

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.

At the regular meeting of the Montreal Presbytery held in Knox church on Tuesday the 20th inst., a large amount of business was disposed of and with such despatch that the Session was over by five o'clock in the afternoon. There was a large attendance of members both from city and country. The Moderator was the Rev. Mr. Heine who had been one of the most active members of the Committee engaged in the preparation of the new Book of Praise. In the devotional exercises at the opening he appropriately introduced several selections from it which were heartily sung by the members present. One of the features of the meeting was the presentation of the Home Mission Report for the Presbytery by Prof. Ross. The report was unusually full and interesting owing to the fact that the Convener had personally visited nearly every mission field within the bounds since the spring meeting, so as to acquaint himself accurately with their situation and needs. The good effect of this will be felt for many years to come. The report of the Foreign Mission Committee presented by Mr. Dewey made special reference to the approaching departure of Dr. P. C. Leslie for the Honan Mission at the expense of Erskine church. It also referred in detail to the Chinese work in the city, showing its satisfactory condition, and in view of some recent statements in the press recommended the Presbytery to pass a resolution expressive of its entire confidence in Dr. Thompson, the missionary in charge. The resolution was unanimously and heartily adopted. The Rev. Wm. Burns being present made a brief statement regarding the Aged and Infirm Ministers' Fund, urging increased support both from ministers and congregations. Arrangements were made for the induction of the Rev. T. A. Mitchell as pastor of Cote des Neiges on the evening of the 7th Oct. The Rev. J. L. George is to preach, Dr. Scrimger is to address the minister and Dr. MacKay was appointed to address the people. The Presbytery's Committee on Conferences recommended that in connection with its next Session in December, one or more public meetings should be held under its auspices to commemorate the two hundred and fiftieth anniversary of the Shorter Catechism. An effort will be made to make the meetings as popular as possible and to secure the presence of some distinguished speaker from abroad. The Presbytery having been informed that the License Commissioners were considering an application for another license in the neighborhood of McGill University promptly appointed a deputation to wait on them without delay and make as strong opposition as possible. At the afternoon sederunt they reported that they had done so and had received a respectful hearing. The decision has not been announced as yet, but it will be no surprise to find that the Government's need of revenue has again overridden the wishes of all the better classes in the community. It is satisfactory to know that the University authorities as well appeared through the Secretary to make decided opposition to the license.

The classes in McGill University have now opened in all the Faculties except Medicine, and there is the promise of a large attendance.

Arrangements are now about completed for the Graduates' Reunion and Institute at the opening of the Presbyterian College. The meetings will begin on the evening of the 4th of October and continue until the 8th. A good attendance is hoped for and a profitable series of meetings.

The services to be held by the Keswick delegates will begin on Sunday, the 3rd October, and continue until the 6th. These are to be held in Knox church.

Erskine church has decided to introduce the new Book of Praise on the first Sabbath of October. Regret was expressed by some of the members of Session that owing to the indefinite delay in the appearance of the edition containing the whole Psalter the congregation was virtually deprived of the free choice which the Assembly meant to

secure as to the edition that should be used. Many other congregations are likely to find themselves in the same position.

Dr. P. C. Leslie was ordained as an elder by the Session of Erskine church, on Friday evening, the 21st inst., preparatory to joining the staff of missionaries in Honan. His formal designation took place on Sunday evening last in the same church, when addresses were given by representatives of the Foreign Mission Committee. He leaves for China in the course of a day or two.

The general opening of Morrin College for the ensuing session took place on Monday evening, the 20th inst. The Rev. Principal Macrae occupied the chair, and delivered an address. An important feature of the proceedings was the conferring of the degree of D.D., on Rev. J. C. Smith, B.D., of Guelph, Ont. Mr. Smith was presented by the Rev. K. MacLennan of Lewis. Dr. Smith gave an eloquent address in which he expressed his appreciation of the honor conferred upon him, and his best wishes for the prosperity of Morrin. The Rev. Dr. Smith preached in St. Andrew's church on Sabbath evening.

The Rev. Dr. Chiniquy spent about two weeks in Quebec recently, preaching in the French Presbyterian church, and in 'Chalmers'. The services were largely attended and there was no disturbance.

BRITISH COLUMBIA NOTES.

Much to the regret of his congregation and Presbytery the Rev. Wm. McKie, of First Church, Vancouver, has tendered his resignation.

Mr. R. A. Dickie, who has been appointed to follow the hardy gold seekers in the Yukon with the ministrations of the Gospel, was ordained by the Presbytery of Westminster in Vancouver on Thursday, Sept. 16th. He is expected to go north at once and spend the winter in Dyea, crossing the mountains into the Klondyke Country early in the spring. This mission will be watched with sympathetic interest throughout the entire Church.

Mr. M. Swartout, Missionary to the Indians on the West Coast of Vancouver Island, has spent several weeks of this summer on the Lower Fraser, whither many of his flock had gone to engage in the salmon fishery. Mr. Swartout is full of faith and courage; but thinks that the most pressing need of this field is a properly qualified medical assistant.

