of clothing sent to the sufferers of the Hawkes Bay flood.

The Literary work of the Society has been carried on with much zest by members and friends.


A Social Gathering was held on 4th May to raise funds for Dorcas work.

The Children's Sewing Class has been well attended, between fifty and sixty being present every alternate Tuesday evening.

On the 16th November we held our Annual Tea for the mothers and children who had been helped during the year.

We would take this opportunity of cordially thanking those kind friends who have assisted us by their sympathy and practical help during the year.

AGNES PAUL,
Hon. Sec.



YOUNG PEOPLE'S SOCIETY OF CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOUR.

It is with grateful hearts to our Master for the success of the past year, and for the present very spiritual tone of our Endeavour Society, that we present our Report. The Membership stands at 160 (52 active, 33 honorary and 15 associates), being an increase of two active members during the year. The attendances have been excellent, especially of late, and become larger every month.

The various Committees have all worked in harmony, and have had excellent results, the Sunshine Committee having twenty-one cases under attention, and the Missionary Committee having despatched £36 12s. 6d. in aid of Foreign Missions. The Evangelistic Committee have commenced open-air work, with very encouraging results.

The Junior Society, which was started this year with Miss Quee as Superintendent, is progressing very satisfactorily, having a membership of 35 active and 15 trial members.

We find our New Room a great boon and source of blessing to us; and there are still a few empty seats waiting to be filled. Our motto is, and shall ever remain, "For Christ and the Church."

JAS. T. GUNN,

Hon. Sec.



SUBSCRIPTIONS RECEIVED IN AID OF CHURCH DEBT EXTINCTION FUND.

Archibald Wilson	£3 0 0
W. G. Runcie	2 0 0

St. John's Presbyterian Church Revenue Account.

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS FOR YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER, 1897.

RECEIPTS.			DISBURSEMENTS.		
	£	s. d.		£	s. d.
Balance at Credit, 31st December, 1896	137	14 10	Rev. J. Paterson, Stipend	600	0 0
Collections for Year 1896-97	706	7 8	Rev. Dr. Waddell's Expenses Anniversary Services	17	12 0
Pew Rents	477	16 4	Pulpit Supply	125	0 0
Rent from House in Willis Street	24	10 0	Organist's Salary	50	0 0
Proceeds Tea Meeting	37	19 6	Church Officer's Salary	82	10 0
Maughan Barnett's Musical Society, for Gas	9	5 0	Interest on Mortgage	47	19 2
Collected by Christian Endeavour Society for erection of class room	90	0 0	Gas Account	51	3 7
Collected by Mr. James Smith for erection of class room	116	17 0	Fire Insurance Premium	4	0 0
Collected for Doreas & Charitable Purposes, ordinary	65	12 1	Expenses Annual Business Meeting	11	0 0
Collected for Church Extension & Sustentation Fund	86	17 6	Tuning and Repairing Organ	25	5 6
Collected for New Hebrides Mission	29	11 3	Plumber's Repairs and Alterations	28	7 3
Per Junior Endeavour Society	0	10 0	City Rates	2	4 0
" Sunday School	6	10 4	Water Rate	2	4 0
" Mr. Kersley's Bible Class	3	19 2	License for Water Engine	0	5 0
" Chr. Ent. Socy. for Native Teachers	12	1 6	Advertising	3	15 6
	52	12 3	Printing, Stationery, &c.	17	17 9
Collected for Oil Launch. (Mr. Gillies)—			Cleaning Grounds, Cutting Grass, &c.	8	15 0
Per Christian Endeavour Society	6	0 0	Builder's Repairs and Alterations	18	5 3
" Messrs. Troup & Moore's Bible Class	1	10 0	Glazing	0	10 6
" Cards	10	13 4	Presbytery Dues	1	0 0
	18	3 4	Music, &c. for Choir	2	4 0
"Dayspring Fund" per Sunday Schools	13	0 9	Stamps	2	1 0
Maori Mission—per Christian Endeavour Society	2	6 7	Special Cleaning	2	10 0
Col. for British & Foreign Bible Soc. (Robt. Wilson)—			Painting	3	19 0
Per Rev. J. Paterson	3	2 0	Cheque Book	1	0 0
" Mrs. Menelaus	5	18 6	Ladder	0	11 0
" Mrs. C. S. Moore	4	5 0	Hymn Books	8	6 6
	12	5 6	Fire Hose	2	13 9
Special Collection for Sunday Schools	34	5 10	Cost of new Class Room	267	16 3
"Cantata" per Sunday Schools	13	9 3	Furnishing	80	18 3
Collected for purchase of Church Site at Kandallah	67	0 0	Organ for	44	0 0
Donation per Mr. Wm. Allan for purchase of Church Site, Island Bay	150	0 0	Expenses removing old Manse and putting ground in order	19	18 6
Col. towards cost of erecting Church at Island Bay	15	10 0	Sundries	0	17 6
Collected for "St. John's Scholarship"	25	0 0	Church Treasurer, for various Funds	131	12 11
Proceeds Organ Recital for Tallis Trimmell Memorial Fund	20	0 0	Treasurer, Church Extension and Sustentation Fund	86	17 6
	£2,238	6 5	" Ladies' Doreas Society	117	5 1
			" British and Foreign Bible Society	12	15 6
			" Sunday Schools	57	15 1
			" Tallis Trimmell Memorial Fund	20	0 0
			" Elders' Association	232	10 0
			Balance	44	16 6
				£2,238	6 5

Audited and found correct—

ALLAN MACDOUGALL,
JNO. PAUL,

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, 1897.

RECEIPTS.				DISBURSEMENTS.			
	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Credit Balance, 31st December, 1896..			1 6 2	N.Z. Tract and Book Society—			
Collections—				Periodicals, etc.,	62	13	11
Willis Street School—				Library Books ..	20	0	0
General ..	27	2	10	Sundries and School Requisites ..	21	10	11
Books and Periodicals ..	10	3	2	Prize Books and Presbytery Examination ..	1	15	6
"Dayspring" and N.H. Mission ..	8	15	8				
Special Missions per Mrs. Moore's Class ..	9	0	0	Expenses Annual Treat ..			106 5 4
			55 1 8	Subscription Wellington Sunday School Union ..			49 6 9
Mount Cook School—				Caretaker, Mt. Cook School, for Cleaning, &c. ..			1 0 0
General ..	24	12	24	R. C. Harding, Printing ..			6 2 0
Books and Periodicals ..	19	10	7	Whitecombe & Tombs, Ltd., Stationery ..			1 2 6
"Dayspring" and N.H. Mission ..	8	1	11	Rev. Jas. Doull, Certificates, 1896 ..	0	10	1
Special Missions, per Mr. Kersley's Class ..	1	8	7	" " " 1897 ..	1	3	0
			53 13 3½				1 13 1
Children's Morning Service—				South British Insurance Premium Mt. Cook Organ ..			5 0 0
"Dayspring" and N.H. Mission ..			2 13 6	Rev. William Grant, Native Teacher ..	6	0	0
Annual Treat—				Support Sick Person, Ambrym Hospital ..	3	0	0
Subscriptions ..	36	10	0	Exchange ..	0	0	6
Proceeds Sale of Tickets ..	19	17	2				9 0 6
			56 7 2	A. Giles, Rubber Stamp ..			0 5 6
Sunday School Anniversary—				Jenkins & Mackay, Key ..			0 1 6
Church Collection ..	34	5	10	Social, Children's Morning Services ..			2 7 0
Collection at Cantata Service ..	23	9	3	Expenses Anniversary Cantata, Esther ..			9 5 4
			57 15 1	Church Treasurer, "Dayspring" ..	13	0	9
				New Hebrides Mission ..	6	10	4
				" " " ..	3	19	2
							23 10 3
				Stamps and Cheque Books ..			0 12 6
				Balance Cash in hand ..			15 5 1½
			£226 16 10½				£226 16 10½
Balance Brought Down ..	£15	5	1½				

Audited and found correct—

ALLAN MACDOUGALL,
JNO. PAUL.

