

CHURCH
WORK

Ministers and Churches

NEWS
LETTERS

OTTAWA.

His Honor, Lt. Governor Clark, will lay the foundation stone of the new Stewarston church next Thursday evening at 7 o'clock.

In spite of the somewhat dispiriting atmospheric conditions, St. Andrew's church was filled to the doors at the morning service on Sunday, when Rev. Dr. Armstrong, of St. Paul's church, ex-moderator of the Presbyterian general assembly, delivered the annual college sermon to the undergraduates and graduates of the Ottawa Ladies' College. Gowned in dainty white dresses, the young ladies to the number of eighty-five attended by Mrs. Grant Needham, lady principal, Misses Boyd, Gallagher, Airth, Middleton, McQueston, Magee, Ross and Curry of the staff, occupied the center of the church, presenting a rare picture of charming young womanhood. Never, previous to last Sunday, had so many collegians attended service of a similar character in the history of the Ladies' college. Fifteen graduates were in attendance. Taking as his text John ii., 5, "Now, Jesus loved Martha, and her sister, and Lazarus," Dr. Armstrong in a sermon marked by careful study, extolled the virtue of love, human and divine. The text, the reverend speaker remarked in opening his address, was a suggestive one for the occasion, as in the whole gamut of human feeling, no one sentiment tended to exact character more than did pure affection, affection for an ideal or affection for a being. It called out the highest in one, it "suffered much," was ennobling, and represented the highest expression of the human soul. Dr. Armstrong enumerated the many striking examples in holy writ wherein the Saviour is said to have "loved." He "loved" the young man whom He met and advised to give to the poor; He "loved" the little children; He "loved" Lazarus, Martha and her sister—in fact, His whole life was one of love. God is love. After emphasizing the advantages of a system of education in which cultured women undertook the task of cultivating and forming the character of young ladies, He urged his hearers to accept and hold as their own through life the love of the Saviour. The sermon closed with a telling comparison between the true Christian march, reared in a Christian home, and the "bouncing, bustling, flamboyant" girl of the period, or the forward and foolish child of careless parents, of the kind easy to prone to cherish the advances of doubtful young men.

Masonic from choir to pulpit was the gathering in St. Andrew's Church Sunday afternoon on the occasion of the annual church parade of the Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of this city in honor of St. John's Day. There were in attendance nearly 900 members with the emblematic apron, and they almost filled the main part of the church. Wor. Bro. Rev. Dr. J. D. Bayne, of Calvin Church, Pembroke, officiated, and preached an eloquent and convincing sermon on the immortality of the soul. His text was: "If a man die, shall he live again?" from Job xiv. 1. In commenting on the text, the reverend gentleman cited the tenets of Free Masonry, which take an affirmative stand and require Masons to live accordingly. This eternal question has puzzled man from time immemorial; black, white and red man, pagan, barbarian and Christian, have ceaselessly ruminated the ages, sought the answer to it. The innate belief in a future life has actuated all races to make in some manner provision for it. Rev. Dr. Bayne delved into the sphere of science in search of support to the argument for immortality, and said: "Life, which ex-

ists before organization, can exist afterwards. It has been described, but not defined. Every seven years a transformation is effected in the human body, yet the man survives. Force is never lost, but is spiritual. It may change but cannot be lost. Then the answer to the question of Job is as true to-day as it was when it was asked, truer and more definite than in ancient times. It is more emphatically affirmative that death does not end all. Man has a premonition of a future existence, for his sense of justice implies a place of reward or punishment to be decreed by an eternal tribunal of justice, which will adjust the inequalities and injustices of the earthly life."

EASTERN ONTARIO.

Rev. K. A. Gollan, Duffegan, has been preaching in the Maxwell Congregational church.

Rev. Mr. McDonald, of Lanark, occupied the pulpit of the Middleville church on Sunday afternoon.

At Centreville, on Sunday last, Rev. J. K. Henry, Tamworth, preached a suitable sermon to the Masonic fraternity of that place.

On a recent Sunday, Rev. Woodside, M.A., of St. Andrew's church, Carleton Place, preached a sermon to the I.O.F., the members of the order attending in large numbers.

After extensive repairs, St. Andrew's Church, Gananoque, was reopened last Sunday with special services conducted by Rev. K. E. Knowles, minister of Knox Church, Galt.

The ladies of St. Andrew's church, Appleton, held a very successful "sewing-club" at the residence of Mrs. R. C. Tupper in connection with the sale of clothing for the Northwest.