Rev. W. L. Clay, of St. Andrew's church, Victoria, who has just returned from a three months vacation in Eastern Canada, was tendered a cordial welcome reception by the congregation on the 8th inst., at which all the Presbyterian ministers of the city were present.

The fourth Annual Sabbath School Convention of the Synod of British Columbia, was held in the First Presbyterian church, Vancouver, on the 14th and 15th inst. A large number of delegates were present including representatives from every Presbytery within the bounds of the Synod. The papers and attendant discussions were practical, instructive and stimulating. Rev. J. A. Logan, of Elburne, Convener of Synod's Sabbath School Committee, was re-elected President. The next meeting was appointed to be held in New Westminster in Sept. 1898.

The Synod's Home Mission and Augmentation Committee closed their semi-annual meeting in Vancouver on Thursday, Sept. 16th. There were present the Conveners of the several Presbyterial Committees together with the Superintendent of Mission. All the mission fields and augmented congregations were carefully considered. Claims for the past half year passed and grants for the ensuing term recommended and appointments made. New fields have been opened up in Calgary, Kamloops, Westminster and Victoria Presbyteries. Owing chiefly to the degree of perfection attained in overtaking the work throughout this wide region, it is doubtful whether the generous amount placed at the disposal of this Committee by the General Assembly's Committee will be sufficient for this year's needs. In addition to new fields opened nearly all the old stations will be supplied throughout the winter as well as the summer, and although some, for example Kaslo are expected soon to go off the field others, like Maple Creek, are being advanced from the Status of

a students' field, to that of ordained missionary.

This seems to be the season of Conventions. Among them all none more interesting and perhaps none more helpful than that which sat for three days in the Presbyterian Chinese Mission Hall Victoria has come to my notice. There all the Chinese Christians belonging to our Church throughout the province, with I believe three exceptions, at the invitation and under the directions of Rev. A. B. Winchester gathered for conference on matters of special importance to them and their work. Laborers from Vancouver and Union were also present, and I am assured the discussions were intelligent, earnest and edifying. On Sabbath evening I sat with them at the Lord's Table, when there were also present a goodly number of Chinamen, still in the darkness of heathenism, and surely a more devout observance of that great feast could not be witnessed. The convention closed with a combined testimony and social meeting on Monday night when the local Chinese Christians entertained their visitors and friends in the city after the fashion of the celestial land.

On the 14th inst. Mr. D. McG. Gaudier, a graduate of Queen's University, was ordained and inducted at Roseland, B.C. The Presbytery and congregation were honored by the presence at these services of the foremost fathers of the church, Rev. Dr. Wardrop, who offered the ordination prayer and gave words of counsel to the young minister. The choir had prepared special music for the occasion and are to be congratulated not only for their rendering of it, but also for its appropriateness. Mr. Gaudier is the first settled pastor of our church in this new city of the west and enters the work with bright prospects, as work is plentiful and the helpers are many and whole hearted.

GENERAL.

The Rev. Dr. Sexton preached anniversary sermons to large congregations on Sunday, Sept. 26th, at Port Dalhousie.

The induction of the Rev. W. G. Nanna to the pastorate of the Presbyterian church Mount Forest will take place on Oct. 7th.

The re-opening services in the Presbyterian church Brooklyn Ont., was held recently, and were well attended. Rev. J. M. Cameron of Wick preached at both morning and evening services.

Rev. Mr. Frew, who has been pastor of the Presbyterian church at Birle Man., for many years, has received a call to Nelson, B.C. If the Presbytery decides that the change may be made, Mr Frew will leave for Nelson in a month.

At the stated meeting of the Guelph Presbytery to be held at Chalmers' church, Guelph, Nov. 16th. At the evening sederunt papers will be read on subjects suitable to the celebration of the 250th anniversary of the Westminster Assembly of Divines.

Sunday, Sept. 12th, was Children's Day in St. Andrew's church, Appleton, Ont., and the services morning and evening were well attended. The church was very attractive, being decorated with very beautiful flowers. Rev. G. T. Bayne, the pastor, preached both morning and evening.

The congregation of the Presbyterian church, Kincardine, showed their appreciation of their pastor, Rev. J. L. Murray, M.A., by presenting him with a handsome pulpit gown and an appropriate address. Mr. Murray expressed in warm terms his appreciation of the gift and the kindly feeling which had prompted it.

The New Presbyterian Church, at Clayton, will be dedicated on October 3rd, Rev. T. G. Smith, D.D., of Queen's University, Kingston, will conduct services at 11 a.m., and 3 p.m., and Rev. Mr. Hanna, of the Methodist Church, Clayton, at 7 p.m. On the following Monday evening the Rev. Dr. Smith will deliver his popular lecture on "The Boys I Knew."

Knox Church, Goderich, after having been enlarged and remodeled at a cost of \$1,000, was re-opened Sept. 19th when special services were held. Rev. Robt. Johnston, B.A., B.D., of London, preached morning and evening, and Rev. J. A. Anderson, the pastor, held an afternoon service. On each occasion the edifice was