

years ago, of his daughter, Mrs. D. J. Macdonnell, when he moved to Toronto and took up his residence with his daughter's family at St. Andrew's Manse, where on Saturday last he died. He was consequently one of the pioneer ministers of the Church and he delighted in relating his pioneer experiences, which were often of a very thrilling character. From Fergus, northward, his territory extended and he performed parochial duty to the shores of the Georgian Bay. It is stated that during his pastorate more than 1,400 members had been received into the Church and more than 1,400 children baptized by him. He was a native of Orkney, his father having been for fifty years minister of St. Andrew's parish, there. He was ordained in 1836—sixty years ago, minister of the Church of Scotland in Lady parish, Orkney, and his jubilee was solemnized at Guelph, in 1886, by a most interesting and impressive celebration. In June, 1893, he and Mrs. Smellie—a daughter of the Manse—celebrated their golden wedding and she and five of their family of ten survive him.

French Evangelization.

An appeal which will reach the heart and conscience of the church has been issued by the Committee on French Evangelization. It urges special liberality in connection with the Thanksgiving Day collection. The committee finds signs of encouragement, and evidences of progress all over the field of its operations. Colporteurs and evangelists gain an easier than usual access to the people and a growing desire for truth. Mission day schools are well attended and the outlook generally is hopeful. One interesting extract is as follows:—"Recent and current movements in the Province of Quebec, so full of promise for the future, are largely, though not wholly, due to the missionary and educational work of humble and devoted representatives of evangelical churches during these years. 'What great things hath God wrought?' Surely what has been accomplished not only warrants but imperatively demands the continuance of energetic and consecrated efforts to give our Roman Catholic fellow Canadians of French origin the Gospel of the Son of God. As in former years the Executive of the Board appeals for a *special collection* on Thanksgiving Day, November 26th, in aid of the funds and also for the active sympathy and co-operation of pastors and people in carrying on this department of the Church's missionary work." It is further stated, and the statement ought to be prayerfully laid to heart; that "the Bible is still a prohibited book and the mass of the people ignorant of it. Less than two per cent of eleven hundred and eighty families and persons, recently visited had a copy of the Scriptures although the district has been visited often by agents of the Bible Society and others."

It is difficult to realize the fact that in this Canada there exists a church, professedly Christian, which holds the Bible as a sealed book from thousands of the Canadian people. The problem of French Evangelization is not to be set aside by a few platitudes about proselytism; it must be faced as it is being faced until it shall have become an accomplished fact.

Ministerial Jubilee.

No name is held in greater respect in the church than that of the genial and able statistician, Rev. Dr. Torrance, whose jubilee in the ministry was celebrated at Guelph last week. Years of arduous service have not left a deep impress on Dr. Torrance, whose reports, from year to year,

show marvellous industry, clearness of grasp, and lucidity of statement. Younger men might well envy his sustaining power and his untiring application. Personally he is one of the most loveable of men. Unostentatious, genial and true he at once attracts one's liking and inspires confidence. He is firm in his convictions and if need can be valiant in expressing them, although meekness is his characteristic trait. Therefore he is deeply beloved by his friends and he has won a hold on the affections of the church, second to that no other leader. He has rendered the church incalculable service in various capacities, and on the floor of the general Assembly his counsel, urged in his quiet tones, is always wise and generally effective. He was licensed by the Presbytery of Dunfermline, Scotland, and has laboured in Canada since 1845, first as a missionary and then since 1846 as pastor of the First Presbyterian Church Guelph, where his long ministry went on uninterruptedly until 1882 when he retired from the duties of the active ministry, but not from the work of the church. In addition to his services as statistician he has filled important positions one of them being the Convenership of the Committee on the Distribution of Probationers. Locally, he is a pillar of the church, and his personality has been during these years, a living power for the Master's cause. The celebration of his jubilee marks an interesting epoch in his life and the hope is sincere, on all hands, that he has many years of usefulness before him in which to continue this valuable work for which he is so eminently fitted.

Armenian Relief Fund. Dr. W. B. Geikie, Treasurer of the Armenian Relief Fund, acknowledges a donation of one dollar from a friend in Uxbridge, in response to the statement of the fund published recently in the PRESBYTERIAN REVIEW; and other subscriptions have been promised. The need continues to be urgent.

Some Startling Figures. John Gilmer Speed figures that the theatres in New York City only cost six million dollars a year, whereas the churches raise that much for their work. Charity amounts to nine million, while car fares count up three times as much. Diamonds and jewelry require twenty million a year, and European trips about thirty-two million. Wine and beer cost them one hundred and twenty millions. The metropolitan spend five times as much for intoxicants as the average throughout the country.

The Power of Love. Love is the mightiest influence that can be brought to bear upon any life for its moral and spiritual uplifting. It is the miracle-worker. It makes its power felt where the truth is never perceived. It is true for the great mass of mankind that they can only be reached through their affections. The kind word, the thoughtful act, the pressure of the hand, will often do more to save than the strongest arguments, even rightly understood. Sympathy is power, and a power which all may exercise. If we would do, therefore, all we ought to do for one whom we desire to help, we must love him—love him truly and deeply, love him for what he may become, love him for Jesus' sake.

Archaeological Discoveries. New discoveries are constantly making which bear on Bible history. The last is announced in *The Academy* by Professor Sayce, and comes from Dr. Scheil. It will be remembered that Mr. Pinches found, less than a year ago, the names of Chedorlaomer, King of Elam, and Tidal, king of nations, of Genesis 14, on a Babylonian tablet. Dr. Scheil has just found, among the early tablets now in Constantinople, some letters of Hammurabi (the Amraphel of Gen. 14) to a King of Larsa, which relate to the war of independence waged by Hammurabi, at the end of which the latter gave his ally of Larsa statues and other presents as a "reward for his valor on the day of the defeat of Chedorlaomer," the Elamite king.