

## Ministers and Churches.

The Rev. J. G. Shearer, the energetic Secretary of the Lord's Day Alliance met with an unpleasant accident when on his travels lately. By a misstep he wrenched the muscles around the knee, and his physician has forbidden him using the limb for at least a fortnight. Those who know Mr. Shearer's temperament will sympathize with him in his enforced idleness even more than in the pain of his injury. His friends will not consider it an unmitigated disaster as he has been trying to do the work for several men for some time past.

The Ministerial Association has decided to discontinue the Thursday mid-day services in Knox Church after this week. Rev. Wm. Patterson will speak at the closing meeting. The attendance of business men has not been so large as it was hoped it would be, but the hour is not the most suitable for them. If the meetings were an hour later the business man would probably be more in evidence.

Many of the Toronto ministers have gone to New York to attend the Ecumenical Conference. Dr. Warden and some others went last week, and Dr. McTavish, Revs. A. Gilray, J. McP. Scott, W. Frizell and several others went on Monday. Many others of our Canadian Church are present, and there should be a considerable impetus given to the cause of missions from this great gathering. Such was the influence of the great Council of 1888, and such will doubtless be the effect of the present greater meeting.

The agitation for a Hospital for consumptives is making an impression in Toronto, and a Committee has been formed with the Hon. J. R. Stratton as Honorary President, and Dr. Barwick as President. The site for the Hospital has not yet been chosen, but will in all probability be to the north of the city, and not many miles from its northern limits.

There was a pleasant gathering at Knox Church, Toronto, last Thursday evening, when the members of Knox, old and new met to express their appreciation of their minister, Dr. Parsons, who has resigned the active pastorate of that congregation, after a ministry there of twenty years, and a full ministry of forty-five years. During the evening, Mr. Mortimer Clark, on behalf of the congregation presented to Dr. Parsons a well-worded address accompanied by a purse of 100 golden sovereigns. It is seldom that there is such spontaneous manifestation of affection as has been shown by the members of Knox Church for their minister in his advancing years.

The general exchange of pulpits took place last Sunday, and there were many expressions of surprise and delight that the other brethren who occupied Presbyterian pulpits could preach such edifying Calvinism. We presume the same expressions have been heard about our own ministers preaching the doctrines of Wesley. The custom has been much to draw the denominations closer together, and to give a better idea of the point of view of each.

Dr. MacClements visited his former charge at Chalmers Church again last Sunday, and preached morning and evening to large audiences. The occasion was the anniversary of the formation of the congregation. Since that time the growth has been steady, though the difficulties have been many. Under the Rev. John Mutch, the first minister, the foundations were well laid, and these were well built upon during Dr. MacClements' brief ministry. The mantle has now fallen upon Rev. R. G. Davey, and the congregation is in good heart and the people have a mind to work. There should be good reports from Chalmers during the next few years.

### OTTAWA.

Sir James Grant has been speaking in the Academic Hall of Ottawa University "Milk and its relation to consumption." The subject is an important one, and was skillfully handled.

The Synod of Montreal and Ottawa is advertised

to meet in St. Andrew's Church, Perth, on Tuesday 8th of May. A strong local committee will make arrangements for the reception and billeting of members.

Rev. Dr. Herridge was expected to refer last Sunday to the recent discussion of the confession of Faith by Dr. Parkhurst and others in the United States. He did not mention the subject, and many were disappointed.

Announcement was made from the various pulpits of the city, last Sunday, of the appointment of Rev. Mr. Milne, of the Glebe Church, as local agent for the century fund in this vicinity. Mr. Milne has already commenced his work and with his accustomed energy will push it to a successful conclusion.

Mr. John R. Reid, general manager of the Sun Life Insurance company Ottawa has been asked to read a paper on the "Work of the board of Management," at the Synod meeting at Perth. Such a subject could not have been placed in better hands. Mr. Reid will give it effective and practical treatment.

### EASTERN ONTARIO.

The Presbyterians of Kirkfield have purchased a mans.

Rev. A. E. Mitchell of Almonte, preached in St. Andrew's church, Appleton, on Sunday afternoon.

Rev. A. Laird, of Cooke's Church, Kingston is fast recovering from his illness, and will be able to resume his duties shortly.

The Presbyterian congregation in the village of Lyn subscribed \$1,200 to the century fund in one day. That amount was obtained from about ten families.

Mrs. F. A. Stalback, of Balsover, was presented with an appreciately worded address, as well as a well-filled purse, in slight acknowledgement of long continued and valuable services as organist.

In the Presbytery of Lanark and Renfrew the proposed new plan for the election of the moderator of the general assembly and that bearing upon extension of the powers of Synod on certain special lines were pronounced upon unfavorably.

The Presbyterians of Lanark and Renfrew are generous in their givings to the scheme of the church. The Presbyterian Woman's Society contributed over \$3,000 last year; and the Young People's Society for the same Presbytery raised the handsome sum of nearly \$2,000.