The death is announced in the 80th year of his age of Mr. William Smith, for 31 years an elder in Ramsay Church. Deceased was of a quiet and retiring disposition, but ever ready to do good.

Rev. James Rattray, of Stanville, in an article in last week's Star-Enterprise, scores the gambling practices permitted to go on at the annual race meet there, and his outspoken utterances on the subject look good.

A quiet wedding took place on the 19th inst., at "Dundas," the home of Mr. James H. Wyke, when his youngest daughter, Cecena, was married to the Rev. Orr Bennett, of St. Andrew's church, Almonte. Rev. J. F. Miller performed the ceremony in the presence of the immediate relatives. Among the gifts received by the bride and groom was a handsome purse of gold from St. Andrew's congregation.

Perth Courier says: Mr. C. J. L. Rickwood, organist of Knox church, was quietly married in Montreal on Saturday afternoon to Miss Kate, second daughter of Mr. A. G. Carter, of Haverhill, Suffolk, England, by the Rev. T. A. Halpin. The groom has won a fair name for himself in town since his residence here last fall, and his friends will accord a warm welcome to his bride. They returned to Perth on Tuesday and a reception was given them at Knox church manse Wednesday evening by members of Knox choir and congregation. An address was read Mr. Rickwood by Mr. Norman Miller, while Mr. J. V. Watson presided, and with two beautiful chairs, all on behalf of the choir. Dainty refreshments were served by the ladies and an enjoyable time was spent. (We shall only express the hope that this happy event in his life will not prevent Mr. Rickwood carrying out his "ambitious" scheme for the improvement of church music in Eastern Ontario.—Ed. D. P.)

WESTERN ONTARIO.

At the preparatory service in new St. James Church, London, 28 new members were received.

Rev. Dr. McKobbie, of Kemble, has been preaching in Knox Church, Owen Sound.

Mr. John McKenzie, E.A., who has just graduated from Knox College, has received a call to the Presbyterian churches at Hornby and Omagh.

The loss caused by the Hamilton Central church fire, is between \$40,000 and \$50,000, with insurance of \$28,500. One of the finest pipe organs in Canada, which cost \$15,000, is nothing but a few charred boards.

Rev. D. Strachan, who was moderator of the session of St. Andrew's church, Guelph, during the vacancy, has been presented with a purse of \$200 in gold in slight acknowledgment of his services in that capacity.

St. Paul's church, Victoria Harbor, was opened with special services last Sunday, conducted by Rev. J. McD. Duncan, M. A., of Toronto. On Monday evening the ladies of the congregation gave a social tea at the rink, which proved a great success, went out.

Rev. W. H. Sedgwick, of Charlottetown, P.E.I., a nephew of Dr. Sedgwick, ex-moderator of the General Assembly, and also of Judge Sedgwick, of the Supreme Court, Ottawa, has been invited to become associate pastor of the Central church, Hamilton.

A fire on the morning of the 21st inst., supposed to have been caused by electric wires, badly gutted the Central Church, Hamilton, of which Rev. Dr. Lyle is the pastor. The Sunday school was saved, but the loss will be heavy. The church was an old one, but one of the hand-somest in the city, and a fine new organ had been recently installed. The management promptly offered the use of James street Baptist church, but the Sunday school room will be used while the church is being rebuilt.

Rev. W. G. Wilson, M.A., was inducted to the pastoral charge of St. Andrew's Church, Guelph, on 21st inst. There was a large congregation, including many from other congregations. Rev. R. J. M. Glassford presided, Rev. J. D. Morrow, Hespeler, preached the sermon. Rev. J. B. Mullen, Fergus, addressed the preacher and Rev. D. Strachan the congregation. Rev. Dr. Torrance offered the induction prayer. After the questions were put and answered the right hand of fellowship was given to the new pastor by the members of the Presbytery, and a hearty welcome by the congregation at the door as they retired. At the close of the service the King's Daughters presented Rev. Mr. Wilson with a fine silk Geneva gown. The address was read by Mr. N. Jeffrey and the gown presented by

Rev. Hugh Black has agreed to the request of the kirk session to continue preaching at St. George's until he leaves for America in September.

Rev. D. MacLean has been inducted to the Parish Church of Gairloch. His three immediate predecessors served an aggregate of 133 years.

Rev. Ewan Macleod, minister of the Free High Church, Oban, and ex-moderator of the Free Church of Scotland, has accepted the call to Dornoch.

The average duration of life is, in Norway 50 years, Britain 45, Belgium 44, Switzerland 44, France 43, Austria 39, Germany 30, Italy 30, Bavaria 36, and Spain 32.