Hon. Auditors.

WM. HOPKIRK,
Hon. Treasurer.

St. John's Debt Extinction Fund.

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS FOR YEAR ENDING 31ST DECEMBER, 1897.

RECEIPTS.				DISBURSEMENTS.			
	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
To Balance brought forward..	40	3	6	By Balance ..	45	3	6
" Subscriptions ..	5	0	0				
			£45 3 6				£45 3 6

JOHN G. W. AITKEN,
Hon. Treasurer.

St. John's Church.

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES, 31ST DECEMBER, 1897.

LIABILITIES.				ASSETS.			
	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Amount of Mortgage on Property ..	1,500	0	0	Estimated Value of Church, Schoolrooms, Manse, Ground, etc. ..	13,622	0	0
Balance ..	12,247	0	0	Unpaid Seat Rents, estimated ..	35	0	0
				Balance to Credit, Debt Extinction Fund ..	45	3	6
				Balance to Credit, Revenue Account ..	44	16	6
			£13,747 0 0				£13,747 0 0

JOHN G. W. AITKEN,
Hon. Treasurer.

St. John's Band of Hope.

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER, 1897.

RECEIPTS.				EXPENDITURE.			
		£	s. d.			£	s. d.
Balance from 1896			2 6 1	Bible and Tract Depot Account			0 14 0
Subscriptions			0 2 3	Tea Meeting Expenses			2 3 3
Proceeds from Tea Meeting			1 8 0	Balance Cash in Hand			1 1 1
Interest			0 2 0				
			<u>£3 18 4</u>				<u>£3 18 4</u>

JOHN B. GERRAND.
Hon. Treasurer.

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

BALANCE-SHEET, 1897.

RECEIPTS.				DISBURSEMENTS.			
		£	s. d.			£	s. d.
Balance in Hand			3 3 5	Sewing Material			18 15 0
January Collection for Poor			11 15 3	Distributed to Poor			48 13 1
April " " "			16 9 3				
July " " "			17 11 9	Balance in Hand			67 8 1
October " " "			12 5 5				1 7 5
November Extra Collection			5 7 11				
" " " "			2 2 6				
			<u>£68 15 6</u>				<u>£68 15 6</u>
Received from Church Treasurer			44 13 0				
			<u>£44 13 0</u>				

C. W. MOORE,
Hon. Treasurer.

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

BALANCE-SHEET FOR YEAR ENDING 31st OCTOBER, 1897.

RECEIPTS.				DISBURSEMENTS.			
		£	s. d.			£	s. d.
Balance brought forward			112 14 8	Conveners—			
General Fund—				Sunshine Committee			8 7 9
Collections and Donations			7 7 9	Sunday School			0 9 0
for Sunshine Work			8 7 9				8 16 9
Honorary Members			1 12 0	Printing Reports, Syllabus, &c.			7 16 0
Interest Bank			3 15 9	Petty Accounts			1 1 0
			<u>21 3 3</u>				8 17 0
Golden Links			0 13 6	New Room Decorations			2 2 0
Advertisements—Sale of Reports, 1896			2 15 8	" " Subscriptions per Church Treasurer			90 0 0
			<u>3 9 2</u>				92 2 0
Subscriptions New Room			2 0 0	Bible, Book, and Tract Society			3 5 1
Missions—							
New Hebrides Subscriptions			8 7 0	Missions—			
" " " " towards Launch			6 0 0	New Hebrides—			
			<u>14 7 0</u>	Native Teachers, per Church Treasurer			12 1 6
China Inland Subscriptions			6 15 0	Towards Steam Launch, per Church Treasurer			6 0 0
General Mission Fund			5 10 0	" Bell Ambrym			2 0 0
			<u>12 5 0</u>				20 1 6
			<u>£165 19 1</u>	Chinese, Wellington			11 16 4
				China Inland, per Mrs. Anderson			6 15 0
							18 11 4
				Balance in Bank			14 5 5
							<u>£165 19 1</u>

Vouchers examined and found correct—WM. HOPKIRK,
Auditor.

F. MASON,
Hon. Treasurer.

St. John's Church Organ Fund.

BALANCE-SHEET.

RECEIPTS.				EXPENDITURE.			
		£	s. d.			£	s. d.
To Donations from St. John's Church Funds			67 13 1	By Total Cost of Organ			1,859 4 1
" " " " Congregation			586 6 5				
Sale of Old Organ			60 0 0				
Concerts and Recitals			357 13 0				
Donations Collected in London			200 0 0				
Donations Outside St. John's			607 11 7				
			<u>£1,859 4 1</u>				<u>£1,859 4 1</u>

January 25th, 1898.

JAMES SMITH,
Treasurer.

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE FROM JANUARY 1st, 1897, TO DECEMBER 31st, 1897.

HENRY W. DRUMMOND,
Hon. Treasurer.

EIGHTH SESSION, 1897.

JEAN S. WILSON,
Hon. Treasurer.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

KIRK SESSION

AND

BOARD ♦ OF ♦ MANAGEMENT

OF

St. John's Presbyterian Church

WILLIS STREET, WELLINGTON,

FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER, 1898.



Wellington:

PRINTED BY J. B. INNES, PRINTER, BOOKSELLER AND STATIONER,
WILLIS STREET.

1899.

ST. JOHN'S CHURCH.

STATED MEETINGS.

on Sabbath Mornings at 11 ; Evenings at 6.30.
ings on Wednesday Evenings at 7.30

Second Sunday of January, and on the first Sun-
l, July and October.

Christian Endeavour Society meets every Monday
.30. Secretary, Mr. T. J. Gunn.

Children's Service, Mount Cook School at 11.
r. F. H. Fraser.

meet in Willis Street and at Boys' School, Tara-
at 2.30 p.m. Secretary, Mr. A. Purdie.

Practice on Wednesday Evenings after Prayer

and Dorcas Society meets first and third Tuesdays
h. Secretary, Mrs. Jno. Campbell.

Literary and Dorcas Society meets on alternate
enings at 7.30. Resuming in March. Secretary,
erson.

eets on Friday Evenings from 7 to 8.

gs for study of Lessons and Business, Friday
8.

Meeting of Teachers and Others after Evening
Sunday of each month.

l of Managers on second Wednesday in month

THE ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
KIRK SESSION AND BOARD OF MANAGERS
TO BE SUBMITTED TO THE
CONGREGATION
AT A MEETING
TO BE HELD IN THE SCHOOLROOM ON 1st FEBRUARY, 1899.

WE again have pleasure in presenting our Annual Report to the Congregation, and gratefully acknowledge the guidance and blessing of God in our operations and success of the past year.

During the year we were privileged to listen to the Rev. Robt. McIntosh, who officiated on 6th March, and Dr. R. S. Duff, on 17th April, both gentlemen being a deputation from the Free Church of Scotland conveying congratulations to the Presbyterian Church of Otago and Southland on the occasion of its Jubilee. Passing through the North Island advantage was taken of their presence in Wellington, and the addresses delivered by them were received with great appreciation.

On the 4th December the Rev. Jas. Gibb, of Dunedin, preached the Anniversary Sermons to large and appreciative audiences.