At the regular meeting of the Presbytery of Lanark and Renfrew held at Carleton Place last week, the following commissioners to the general assembly which meets in Halifax in June were appointed: Rev. A. H. Scott, Perth; Rev. John Hay, Renfrew; Rev. Dr. Bayne, Pembroke; Rev. C. H. Cooke, Smith's Falls; Messrs. A. G. Farrel and Samuel Wilson.

In the recent convocation exercises in connection with the Presbyterian College at Montreal, we observe with pleasure, says the Carleton Place Herald, the names of H. H. Turner, B.A., son of Mr. James Turner of Appleton, who took the D. F. Kelley first prize in elocution and the David Morrice prize (\$100) in general proficiency. His brother, Mr. W. D. Turner, B.A., graduated this session, and after being licensed by the Presbytery here, will be transferred to Kamloops, B.C., where he purposes entering upon his labors.

The historic town of Perth extends a welcome to the fathers and brethren who are to meet in Synod for the last time in the present century. The expectation is entertained that the approaching synod may be influential and profitable. In addition to the business which will fall to be transacted, pertaining to the important territory covered by the Synod of Montreal and Ottawa four special subjects will be laid before the approaching Synod. These are: Pastoral work in town and country under present conditions, introduced by Rev. D. Strachan, B. A., Brockville. The work of the board of management introduced by John R. Reid, Ottawa. The decrease of interest among men in the Christian life and in Christian work, introduced by Rev. G. Colbourne

Heine, M. A., Montreal. Is spiritually on the increase in the Canadian church, if so what? If not why not? Prof. Scrimger, Montreal.

At the meeting of the Presbytery of Lanark and Renfrew considerable time was devoted to matters relating to the aged and infirm ministers fund. The following resolution on the subject was submitted by Rev. Mr. Scott, of Perth, and Dr. Bayne of Pembroke, and sanctioned by the Presbytery: "The Presbytery of Lanark and Renfrew having given careful consideration to the scheme for 'deferred annuities,' in connection with the fund for aged and infirm ministers, sent down by the general assembly of 1899, begs to express its judgment as follows: Firstly, the principle of the proposed plan is approved by the Presbytery; secondly, in applying the principal to practical uses the Presbytery, encouraged by what it believes to be a growing interest in the aged and infirm ministers' fund throughout the church, expresses the hope that at an early date the aged limit for retirement may be reduced from 70 to 65, and assures the assembly's committee and the assembly and its aim and expectation are that at no distant date every minister entitled to retirement will be entitled to a minimum amount of \$400."

### WESTERN ONTARIO.

Central church Galt, Century Fund collectors have raised \$6,000. The approximate was \$6,500, but this may be exceeded.

The Rev. Donald Currie will preach his farewell sermon to the Wallaceburg Presbyterian congregation on Sunday, April 29th.

The reopening of Chalmers church, Elora, will take place next Sabbath. Rev. Dr. Caven of Knox College, Toronto, will conduct the services.

Waterloo Lodge, I.O.O.F., will attend Knox Church, Galt, in a body a week from Sunday. The Rev. R. E. Knowles it is expected will preach.

The Rev. N. A. McDonald, of Cedarville, Ont., occupied the pulpit of St. Andrew's church, Eldon, on Sabbath last preaching an able and eloquent discourse.

The Presbytery Synod of Montreal and Ottawa will meet in St. Andrew's Church Perth on Tuesday, May 8, the first meeting to open at eight o'clock in the evening.

Rev. Thomas Wilson preached a patriotic sermon Sunday evening in King Street Presbyterian Church. He raised the question, "Is Britain justified in the Present South African War?" Special music was rendered.

Sunday evening in Wentworth, Church, Hamilton the Rev. A. MacWilliams began a series of sermons on "The Prodigal Son." The leave taking and the journey to the far country were vividly pictured and practical lessons drawn therefrom. The congregation was large.

On Tuesday evening Rev. Mr. and Mrs. Ross were at home to the young people of Knox church, Guelph. Mrs. Ross was assisted by the Young Ladies' Missionary Society and the 200 people who were present enjoyed themselves immensely. A short musical programme was rendered.

Rev. Robert Burton, assistant Secretary of the Toronto Y. M. C. A., who has accepted a call from a Presbyterian church at Little Current, Manitoulin Island, was tendered a farewell reception by the officers of the Association and their friends in the Y. M. C. A. parlors and was presented with a handsome study clock and Bible.

Rev. Robert Johnston, D.D., of St. Andrew's Church, London, has left for New York, where he will attend the sessions of the Ecumenical Council there. Dr. Johnston took with him to be cabled to India, the Y. M. C. A. contribution of \$71.10, and that of the Hope Sunday School, West London, amounting to \$4; for the Indian famine fund.

Rev. R. E. Knowles of Galt left for New York City on Monday to attend the Ecumenical Council. He