

The Anniversary of the Sabbath School of the First Church, Port Hope, was held on Sabbath last. The Rev. David Geggie, of Parkdale Presbyterian Church, Toronto, occupied the pulpit both morning and evening, and addressed the Sabbath School in the afternoon.

At Lyn, the Presbytery of Brockville met on Tuesday, 9th inst., Rev. R. Laird, moderator. The notice of motion proposing to reduce the number of Presbytery meetings, was tabled till the next regular meeting in February. After a good deal of reasoning, it was agreed to lay aside the sum of \$200, to be divided equally among the commissioners, with the proviso that the amount given any commission does not exceed \$40. The moderator welcomed Mr. McConnell, of Morton, to the Presbytery, who in turn, addressed the court on the prospects in his new field, which was very encouraging. A general discussion followed as to the advisability of appointing a missionary at Jones' Falls and Chaffey's Locks, next summer.

Montreal.

The Late Principal MacVicar.

The Rev. Donald Harvey MacVicar, D.D., LL.D., principal of the Montreal Presbyterian College, died of heart failure on Monday afternoon, at the age of seventy-one years. While his students were waiting for him in the lecture room he passed away quietly, sitting in his study, with the manuscript of his lecture before him. His death was entirely unexpected. He had hurried away from a meeting at Knox Church in order to give his five o'clock lecture on systematic theology, and it was while preparing for his study that he died.

Dr. MacVicar was born on Nov. 29, 1831, at the Scotch village of Dunglass, near Campbellton, Argyllshire. Four years later the family moved to Canada, and settled near Chatham, Ont. He was prepared by a private tutor for Toronto Academy, where he completed the course, and then, after a partial course at Toronto University, he entered Knox College as a theological student in 1855. Two years later he was ordained, and did mission work at Collingwood until his graduation in 1859. He refused calls to Collingwood, Brantford, British Columbia and West Toronto, and finally accepted a unanimous call to Knox church, Guelph. He had only been there a year when his ability as a preacher attracted the attention of the Cote Street Free Church, Montreal, one of the leading churches of Canada, which was looking for a successor to the Rev. Donald Fraser, D.D., who went to London, England. He accepted the call, and was inducted into the charge on Jan. 30th, 1861. His pastorate lasted almost eight years, and under his care the congregation, now known as Crescent Street Church, doubled.

In 1868 the General Assembly appointed him principal and professor of divinity to the Montreal Presbyterian College. Lectures being given in the basement of Erskine Church, and its growth to its present size and efficiency is largely the result of Principal MacVicar's energy and ability. For the last third of a century he has presided over the college, and his place will be hard to fill.

Ottawa.

In St. Paul's Church, Anniversary services were conducted last Sunday, by Rev. Dr. Rose in the morning, and Rev. Dr. Herridge in the evening; while Rev. Dr. Armstrong preached in Dominion Methodist and St. Andrew's Churches. On Tuesday evening a most successful social was held.

Presbytery of Bruce.

Presbytery of Bruce met at Paisley on Dec. 2nd. The Rev. Mr. McEachern was appointed moderator for the ensuing six months.

A petition from the charge of Allenford, Elsinore and Skipness, asked to be transferred to the Owen Sound Presbytery. This was refused and an appeal will be made to the Synod.

It was recommended that the Treas. of Presbytery receive \$10 per annum. Rev. Mr. Conning of Walkerton tendered his resignation on account of the state of his son's health, which made it advisable to live in a warmer climate. Mr. Conning has been offered the pastorate of Reid Memorial Church in Baltimore, Maryland, and has decided, if released from his present charge, to locate there. A letter was read from Walkerton congregation embodying a resolution of sympathy with Mr. Conning, and reluctantly acquiescing in the acceptance of his resignation. The Presbytery then resolved to declare the pul-

pit vacant on the 7th of Dec. Mr. Johnston was appointed interim Moderator of Session.

The anniversary services of the Presbyterian church were held on the 7th inst. Rev. Dr. Murray, of Kincardine, conducted the services on Sabbath, preaching two excellent sermons, and on Monday he lectured on "My impression of Scotland." The congregations were large at all the services and the offerings were liberal. Mr. Savers took Dr. Murray's place at Kincardine.

Schemes of Our Church.

St. Andrew's Manse, Perth, Dec. '02

Dear Brother:—This letter is written in the interests of one of the Schemes of our Church. It is the outcome of communications from the Agent of the Church, and the Convener of the Committee in charge of this Scheme.

Like the Augmentation Scheme, the Scheme in aid of ministers who are aged and infirm is an important branch of Home Church enterprise. Thus, neglected heretofore, it is now in a condition that is hopeful and promising in every way.

The object of the fund is to secure for every minister who has given 40 years service to the Church, a retiring allowance yearly of at least \$400, and a proportionate annuity to those who serve for shorter periods. The sooner a minister becomes connected with the Aged and Infirm Minister's Fund after his ministry has been entered upon, the better.

The capital at the disposal of the Committee in charge is now in such condition that a good contribution from each congregation, together with the rate from each minister added to the income from capital, will place the Fund on a cheerfully remunerative basis.

The expectation is that every minister in the Presbytery of Lanark and Renfrew will be connected with the Aged and Infirm Minister's Fund before the end of the present year, and that there will be such heartiness by ministers and congregations in the maintenance of the Fund year by year that our brethren and ourselves may have as much as a well-furnished fund can supply when we get on into the Indian summer period of life.