The Membership on 30th December, 1898, stood at 495. The additions, by examination, were 27 ; by certificate, 24 ; total, 51. The disjunctions, by death were 8 ; by certificate and otherwise, 46 ; total, 54.

We feel, however, that we do not gain as great a number of young Communicants as we should, considering the size of the Congregation, notwithstanding the exhortations in this direction by our worthy Pastor. It is earnestly hoped that greater numbers will be moved to take this important step and ally themselves with the Church during the current year.

Obituaries.—We mourn the loss by death of several of our members and of others who were wont to worship with us. The year had but begun when death cast its dark shadow over two of the homes in the Church. On the 15th January Mrs. McKenzie, the wife of our respected Elder, was called to her rest. She had been ailing for some time, but seemed to have got a fresh lease of life when suddenly the end came. With words of tender farewell on her lips, and of blessing

to those around her, she calmly passed away. Greatly she is missed from amongst us. She was an old respected member of the Church, and in everything connected with it took a deep interest, and was always helpful to the poor. On the 28th of the same month Mr. James Bentley was also suddenly called away. Always bright and cheery and kindly, one who loved his home and the dear ones there, and his friends, and who was attached to the Church, and regular in his attendance at its services: he, too, is greatly missed from amongst us. The following month, 9th February, Mrs. James McArthur died at Russell. She had been accompanying her husband on a sea voyage, taken for the benefit of his health, but she was first taken. Her end, too, was sudden, but it did not find her unprepared. From what we know of her faith, hope, and Christian life we cannot doubt that her spirit is at home with God. In June following, her husband, after some months of weariness and suffering, borne in most patient and Christian spirit, also died. Mr. McArthur was a man of fine intelligence, of upright character, and of exemplary Christian life. Mrs. Fraser, of Courtenay Place, a member of the Church, and, when in health, a regular attendant at its services, was also, after a brief illness, called to the eternal rest. On the 28th July another old respected member of the Church, Mrs. Paterson, of Cambridge Avenue, was called from the earthly to the heavenly home. So long as she had strength she was seldom absent from her place in the House of God. In the month following, 13th August, Mr. Yates, another member of the Church, was called away from the Church below to the Church above. He was in the prime of life, he occupied a good position in one of the large mercantile houses in the city, and he had a happy home. But death spares no age or condition of life. After weeks on a sick-bed, during which he was diligent in preparing for the change which seemed inevitable, the end came, and he entered into rest. Several families during the year suffered bereavement in the death of dear little ones, but they have the consolation of knowing that of such little ones is the Kingdom of Heaven. As the first month of the year, so the last, brought bereavement and sorrow to two homes in the Church. On the 8th December, Mrs. Wm. Simm, junr., a young wife and young mother, was called away from a happy home on earth to a happier home in heaven. In the first month of the year she began her happy home life. In the last month it was closed, and her gentle spirit went home to be with God. On the 29th of the same month, when the old year had nearly run its course, Mr. Nevin, an esteemed member of the Church, and a ripened Christian, ended his

course. He had long experience of the power of Divine grace: he knew the Bible as few know it: he had a most intelligent grasp of Divine truth: he loved the Church and all its ordinances: and, above all, he loved the Saviour: so after months of failing health, and when the end came, he was ready to depart and be with Christ, which is far better. To all of us it reads a solemn lesson: "Be ye also ready, for in such an hour as ye think not the Son of man cometh." And it calls us to deep sympathy with those who are left to mourn, to sorrow with them in their sorrow, and to commend them to the God of all grace and consolation.

It is a pleasing duty of office-bearers of the Church to express their satisfaction with the efficient manner in which the duties of Organist are performed by Mr. Barnett. They also take this opportunity of thanking the members of the Choir for their services so heartily rendered.

We commend the report of the Sunday Schools, which is attached hereto, to the careful perusal of members, and we exhort the parents of children who attend these schools to take as active an interest in this work as they can. We cannot too heartily thank the teachers, who give much of their leisure to the education of our young people in Divine truth and Biblical history. The parents are asked to see that their children are regular in their attendance at school.

The Young People's Society of Christian Endeavour continues an increasingly successful career, and is doing much good among the young people of the Congregation. This Society is composed of young people at an impressionable and critical age, and we beg to assure its management of our appreciation of their noble endeavours.

The Ladies' Visiting and Dorcas Society, and the Young Women's Dorcas and Literary Society, still quietly and energetically prosecute their good work. Many of the deserving poor, who are unknown to Charitable Aid Boards, have received necessities and timely assistance.

Reports from these three Societies are appended.

Finances.—The Board of Managers are pleased to report that the finances this year have maintained their average. The accounts close with a debit balance of £1 19s. 6d. This is owing to a large outlay in repairs, which, of course, does not occur every year. We would again urge upon you the claims of the Church Extension and Sustentation Fund, and the New Hebrides Mission. For the year we have contributed £101 8s. 9d. to the Church Extension and Sustentation Fund, and £32 19s. 3d. to the New Hebrides Mission. The

debt upon the Church property now stands at £1,500, towards which there is about £100 on hand. It might be a good thing if we, as a Congregation, could celebrate the close of the century by taking steps to wipe out the debt and to begin the 20th century free from any encumbrance.

Whilst viewing with satisfaction the financial state of the Church, which is owing to the liberality of the Congregation, we wish to say that the true prosperity of our Church life is measured by its spiritual and moral effects, and we feel assured that, unobtrusively, St. John's Church is taking up its share of Christian work. Let us, however, not be content with what past success, has, in God's Providence, been vouchsafed to us, but whole-heartedly do what lies in our power, collectively and individually, to further the Kingdom of God upon earth.

ST. JOHN'S PRESBYTERIAN SABBATH SCHOOLS.

IN presenting our Annual Report, it being the thirty-first of Willis Street School and the twenty-seventh of Mount Cook School, we would, whilst conscious of many shortcomings, thank God that our humble efforts to sow the seed of His Word in the hearts of our scholars have not been in vain. May the encouragements vouchsafed to us during the past year stimulate us to more earnest work in the coming year.

Attendance.—We are pleased to state that our number shews an increase on last year's figures, there being 50 more scholars on the Willis Street School roll than last year, while in Mount Cook School the roll shews a decrease of 15. A most gratifying feature is the material increase of senior scholars in both schools. Our teaching staff, which has undergone the usual unavoidable change, shews an increase for the year of 6. The average attendance—scholars 64%, and teachers 82%—is somewhat low, owing, no doubt, to the prevalence of the measles in the city for the greater part of the year. Details of the attendance are as follow:—

SCHOLARS.

	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Average Attendance.	Average Attendance Excluding Wet Sundays.
Willis Street	275	245	520	300	311
Mount Cook	188	214	402	284	296
Totals	463	459	922	584	607

	Senior Division.	Intermediate Division.	Junior Division.	Totals.	Scholars Over 15 Yrs
Willis Street	135	274	111	520	157
Mount Cook	99	182	121	402	105
Totals	234	456	232	922	262

TEACHERS AND OFFICE-BEARERS.

	Gentlemen.	Ladies.	Total.	Average Roll.	Average Attendance.
Willis Street	17	26	43	39	34
Mount Cook	15	19	34	33	29
Totals	32	45	77	72	63

The highest attendance of scholars on one Sunday was—

Willis Street	350
Mount Cook	323
Total	673

Children's Morning Service.—This interesting and homely meeting, held every Sunday morning, in the Mount Cook School, still continues to prosper under the able conductorship of Mr. F. H. Fraser and Miss Hutchen. Their best thanks are accorded to the Christian Endeavour Society, the Young Men's Bible Class, Willis Street, and the several friends who have assisted at the meetings.

