

Church News

[All communications to this column ought to be sent to the Editor immediately after the occurrences to which they refer have taken place.]

MONTREAL NOTES.

All Canada will be interested in the scheme just launched here by Lady Aberdeen as a fitting commemoration of the Diamond Jubilee of the Queen, to provide trained nurses for the North-West Territories and other sparsely settled districts in Canada. In many places it is impossible to find a physician within a distance of forty miles and often before his services can be secured much unnecessary suffering has to be endured or even life endangered. Even after the physicians aid has been obtained it is often impossible to secure proper nursing for the sufferer who may be alone in some wretched little hut at a long distance from any neighbors who can render assistance. To meet these needs it is proposed to organize a band of nurses who are prepared to devote a few years at least of their lives to the work of caring for such cases and who are to receive sufficient medical training to enable them to deal with ordinary emergencies until the medical man can be brought. The whole territory will be districted so as to bring some one of these within comparatively easy reach of all settler and mining camps. It is expected that in course of time the scheme will be largely self-supporting, but it will require a considerable sum to set it going and to meet the initial expenses. It is believed that there are now enough trained nurses in the country without steady employment to make a beginning at the most needy points and that once the opportunity is afforded many others will offer themselves for the necessary training. In all probability many of those who go will remain permanently in the districts to which they are assigned either as nurses or as wives of the more prosperous settlers, and in either case, as being educated above the average, prove a blessing to the community and leaders in every good work. There is no doubt that the successful inauguration of such a scheme would be one of the worthiest tributes to the noble woman who has so long occupied the august throne of Britain's vast empire.

On Monday evening last the Chinese New Year was celebrated by one of their unique entertainments in the lecture room of Stanley St. Church. It was of course under the auspices of the mission and the programme was arranged by Dr. Thomson. A few short addresses were given by the Superintendence of the different Chinese Sunday schools and by the Rev. J. Edgar Hill of St. Andrew's Church, but the items were largely furnished by the Chinese themselves who were present to the number of about two hundred and who had decorated the room in gorgeous style with their natural banners and lanterns. The climax of the whole entertainment as usual was the Chinese orchestra which is certainly very different from anything that occidentals are in the habit of hearing. The interest in the Chinese work was shown by the fact that though no special pains had been taken to advertise the meeting, the lecture room was packed to the door and people were standing everywhere in the aisles. Refreshments were served at the close to the Chinamen present by their teachers. A happier company or a more orderly and respectable looking body of men one could not desire to see anywhere. Most of them wore their native costume, but a few were in European dress and manifestly prided themselves on the extent to which they had assimilated new world ideas. Occasionally these celestiala receive unkind treatment at the hands of the rougher element in the population, but such incidents as that of Monday evening go a long way to compensate them for any such indignities and prove to them that kindness is the true outcome of the Christian faith of the country. Thus they are quick enough to recognize and to this sentiment not a few of them are ready to respond.

GENERAL

The induction of the Rev. D. A. Hamilton, of Harrison, into the pastorate of the

Presbyterian Church at Havelock took place on Wednesday, Feb. 3.

Rev. Dr. Campbell of Erskine church was elected Moderator of the Ottawa Presbytery at its last meeting.

Mr. Thomas Kerr well delivered his popular lecture on St. Patrick, on Tuesday evening, Feb. 16th, in the Queen St. East Presbyterian Church.

The recent monthly meeting of the Toronto Auxiliary, Leper Mission, will be held (D.V.) Monday the 15th inst. at 8.30 p.m., at 632 Church street. All are cordially invited.

The farmers in connection with the Presbyterian church, Pakenham, are now drawing stone and sand for the erection of their new church, which edifice is to be built next summer.

Rev. Dr. Mutch presided on Jan. 29th at the annual anniversary of Chalmers Presbyterian church S.S., Dovercourt road, at which the seven hundred scholars enjoyed an exceedingly pleasant evening.

Rev. D. J. Fraser, B.D., whose name was before the congregation of St. Andrew's church, Toronto, has been inducted into the pastoral charge of St. Stephen's church, St. John, N.B., as successor to Rev. Principal Macrae, D.D., Morrin College, Quebec.

A collection was taken up in Knox Church, Galt, January 31, for the famine-stricken inhabitants of India. The amount raised was about \$90. This is the first Church in Canada that has yet taken up a collection for this object, according to Dr. Jackson.

At the last communion held in the congregations of Caledon and Alton, Rev. J. A. Matheson, B.D., pastor, twenty persons were admitted into the membership of the church. A great many young people are in this congregation and, therefore, splendid opportunities for work for the Master.

New St. Andrew's congregation, New Glasgow, on Jan. 29th, unanimously called Rev. W. McC. Thompson in succession to Rev. Robert Robertson. Mr. Thompson is a son of Rev. Mr. Thompson of Durham, N.S., and has studied in Edinburgh and Germany. He is a brother of Rev. A. W. Thompson, of Trinidad.

At a largely attended meeting of St. John's Presbyterian congregation, Feb. 3rd, a unanimous call was extended to the Rev. Mr. Abraham, of Burlington, Ont., to succeed the Rev. Mr. Cameron, who went to Boston some months ago. The Rev. W. A. McKenzie and Mr. J. W. O. Watson were appointed commissioners to represent the congregation at the meeting of the Hamilton Presbytery, to consider Mr. Abraham's transfer.