Fraternally yours,

A. H. SCOTT.

State of Fund.

The following table shows the condition of the several funds of the Church (Western section). In the first column, the receipts to 1st Dec., 1902 are given, and in the second column, the amount still required before the close of the Church year, on 25th Feb. next.

| RECEIPTS TO 1ST DECEMBER, 1902. | AMOUNT STILL REQUIRED. |
|---|---------------------------|
| Knox College, \$ 896.20 | \$ 10,104 |
| Queen's College, . . . 197.33 | 5,303 |
| Montreal College, . . . 358.58 | 4,632 |
| Manitoba College, . . . 559.91 | 2,000 |
| Home Mission, 34,377.23 | 67,623 |
| Augmentation, 3,422.42 | 26,578 |
| Foreign Mission, . . . 34,359.85 | 45,640 |
| Widows & Orphans, . . . 2,305.55 | 12,695 |
| Aged and Infirm Ministers Fund, . . . 705.16 | 11,295 |
| Assembly, 2,376.54 | 4,626 |
| French Evangelization and Pointe Aux Trembles, . . . 9,121.18 | 25,679 |

Of the \$306,100 required this year for the Western section of the Church, only \$89,885, have been received up to 1st December. In other words, not one-third of the total amount has yet been got, although three-quarters of the year have expired. It is hoped that Congregational and Missionary Society Treasurers will, at the earliest possible date, forward any money at present in their hands. It is also hoped that the allocation of their missionary funds by congregations, will be somewhat in accord with the requirements of the respective schemes. Money sent unapportioned can be, meantime, entered in the Unapportioned account, and divided according to the wishes of the congregation before the end of the year. It is specially requested that all parties will bear in mind the fact that the church year now closes on 28th February, and that only monies received at the office of the church on or before the evening of that day, will appear in the annual reports to be submitted to the General Assembly.

R. H. W.

Toronto, Dec. 11th, 1902.

A Statement and a Suggestion, About Century Fund.

Three years ago the General Assembly appealed to members and adherents of our church on behalf of a fund which was to be, "A Memorial of the great things God has done for us in the Nineteenth Century, and to be used for strengthening and extending the church's work."

The first object of the scheme was the clearing off of debts on churches and manses, for which purpose over \$900,000 have now been subscribed and paid. An inestimable blessing has been wrought through this branch of the scheme. "Burning the mortgage" has been the central feature of many a happy church gathering, and the beginning of brighter and fuller church life in many congregations.

The second object was to provide \$600,000, for the Missionary, Benevolent and Educational enterprises of the church at large." Some said "we can never reach that, so we will wait and see how this scheme gets on." Some said "our debt is large and we cannot do much for outside work." There were difficulties and discouragements of many kinds and yet the work went on. A little over \$600,000, has been subscribed. Payments have been met with a fullness that has, perhaps, never been equalled in any similar subscription list. In the older provinces 95% of the amount subscribed has been paid, and we hope to do better than that by the closing day. If we could get \$30,000, by the first of January it looks that there would be nothing lacking to the completeness of the church's plea. This might possibly have been secured had not the Agent's health broken down and prevented him from further canvassing. The thought comes to him that if our people thoroughly knew how near we are to the goal there are many of them, (richer or poorer, some who waited to see and others who have given already), who would unite in helping to make up the remaining sum.

The suggestion is this:—That in the Christmas season, and especially on Christmas day, when families meet and rejoice together, acknowledging God's goodness and love, they should remember especially the blessings that have come to them through Christ and his Church. Then let them set apart a token of their gratitude and dedicate it to the completion of the Common Fund.

Let it be the Christmas gift to Christ and His Church of those families to whom, during the last one, two or three years, God has given large prosperity or many joys or special consolation in the time of sorrow. Let it be worthy of what he has done for you and given freely for His sake. Then whatever it may be, cents or dollars or perhaps thousands of dollars, you will know that it will be gladly received by Him, and that it will be used by His Church for work which is in pressing need of just such gifts as these.

Having settled what your gifts shall be either put it in an envelope stating its purpose, and place it on the collection plate on the last Sabbath of the year or send it direct to Rev. Dr. Warden, Confederation Life Building Toronto, Ontario, or Rev. E. A. McCurdy, Halifax, N. S.

It would greatly help if Ministers would read this statement to their people on the Sabbath before Christmas and, if they see fit commend the suggestion to their people.

R. CAMPBELL.

"The Mineral Bath City."

Twenty-one miles north of Detroit is situated Mount Clemens, a City known as "The Carlsbad of America," at which place thousands of people visit every year for treatment of different ailments; and the wonderful cures that are made with rheumatic sufferers are almost miraculous. Principal among the diseases cured are those that accrue from traces of uric acid in the blood. But the waters of the Springs are a panacea and cure for bilious and liver troubles, digestive troubles, nervous disorders, general debility, etc.

A handsome booklet giving all particulars with regard to Mount Clemens can be had by applying to G. T. BELL, G.P. and T.A., Grand Trunk Ry., Montreal, Que.

SPECIAL TO MINISTERS.

The Empire Loan & Savings Company, Temple Building, Toronto, offers excellent opportunities to ministers to add to their incomes by selling the stock of the company. Stock certificates guaranteed and paying 6% semi-annually. Kindly write for particulars when you read this.

JUDGE EDWARD MORGAN, W. M. GEMMEL,
President. Manager.