The Annual Treat, which was held at Day's Bay, passed off successfully, the children, who numbered nearly 500, enjoying themselves thoroughly. We beg to thank those friends whose liberality and assistance afforded the children such a pleasant outing.

Anniversary Services.—Notwithstanding the somewhat unfavourable weather, these services, held on the 18th May, were well attended, and the effective sermons delivered during the day, could not fail to bring before the Congregation, the importance of the religious training of the children. On the Wednesday following, the usual tea was held, succeeded, by a public meeting in the Church, a feature of which, as also of the Anniversary Services, was the singing of the children, under the conductorship of Mr. Wm. Hopkirk, Mr. Barnett presiding at the organ.

At the Church Anniversary, held on 4th December, the children met at the church in the afternoon, and were interestingly addressed by the Rev. Mr. Gibb.

Library.—During the year our Treasurer has been enabled to hand over to the Librarians the sum of £40 to be ex-

pended equally between the two schools in the purchase of new books. Our libraries are a great factor in securing regularity in the attendance of our scholars, we therefore hope, in thanking those friends, who have enabled us to materially increase the libraries, that they will continue their much appreciated support.

Examinations.—For the Sunday School Union Examinations, 74 scholars presented themselves, and 56 passed, and for the General Assembly Examination 44 scholars sat, 6 of whom failed to secure the necessary number of marks.

Teachers' Meetings.—During the latter half of the year the weekly meeting was devoted to the study of Dr. Morrison's text book on "The Art of Teaching." The meetings were fairly well attended, and those present, especially the younger teachers, received many valuable hints for their important work. We are, too, much indebted to Mr. MacMorran, of the Terrace School, for his very able and instructive lecture on the same subject. Our weekly meeting is very helpful, but can never be truly successful until every teacher recognises it as a standing engagement. The teachers' picnic, held at Day's Bay, on Anniversary Day, was enjoyed. Two social evenings were held, one in the early part of the year, and the other in October, which was tendered to our late secretary, Mr. F. Mason, who has been transferred to the country. We will long remember him for the activity and interest he took in every branch of the school work.

Band of Hope.—The meetings were discontinued last year, it being thought by so doing that a revival of interest will take place upon their resumption this session.

Treasurer's Statement.—The revenue derived from the schools themselves is much the same as that of last year—Willis Street School shows a slight increase for Missions, as does Mount Cook in the General Fund. In the congregational subscriptions to both the Annual Treat and the Anniversary Collections there is a noticeable decrease. We trust that the congregation will rally round us and more than compensate for the deficiency this year. With the exception of the sum of £40 4s. spent in libraries, the disbursements do not alter materially from those of last year.

In conclusion, we beg to accord our best thanks to our many friends who during the year have helped us by their substance, their sympathy, and their prayers, and we trust

that a continuation of this support, which is so essential to success of our schools, will be tendered to us in even a greater degree this year.

F. H. FRASER,
WM. HOPKIRK,
Superintendents, Willis Street.
Hon. Secretary.
WM. ALLAN,
31st December, 1898. Superintendent, Mount Cook.

ST. JOHN'S LADIES' VISITING & DORCAS SOCIETY.

THE meetings of this Society have been held regularly throughout the year on the first and third Tuesdays of each month. The meetings have been well attended.

Over a hundred articles of clothing have been made and distributed among the needy. Besides this, families have received monetary assistance.

Ladies of the congregation having a little spare time, and who are not members of the Society, are invited to join, as we feel sure that they will spend a pleasant and profitable afternoon.

M. CAMPBELL,
Secretary.

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

IN presenting our Annual Report we realise how much we have to be thankful for during the past year, but at the same time we cannot help regretting the small attendance at the meetings. There were 25 names on the roll, with an average attendance of 12.

The Literary portion consisted of several interesting and instructive Lectures and Essays by members and friends;

JOHN G. W. AITKEN,
Hon. Treasurer.

St. John's Presbyterian Church Sabbath Schools.

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER, 1898.

RECEIPTS.				DISBURSEMENTS.			
		£ s. d.	£ s. d.			£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Credit Balance, 31st December, 1898	..	..	15 5 1½	N.Z. Bible, Tract and Book Society—			
Collections—				Periodicals	..	59 12 3	
Willis Street School—				Library Books	..	40 4 0	
General	..	27 2 3		Sundries and School Requisites	..	18 10 11	
Books and Periodicals	..	10 7 2		Prize Books, General Assembly Examination	..	1 10 0	
"Dayspring" and New Hebrides Mission	..	9 9 2					119 17 2
Missions per Miss Glasgow's Class	..	9 0 0	55 18 7	Expenses Annual Treat	..		43 4 11
Mount Cook School—				Subscription Wellington S.S. Union	..		1 0 0
General	..	26 12 6½		International Bible Reading Cards, 2 years	..		2 0 0
Books and Periodicals	..	14 15 6		Table Cloth, &c	..		1 9 6
"Dayspring" and New Hebrides Mission	..	8 14 8½	50 2 9	Text Cards	..		0 12 9
Children's Morning Service—				Printing and Advertising	..		1 10 6
"Dayspring" and New Hebrides Mission	..		2 13 5	Caretaker, Mount Cook School	..		6 0 0
Annual Treat—				Insurance Premium, Mt. Cook Organ	..		0 5 0
Subscriptions	..	32 11 0		Glazing	..		0 4 0
Proceeds Sale of Tickets	..	19 1 8	51 12 6	Social, Children's Morning Services	..		2 8 0
Sunday School Anniversary—				Examination Certificates	..		1 10 0
Church Collections	..	31 12 7½		Postages and Sundries	..		0 15 0
"	..	4 15 3½	36 7 11	Church Treasurer—			
			£212 0 3½	"Dayspring"	..	13 13 2	
				New Hebrides Mission	..	6 19 1	
				Native Teacher, N.H. Mission	..	6 0 0	
				Maintenance Cot, Ambrym Hospital	..	3 0 0	
				Balance Cash in Hand	..		29 17 3
							1 6 2½
							£212 0 3½
Balance brought down	..	£1 6s. 2½d.					

Audited and found correct—JNO. PAUL, ALLAN MACDOUGALL, } Hon. Auditors.

WM. HOPKIRK, Hon. Treasurer.

St. John's Young Men's Bible Class.

BALANCE-SHEET FOR YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31st, 1898.

RECEIPTS.				EXPENDITURE.			
		£ s. d.	£ s. d.			£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Balance in Hand at beginning of Year	..	..	2 2 5	Donations—Maori Mission	..	7 6 1	
Collections	..	29 4 4½		" Box to New Hebrides	..	2 0 0	
Advertisements in Magazine	..	8 0 0		" Sunday School Funds	..	1 0 0	
Donation for Missionary Purposes	..	0 0 6		" 1897 Gymnasium Class	..	0 10 0	
Balance from Machine Fund	..	0 1 7		Stationery, Books, and Printing Material	..	7 10 9	
			£39 8 10½	Fire Premium	..	0 8 5	
				Photographs of South Trip	..	0 5 0	
				Petty Cash	..	1 7 9½	
				Cleaning Schoolroom	..	0 10 6	
				Balance	..	18 10 4	£39 8 10½
LIABILITIES.				ASSETS.			
		£ s. d.	£ s. d.			£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Home Mission	..	16 0 0		Cash in Bank	..	13 2 4	
Balance	..	102 10 4		" Hand	..	5 0 4	
			£118 10 4	Petty Cash	..	0 7 8	
							18 10 4
				Printing Plant	..	60 0 0	
				Library	..	40 0 0	£118 10 4

Audited and found correct—C. D. MORPETH, F.I.S., Hon. Auditor.