The Presbyterian Hymnal is now well under way. Rev. Dr. Somerville of Owen Sound and Rev. A. MacMillan of Toronto, delegates from the Canadian Committee, returned from Oxford and London Feb 5th and met the Publishing Committee, to whom they reported. In all points they report most satisfactorily. The book, they say, will be beyond their most sanguine expectations. The publishers, the Oxford University Press, have exceeded the terms of the contract, and the church is assured of the finest specimen of hymn book making ever offered to any church. The book will be on the market in Canada on May 1st, and will be sold through the regular book trade. The specimen sections of the new book are beautiful pieces of work.

Westminster church, Toronto, held its annual missionary meeting in the church, Bloor street east, Feb. 3rd. Mr. J. O. Anderson occupied the chair, and Rev. R. P. McKay of Parkdale Presbyterian church and Rev. John Neil, pastor of the church, addressed the gathering. The treasurer's report shows receipts from missionary association \$1,519 and from other sources \$234. These officers were elected for the ensuing year: Rev. John Neil honorary president, J. O. Anderson president, Henry Graham first vice president, Dr. John Stanhouse second vice president, Mr. D. P. McIntosh treasurer, Richard Knowles assistant treasurer, James T. Donald secretary, Messrs. Britton, Christie, Davidson, Forster, Gunn, Knowles, Lindsay and Misses Bethune, Haig, Purse and Stalker committee.

The annual meeting of the Toronto Auxiliary of the McAll Association was held in the Library, Y.M.C.A., Feb. 4th afternoon. Mrs. Howitt occupied the chair. The annual reports of Secretary and Treasurer were read and adopted. The election of officers resulted as follows: President, Mrs. S. C. Duncan-Clark; Vice-Presidents, 1st, Miss Carty, 2nd, Mrs. Howitt, 3rd, Mrs. Joe. Henderson, 4th, Mrs. Wrong; Secretary, Miss Ada Dundas; Treasurer, Miss Inglis; Literature Secy., Miss Bain; Executive Com., Mrs. Fotheringham, Miss McMaster, Mrs. Shurtreed, Mrs. Sills, Mrs. Matthews, Mrs. Bryce, Mrs. Laird, Mrs. Henry O'Brien, Mrs. Dalton, Miss J. F. Caven, Mrs. Geo. A. Cox. Mrs. Grant occupied the chair during election of officers. At the conclusion of this a Bible-reading, on the Faithful Servant was given by Miss Downie.

BRITISH COLUMBIA NOTES

Rev. A. MacVicar has resigned his charge at Nelson, Kamloops Presbytery, with the view of prosecuting a special line of study.

Rev. E. D. McLaren, of St. Andrew's Vancouver, lectured before the Art and Historical Society of that city on the 26th inst. His subject was "Longfellow."

Rev. Thos. Scouler has been appointed chaplain of the Penitentiary at New Westminster vice Rev. H. H. Gowen, resigned.

During the first two weeks of the New Year Union Evangelistic services, productive of much good, were held by the congregations of First church, and St. Andrew's Victoria.

The Chinese Mission in Victoria has recently moved to more suitable quarters, on the ground floor of the same building in which the work has hitherto been carried on.

Mr. Winchester, who in addition to his labors in Victoria is charged with the oversight of all our Foreign Mission work in this Province, is at present visiting the towns in the interior.

NORTH WEST NOTES.

The handsome stone church at Deloraine was opened on the 17th inst. Services were conducted by the Rev. Donald Munro, formerly pastor of the congregation, and by the Rev. Peter Fisher, of Boissevain. On the following Monday evening the Rev. R. G. MacBeth, of Winnipeg, lectured on "General Gordon."

A church costing \$4,000 has been erected in Emerson, and was dedicated on the 24th. The Rev. Dr. Bryce, of Winnipeg, preached at the opening services and on Monday evening there was a social meeting of the congregation at which addresses were delivered by the Rev. James Lawrence, formerly pastor of the congregation, and by the Rev. R. G. MacBeth.

The Chinese Sunday school in Winnipeg has concluded another year of useful work. Mr. James Thompson and his self-denying band of assistants show no sign of being weary in well-doing. The Chinamen contributed during the year \$33, the greater part of which goes by their wish to the Young Men's Christian Association as an expression of appreciation for the use of the room in which the Sunday school is held, while the remainder is voted by them to the Foreign Mission Fund for work among their own countrymen.

During a recent absence of the Rev. Wm. Hansen of the German Reformed Church in Winnipeg, the Rev. Principal King conducted a service very acceptably in German for the congregation. All went smoothly except the singing. The pastor, it appears, had been in the habit of acting in the capacity of precentor—a line of service in which Dr. King showed hesitation about following him.

The Rev. R. G. MacBeth has been appointed to organize a new congregation in the Western part of the City of Winnipeg.

The Presbytery of Winnipeg has nominated the Rev. Dr. Moore, of Ottawa, as Moderator of the next General Assembly.

In the matter of remits from the General Assembly the Presbytery of Winnipeg has taken action as follows: the proposals to reduce the representation in the General Assembly and to establish a permanent