J. PATERSON, Hon. Treas.

26th January, 1898.

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

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS FOR YEAR ENDING 31st OCTOBER, 1898.

RECEIPTS.				DISBURSEMENTS.			
	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Balance brought forward 1st Nov., 1897			14 5 5	Conveners—			
Collections, General Fund	10	13	2½	Sunshine Committee	9	7	3
Golden Links	1	1	0	Prayer Meeting Committee	1	17	6
Hon. Members	0	9	0	Social	1	18	6
Interest, Bank	1	5	10	Literature	0	8	0
				Corresponding Secretary	0	11	0
Collections and Donations—Sunshine Work			13 9 0½				
Missions—			11 4 9	Bible, Book and Tract Society	2	3	3
New Hebrides	1	1	0	Printing	2	15	0
China Island	1	0	0	Petty Accounts	2	7	6
General	12	10	0				
			14 11 0	Missions: Per Church Treasurer—			
Balance—				New Hebrides	6	10	6
General Fund £2 18 3½				Church Extension	5	0	0
Missions 7 0 3				Maori	2	6	7
£9 18 6½							
				China Inland	1	0	0
				Box New Hebrides	5	0	0
				Maori	2	6	7
				Balance at Bank			8 6 7
							9 18 6½
			£53 10 2½				£53 10 2½

Vouchers examined and found correct—

WM. HOPKIRK.

F. MASON,

Hon. Treasurer.

St. John's Debt Extinction Fund.

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS FOR YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER, 1898.

RECEIPTS.				DISBURSEMENTS.			
	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
To Balance brought down			45 3 6	By Balance	96	17	11
Interest			1 14 5				
Church Revenue Account			50 0 0				
			£96 17 11				£96 17 11

JOHN G. W. AITKEN,
Hon. Treasurer.

St. John's Church.

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES, 31st DECEMBER, 1898.

LIABILITIES.				ASSETS.			
	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Amount of Mortgage on Property	1,500	0	0	Estimated Value of Church, Schoolroom, Manse, Ground, etc.	13,622	0	0
Balance at Debit Revenue Account		1	19 6	Unpaid Seat Rents, estimated		15	0 0
Outstanding Accounts		3	19 4	Balance to Credit, Debt Extinction Fund		96	17 11
Balance	12,227	19	1				£13,733 17 11
			£13,733 17 11				

J. G. W. AITKEN,
Hon. Treasurer.

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

BALANCE-SHEET, 1898.

RECEIPTS.					DISBURSEMENTS.				
				£ s. d.				£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Balance in Hand	..	..	..	1 7 5	Sewing Material	..	..	13 2 6	
January Collection for Poor	..	..	..	10 11 0	Distributed to Poor	..	..	40 1 0	
April	..	..	..	13 18 3					58 3 7
July	..	..	..	13 17 0	Balance in Hand	..	..		1 17 11
October	..	..	..	13 15 0					
Special ..	..	..	..	1 1 3					
" ..	..	..	..	0 11 6					
				<u>£55 1 6</u>					<u>£55 1 6</u>

C. W. MOORE,
Hon. Treasurer.

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

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND EXPENSES FOR YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER, 1898.

RECEIPTS.				EXPENDITURE.			
		£ s. d.	£ s. d.		£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Cash in hand	0 4 1	Stationery	..	0 4 1	
Subscriptions	1 3 0	Materials for Dorcas Work	..	8 9 1½	
Donations	2 7 6	Expenses Children's Tea	..	1 6 0	
Proceeds of Lecture by Sir Robert Stout	11 4 0	Lecture Expenses—			
				Printing Tickets	..	0 9 0	
				Advertising	..	0 10 6	
				Stationery and Postage	..	0 1 8	
						1 1 2	
			<u>£14 18 7</u>	Balance	..	3 18 2½	£14 18 7

JEAN S. WILSON,
Hon. Treasurer.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

KIRK SESSION

AND

BOARD OF MANAGEMENT

OF

St. John's Presbyterian Church

WILLIS STREET, WELLINGTON,

FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER, 1899.



Wellington:

PRINTED BY J. B. INNES, PRINTER, BOOKSELLER AND STATIONER,
WILLIS STREET.

1900.

KIRK SESSION.

Moderator:

REV. JAMES PATERSON.

Elders:

J. G. W. AITKEN
WM. ALLAN
JAS. BRUCE
JOHN FERGUSON
F. H. FRASER
W. T. GLASGOW
A. HOPKIRK
R. HOPKIRK
WM. HOPKIRK
T. W. MCKENZIE

JAS. MCKERROW
JOHN MCKAY
M. MENELAUS
JAS. MITCHELL
C. S. MOORE
JOHN REITH
WM. SIMM
JAS. SLOAN
JAS. SMITH
G. A. TROUP

JOHN WILSON.

Session Clerk:

WM. SIMM.

BOARD OF MANAGERS FOR 1899.

R. ANGUS
R. HANNAH
D. JONES
H. W. KERSLEY
ARCHD. WILSON
ARCHD. PURDIE
DR. CHAPPLE
JOHN KIRKCALDIE
T. H. HUSTWICK

JOSEPH HOPKIRK
JOHN KNOX
JOHN BROWN
T. M. GRANT
ALEX. JOHNSTON
JOHN CAMPBELL
A. McASKILL
W. G. RUNCIE
F. MASON

CAPT. JOHNSON.

Treasurer:

J. G. W. AITKEN.

Secretary:

T. M. GRANT.

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 Sundays of April, July and October.
- 3—**Young People's Christian Endeavour Society** meets every Monday evening at 7.30. Secretary, Mr. J. D. Allan.
- 4—**Sabbath Morning Children's Service**, Mount Cook School at 11.
President, Mr. F. H. Fraser.
- 5—**Sunday Schools** meet in Willis Street and at Boys' School, Taranaki Street, at 2.30 p.m. Secretary, Mr. A. Purdie.
- 6—**Choir** meets for Practice on Wednesday evenings after Prayer Meeting.
- 7—**Ladies' Visiting and Dorcas Society** meets first and third Tuesdays of each month. Secretary, Mrs. Jno. Campbell.
- 8—**Young Women's Literary and Dorcas Society** meets on alternate Tuesday evenings at 7.30. Resuming in March. Secretary, Miss E. Reith.
- 9—**Band of Hope** meets on Friday evenings from 7 to 8.
- 10—**Teachers' Meetings** for study of Lessons and Business, Friday evenings at 8.
- 11—**Monthly Prayer Meeting of Teachers and Others** after Evening Service, first Sunday of each month.
- 12—**Meeting of Board of Managers** on second Wednesday in month, at 8.30 p.m.

THE ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
KIRK SESSION AND BOARD OF MANAGERS
TO BE SUBMITTED TO THE
CONGREGATION.

AT A MEETING TO BE HELD IN

THE SCHOOL-ROOM, ON WEDNESDAY, 7th FEBRUARY, 1900.



OUR annual duty again devolves upon us of giving an account of our stewardship, and we desire to congratulate St. John's Church upon the health and prosperity which characterises its different branches of spiritual and philanthropic usefulness. We have been abundantly blessed during the past year, and we gratefully acknowledge that any measure of success which has been obtained has been entirely due to the gracious hand of God assisting us in the work.

An interesting incident of the past year was the visit of the Rev. Donald Miller, of Genoa, who pleaded earnestly and eloquently for the Waldensian Church. The day's collection, amounting to £10, was contributed by St. John's Church to the object of the rev. gentleman's mission.

The Anniversary Services were held on Sabbath, the 3rd December, and were conducted by the Rev. W. Asher, of Napier. Large congregations assembled, and his earnest and able administrations were very highly appreciated. The conversazione was held on the Wednesday evening following, and, mainly through the kind exertions of the ladies, was a great success.

The Membership on 31st December, 1899, stood at 540. The additions, by examination, were 15; by certificate, 56; total, 71. The disjunctions by death were 3; by certificate and otherwise, 25; total, 28. Net increase, 43.

Obituaries.—Every year brings with it changes in the membership of the Church: the past year was no exception. Three, whose names were on our Communion Roll, were

removed by death. Peter Fraser, after a somewhat lengthened illness, entered into rest, leaving a widow and young family to mourn their loss. A man of simple earnest faith he bore his suffering with much patience and Christian resignation; his end was peace. John Yule, one of the oldest members of the Church, died on the 14th September. While health and strength permitted, he was most regular in his attendance at the services of the Church. He was a man of most upright character and consistent Christian life. In the last month of the year we lost another old and respected member of the Church, Alexander Cameron, of Kaiwarra. He was a man devoted to his family, attached to the Church, and endeared to a large circle of friends by his warm heartedness and honesty of character. He died, as he lived, in the faith and hope of the Christian. To the families and relatives of those whose names have been mentioned, and to others who have suffered bereavement during the year, we tender our heartfelt sympathy.

We desire to thank the choir for their efforts during the past year, under the effective leadership of Mr. Maughan Barnett. This voluntary service on behalf of the Church psalmody entails a certain sacrifice of leisure time, which is cheerfully made by choir members.

The usual thorough report from the Sabbath Schools is attached, and will repay perusal. Here again we wish to assure the teachers that we gratefully recognise the large amount of time and attention so willingly bestowed by them upon their classes. Devotion to Church work of this nature is actuated and sustained by a high ideal of Christian duty.

The Young People's Society of Christian Endeavour, the Ladies' Visiting and Dorcas Society, the Young Women's Dorcas and Literary Society, and the Band of Hope, still pursue their good work. We commend all these branches of Christian usefulness to such of the congregation as can find time and have the inclination to assist.

Mr. B. Lynneberg continues to successfully conduct services to the young at Wadestown, the numbers on the roll being 65, with an average of 47.

During the year two of our members, Messrs W. Badden and R. Bell, have entered the Foreign Mission field in India. It behoves us to bear them up in their noble work with our sympathy and our prayer.

Finance.—We are pleased to report that we close the year with a credit balance, and that we have paid £200 off the

mortgage, reducing the same from £1,500 to £1,300. We have also to report that while the sum contributed by this congregation to Home and Foreign Missions is up to the average of by-gone years, that we think more might be done for these funds, if each member and adherent were to make conscience of the matter. We desire to state generally that the congregation has generously supported the New Century scheme formulated by the General Assembly, having so far subscribed £1,403 3s. 9d., and of that amount paid £421 1s. 9d. In all, the congregation has contributed during the year the sum of £2,002 19s., £748 0s. 10d. of which was for objects outside of themselves.

We feel sure that you will recognise the tone of health which pervades the Church work, apart altogether from its financial position, and we are assured that, while it is our duty to conserve the material interests of St. John's in order to increase its effectiveness, yet that the spiritual and moral results of a year's work are the true standard of a Church's success.

We present to you this, our Report and Balance-sheet, with the prayer that the ensuing year may be marked by even more substantial progress than, we gratefully acknowledge, has been by God's goodness, abundantly vouchsafed to us in the past.

ST. JOHN'S PRESBYTERIAN SABBATH SCHOOLS.

IN submitting our Annual Report, we thank our Heavenly Father for His care and guidance during the year. We must, however, feel humbled that we have not been more diligent in this work in which faithful service can be productive of so much success and blessing. We pray that during the coming year we may, by united and consecrated efforts, do what we can for the Master, among the children.

Attendance.—Whilst in some respects our figures are satisfactory, we regret to note a marked falling off in the attendance of the intermediate classes. Regularity on the part of the teachers themselves, and a hearty interest in the work, can alone remedy this defect. Although the staff has not decreased, we have, during the year, lost several of our most experienced teachers, and while our loss has been greatly mitigated by the ready response of members of the Bible Classes, vacancies nevertheless exist which can only

be filled by experienced minds. *We earnestly appeal to* friends interested in the children to give the matter of our pressing need their serious consideration. Details of the attendance are as follows:—

SCHOLARS.

	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Average Attendance	Average Attendance Including Wet Sundays.
Willis Street	288	236	524	305	326
Mount Cook	219	203	422	270	274
Totals	507	439	946	575	600

	Senior Division.	Intermediate Division.	Junior Division.	Totals.	Scholars Over 15 Yrs.
Willis Street	137	240	147	524	165
Mount Cook	84	176	162	422	91
Totals	221	416	309	946	256

TEACHERS AND OFFICE-BEARERS.

	Gentlemen.	Ladies.	Total.	Average Roll.	Average Attendance.
Willis Street	15	24	39	39	34
Mount Cook	15	22	37	37	30
Totals	30	46	76	76	64

The highest attendance of scholars on one Sunday was—

Willis Street	377
Mount Cook	330

Children's Morning Service.—This meeting, which has a roll of 120, continues to be a source of great help to its members. The conductors, Mr. F. H. Fraser, and Miss Hutchen, desire to thank the Christian Endeavour Society, the Young Men's Bible Class (Willis Street), and the several friends, for their assistance throughout the year. On Christmas morning the children sang a number of carols to the Hospital patients.

The Annual Treat, held at Day's Bay, was well patronised by scholars and teachers. The continued support of those friends who enabled us to give the children this pleasant outing is very gratifying.

The Anniversary Services, held on Sunday, the 28th May, were well attended, and heartily entered into by the scholars. The tea took place on the Wednesday following, and the wet evening did not prevent the young people from coming out in large numbers. We must here thank all those friends who provided so liberally for the occasion. At the after meeting, held in the Church, the children

delighted those present by their effective rendering of several anthems and choruses, under the baton of Mr. Wm. Hopkirk. Mr. Barnett presided at the organ.

Church Anniversary.—December 3rd, being Church Anniversary, the children met in the Church in the afternoon, and were interestingly addressed by the Rev. J. A. Asher, of Napier.

Examinations.—For the Sunday School Union and General Assembly Examinations, a fair number of the scholars presented themselves, with creditable results.

Library.—During the year the sum of £20 has been spent equally between the two schools in the purchase of new books. That both scholars and teachers appreciate the library is evident from the fact that for the year our librarians have issued 1467 books to boys, 3315 books to girls, and 687 books to teachers. We have, exclusive of the Bible Class libraries, 1350 books, but where so many children are anxious for good reading matter, the librarians find great difficulty in supplying the demand from such a limited stock. We trust that parents and friends will give us their liberal support, to enable us to provide a sufficiency of healthy reading matter for the children.

The Band of Hope has been recommenced, and was held every Friday evening during the winter months. Although our numbers were not so large as they should be, the meetings were very interesting, and we anticipate a successful coming session.

Bible Classes.—The Young Men's Bible Classes at both schools continue to thrive. At Willis Street, in addition to their ordinary meetings, the members conduct services at the Boys' Institute, Wadestown, and also manage and edit the "Young Men's Magazine," issued quarterly, in the interests of Bible Classes throughout the colony. The Young Ladies' classes are well attended, and the members shew a practical interest in missionary work.

Teachers' Meetings.—The Friday evening meeting for the study of the lesson shows improvement in tone and discussion, but the attendance is not nearly what it should be. Let us in the coming year remedy this defect, and do all we can to fit ourselves for our work.

The picnic, held at Belmont, was greatly enjoyed. Two social evenings were held, one about the middle of the year, and the other in December, when the teachers met to say goodbye to Miss Kirker, on the occasion of her marriage.

We can ill afford the loss of such an able and consistent worker. She has our best wishes for a happy and prosperous future.

Treasurer's Statement.—The subscriptions from scholars are somewhat less than for the previous year; this, in the case of the amount subscribed for missionary purposes, is to be regretted. We trust an effort will be made in the coming year to materially increase our subscriptions to missions. Our balance sheet shows a credit balance of £9.3s, but it is to be remembered that the library was not replenished to as large an extent as during the former year.

In conclusion, we feel that we have been greatly encouraged in our work by those members of the congregation who have helped us by their means, their sympathy, and their prayers. We heartily thank them, and trust that still more of our friends will join in helping forward this work of instructing the young, which is so needful and so far-reaching in its results.

F. H. FRASER,

WM. HOPKIRK,

Superintendents, Willis Street.

A. PURDIE,

Hon. Secretary,

31st December, 1899.

WM ALLAN,

Superintendent, Mount Cook.

ST. JOHN'S LADIES' VISITING & DORCAS SOCIETY.

THE meetings of this Society are held on the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of each month, and have been fairly well attended.

The object of the Society is to help those members of the Church who are in need.

Ladies who have time, and are willing to help in this good work, are made welcome to the meetings.

MARY CAMPBELL.

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

THE meetings were held in the Manager's room once a fortnight. There were 24 names on the roll, with an average attendance of 13.

During the year about a dozen families were helped with gifts of garments and material, while an orphan child at the Levin Memorial Home was provided with clothes for the year.

The Literary and Musical work was supplied by several members, and also by some friends, to whom the Society's thanks are due.

On November 14 the Annual Tea was held for the mothers and children who had been helped during the year, and passed off very successfully.

The Society wishes to thank those friends who kindly aided them by donations in money and kind.

ETHEL REITH, Hon. Secretary.

YOUNG PEOPLE'S SOCIETY OF CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOUR.

STARTING the year with a membership of 104 on our roll we closed the year with 108, made up as follows: 51 active members (of which 40 are Church members), 7 associate members, and 50 honorary members. Fifteen active members resigned during the year, mostly through being transferred from Wellington to other places, whilst ten new members have joined our ranks. The average attendance at the Monday night meeting is 39. Two of our most energetic Endeavourers, Messrs. Badden and Ball, have left us to go to the mission field in India, where they are now labouring.

The society is working eight committees, every member being placed on one, and allotted definite work to do.

The services at the Ohio Home, on the first Sunday of every month, at 6.30 p.m., and at Wadestown on the last Sunday of the month, at 11 a.m., are still carried on. Once a quarter the society holds a meeting in the Mount Cook School.

The open air work on Sunday nights (after Church) has done much to promote interest in the Society, besides doing

a large amount of good to those who never attend churches. Now that the novelty of the movement has worn off, the present members, knowing that solid work must be done to keep up interest in the meetings, have resolved, with God's help, to make St. John's C. E. a source of blessing and help throughout New Zealand. A very important Committee is the Literature Committee, who take good gospel reading, in the shape of books, magazines, and pamphlets to the homes of the poorer classes in our back streets. Most of the people hail with joy these members each week, who receive hearty thanks for their kindness. To any member of the congregation who can help us with good literature we shall be deeply grateful.

Kindly Note that our meetings are open to all the members of the Church, and it would greatly encourage us to see a good many more taking an active interest in our work. We want your assistance in monetary matters as well as your sympathy, and we undertake to dispose of any discarded clothing you may have to most deserving cases that are visited by our Sunshine Committee. A Junior Society holds its meetings on Wednesday afternoons, and is doing very good work amongst the children. The membership is large, and it is requested that parents send their children to the meetings, where they will get sound Biblical teaching.

J. D. ALLAN, Secretary.

ST. JOHN'S CHOIR.

THE attendance of the Choir at the Church services has been well maintained throughout the year. The usual attendance at Sunday Morning Service was 25, at Evening Service 30, and at practice on Wednesday evening 20. This must be considered very satisfactory. About the middle of the year several prominent members severed their connection with the Choir, but a special appeal was made to those members and adherents who could, to come and help us. The result was that the Choir was greatly strengthened in all parts, particularly the soprano and tenor. Although the Choir is in a flourishing state at present, 33 names being on the roll, Mr. Barnett and the Committee will gladly welcome any eligible members and adherents of the Church, who are desirous of becoming members.

ALEXR. BALLINGALL,
Hon. Secretary St. John's Choir.

St. John's Presbyterian Church Revenue Account.

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE FOR YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER, 1899.

RECEIPTS.		EXPENDITURE.	
£	s. d.	£	s. d.
Collections for year 1899	679 17 11	Balance at Debit, 31st December, 1898	1 19 6
Pew Rents	477 12 0	Rev. J. Paterson, Stipend	600 0 0
Rent of House in Willis Street	29 10 0	Rev. Mr. Asher, expenses, Anniversary	5 5 0
Proceeds of Conversations	30 0 0	Print Supply	8 17 0
Half Proceeds Organ Recitals	12 18 3	Organist's Salary	125 0 0
		Church Officer's Salary	60 0 0
		Interest on Mortgage	82 10 0
Collected for Dorcas and Charitable Purposes	38 15 6	Gas	36 9 7
" Church Extension and Sustentation Fund	90 9 3	Fire Insurance Premium	52 12 11
" New Hebrides Mission	31 8 3	Expenses Annual Business Meeting	12 0 0
" B. & F. Bible Society per Mrs. Menelaus	7 7 0	Plumber and Repairing Organ	1 11 6
Mr. Wilson, Heaton Park, for B. and F. Bible Society	5 5 0	Plumber's Repairs	26 8 0
Collection, Aged and Infirm Minister's Fund	5 0 0	Water Rate	5 11 0
Collected for Waldensian Mission	10 0 0	Advertising	1 3 0
Maori Mission	6 0 0	Builders' Repairs	2 10 0
Maori Mission, per Y.P.S.C.E.	5 0 0	Repairs to Water Engine	1 10 0
New Hebrides Mission, per Miss Glasgow's Bible Class	9 0 0	Furniture and Furnishings	2 0 0
" Society per Junior Endeavour	24 3 4	Printing Stationery, &c.	24 1 4
Collection for Sunday School	34 16 0	Cutting Grass, Keeping and Planting Grounds	15 18 0
Collected for Local Assembly Expenses	17 2 9	Treasurer Church Debt Reduction Fund	73 17 0
" Dayspring, per Sunday Schools	13 0 8	Glazing, Varnishing, &c.	4 5 8
New Hebrides Mission, per Sunday Schools	6 10 4	Music, &c., for Choir	4 9 2
		General Assembly Expenses (General)	10 10 0
		Stamps	1 15 0
		Church Book £1 10s 0d, Commission to Bank &c.	2 12 4
		Sundries	2 12 4
		Treasurer, Ladies' Visiting and Dorcas Society	53 15 6
		Church Extension and Sustentation Fund	90 9 3
		B. and F. Bible Society	13 13 0
		Sunday Schools	34 16 0
		Gen. Assoc. Local Expenses Committee	17 2 9
		Dr. Miller, for Waldensian Mission	10 0 0
		Rev. Dr. Sidney, Church Treasurer, as per contra	107 2 7
		Balance	1180 19 4
			926 19 1
			48 18 10
			£1,556 17 3

Audited and found correct—

JNO. 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, 1899.

RECEIPTS.		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	DISBURSEMENTS.		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Credit Balance, 31st December, 1898	..	..	..	..	1	6	2½	N.Z. Bible Tract and Book Society—	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Collections—	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Periodicals	..	66	7	5	..	..	..
Willis Street School—	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Library Books	..	20	0	6	..	..	..
General	..	26	9	1	..	..	..	Sundries and School Requisites	..	18	9	9	..	..	..
Books, Periodicals, etc.	..	12	17	9	..	..	..	Expenses Annual Treat	..	..	..	..	104	17	2
"Dayspring" and New Hebrides Mission	..	9	0	6½	..	..	..	Wellington Sunday School Union Subscriptions	..	..	..	..	42	4	0
New Hebrides Mission per, Miss Glasgow's Class	..	9	0	0	..	..	..	Caretaker, Mount Cook School	..	..	..	..	2	0	0
..	..	..	..	..	57	7	4½	Insurance Premium, Organ, Mt. Cook School	..	..	..	..	6	0	0
Mount Cook School—	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Social, Children's Morning Services	..	..	..	..	0	5	0
General	..	26	6	9½	..	..	..	Additions, Library Cupboards	..	..	..	..	2	7	0
Books and Periodicals	..	10	19	2½	..	..	..	Printing and Stationery	..	..	..	..	3	16	0
"Dayspring" and New Hebrides Mission	..	8	5	1	..	..	..	Repairs and Tuning Organ	..	..	..	..	1	6	1
Children's Morning Service—	..	..	..	..	45	11	1	Sundry Expenses	..	..	..	..	1	5	0
"Dayspring" and New Hebrides Mission	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Church Treasurer—	..	..	..	..	0	15	0
Annual Treat—	..	..	..	..	2	5	4½	New Hebrides Mission	..	6	10	4	..	..	..
Subscriptions	..	26	4	0	..	..	..	"Dayspring"	..	13	0	8	..	..	..
Proceeds Sale of Tickets	..	19	5	0	..	..	..	Native Teacher, N.H. Mission	..	6	0	0	..	..	..
..	..	..	..	..	45	9	0	Cot Maintenance, Ambrym Hospital	..	3	0	0	..	..	..
Sunday School Anniversary	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Balance Cash in Hand	..	..	..	..	28	11	0
Church Collections	..	32	8	6	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	9	3	0½
Net "Proceeds" Tea Meeting	..	15	14	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
..	..	..	..	..	50	10	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
..	..	..	..	..	£202	9	3½	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Balance brought down	..	..	..	..	£9	3s.	0½d	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..

Audited and found correct—JNO. PAUL, ALLAN MACDOUGALL, Hon. Auditors.

WM. HOPKIRK, Hon. Treasurer.

St. John's Young Men's Bible Class.

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE FOR YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31st, 1899.

RECEIPTS.		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	EXPENDITURE.		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
To Cash in Hand at beginning of Year	..	5	8	0	..	..	..	By Printing, Stationery, &c.	..	..	..	..	9	9	9
" Bank	..	13	2	4	18	10	4	Donations and Subscriptions, St. Paul's Y.M.B.C.	..	1	16	0	..	..	..
..	..	..	..	..	31	16	4	" Maori Mission	..	5	0	0	..	..	..
Collections for the Year	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	" Century Fund	..	23	5	9	30	1	9
Contributions—Library	..	15	0	0	..	..	..	Library—Books	..	16	8	0	..	..	..
Bible Class Certificate	..	0	2	6	..	..	..	" Cupboard	..	3	10	0	19	18	0
Class Funds	..	1	0	0	..	..	..	Fire Premium	..	..	..	..	0	12	0
Home Mission	..	0	10	0	..	..	..	Type	..	..	..	..	3	16	2
Century Fund	..	23	5	9	39	18	3	Interest	..	..	..	..	0	5	0
Sale of Type	..	..	..	..	7	10	0	Sundries	..	..	..	..	1	9	2
Advertising in Magazine	..	..	..	..	5	9	6	Balance—Cash	..	7	7	10	..	..	..
Discount	..	..	..	..	1	18	2	Bank	..	£35	19	1	..	..	..
..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	" Less Cheques outstanding	..	5	16	2	30	2	11
..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	37	10	9
..	..	..	..	..	£105	2	7	..	..	..	..	..	£105	2	7

BALANCE-SHEET.

LIABILITIES.					ASSETS.								
			£	s.	d.				£	s.	d.		
Home Mission	35	10	0	Cash	..	..	..	7	7	10
Balance, as per General Account..	120	6	1	Bank	..	..	..	30	2	11
							Printing Plant	..	..	..	58	6	2
							Library	..	..	..	59	19	2

Audited and found correct—C. D. MORPETH, A.S.A.A., Hon. Auditor.

J. HUTCHEN, Hon. Treas.

31st January, 1900.

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS FOR YEAR ENDING 31st OCTOBER, 1899.

Vouchers examined and found correct—
WM. HOPKINS

G. R. BELL,
Hon. Treas.

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS FOR YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER, 1899.

JOHN G. W. AITKEN,
Hon. Treasurer.

NEW CENTURY FUND ACCOUNT, DECEMBER 31st, 1899.

JOHN G. W. AITKEN,
Hon. Treasurer.

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES, 31ST DECEMBER, 1899.

JOHN G. W. AITKEN
Hon. Treas.

St. John's Young Women's Bazar and Literary Society.
STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND EXPENSES FOR YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER, 1899.

RECEIPTS.				EXPENDITURE.			
		£	s. d.			£	s. d.
Cash in Hand	..	..	3 18 2½	Stationery	..	0 5 4	
Subscriptions	..	..	1 0 0	Drapery	..	3 7 10	
Donations	..	..	0 11 0	Boots	..	0 6 11	
				Children's Tea, &c.	..	0 5 10	
				Balance	..	1 3 3½	
			<u>£5 9 2½</u>			<u>£5 9 2½</u>	

JEAN S. WILSON, Hon. Treasurer.

ST. JOHN'S BAND OF HOPE.

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS FOR YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER, 1899.

RECEIPTS.				DISBURSEMENTS.			
		£	s. d.			£	s. d.
To Cash Received from late Treasurer	..	..	1 2 7	By Cost of Literature and Prizes	..	0 11 0	
Members' Subscriptions, etc.	..	..	1 0 0	Cost of Provisions for Annual Tea	..	0 15 8	
				Cash in hand	..	0 15 11	
			<u>£2 2 7</u>			<u>£2 2 7</u>	

THOMAS HARROWER,
Hon. Treasurer.

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

BALANCE-SHEET, 1899.

RECEIPTS.				EXPENDITURE.			
		£	s. d.			£	s. d.
Balance in Hand	..	..	1 17 11	Sewing Machine and Sewing Material	..	11 13 0	
January Collection for Poor	..	..	10 1 9	Distributed to poor	..	38 5 0	
April	..	..	12 3 1	Balance in hand	..	5 17 5	
July	..	..	14 13 1				
October	..	..	0 2 0				
			15 17 7				
			<u>£55 15 5</u>			<u>£55 15 5</u>	

C. W. MOORE, Hon. Treasurer.