

Ministers and Churches.

Our Toronto Letter.

Toronto's great annual Industrial Exhibition has been in full swing for some days, and crowds of visitors from all parts of the Dominion, from the United States, but chiefly from Ontario, throng, and at certain points almost block our streets. To many, the most interesting part of the Exhibition is the sight of the thousands of comfortable looking, well fed, well dressed, prosperous, contented, happy people, who annually at this time, collect here from all parts. Everything promises fair to make this a record year at the fair. It was auspiciously opened by Lord Dundonald who made an excellent speech, was well heard, and who has already made a most favourable impression in the city. He has been banquetted by the National Club, to whose members and to the country he has been giving his views on military matters in Canada. He also received from the combined local Scottish societies of all kinds a thoroughly Scottish, hearty welcome and address, read and presented by President Kennedy of St. Andrew's Society. His appearances shew him to be not only a soldier of high reputation, but also a most felicitous public speaker. It is worth noticing as indicating, a trait of character, that he directed the attention of the members of the Scottish societies to the matter of practically helping the inhabitants of the Highlands and Islands of Scotland to work and make homes in our land of ample space and plenty.

But to turn to matters ecclesiastical, or semi-ecclesiastical. There is no man in our Church who has been better known for a generation past at least, or given it more single-minded and devoted service than Rev. Principal Caven. It would not be easy to estimate all that our Church owes to him as a preacher, Principal of Knox College, and a wise guide and counsellor in our Church courts, not to speak of his reassuring but elevated Christian character. He was inducted into his first charge at St. Mary's, Ontario, on Oct. 7th 1852, so that next month will be his ministerial jubilee. It is to be duly celebrated under the care of a committee of the Presbytery of Toronto, and Knox College also will take steps to shew its appreciation of its honoured Principal and his long and faithful service. It was hoped that the corner stone of the projected Caven Library building might have been laid on this occasion, but the undertaking is not yet sufficiently matured we understand, for this to be done. It will be a matter for gratitude throughout the whole Church that the learned Principal, although now over the three score and ten, yet retains all his mental faculties unimpaired and so large a share of physical health and strength.

It is naturally a matter of interest here, as well to those more immediately concerned that Rev. Dr. Johnston of London, it is reported, is to be called to the important charge of St. Andrew's, Winnipeg. Should the report be correct, and he accept, it would offer a splendid field for the exercise of his strength, evangelical fervour, and missionary zeal.

Before another issue of the DOMINION PRESBYTERIAN, Rev. W. J. Clark will have given his decision to the London Presbytery on his call to St. Andrew's, Vancouver.

Professor Francis R. Beattie, so well known in Canada as a Professor in the Theological Seminary at Louisville, Kentucky, as a graduate of Toronto University, and Knox College, a preacher and author, has been in the city which evidently has never lost its attractions to him.

Among other recent Canadian clerical visitors to the city, from those who have found work and homes on the other side, but who like to come back, has been Rev. J. B. Edmondson of Belvidere, New Jersey, formerly of Almonte. He preached in St. James Square church on the last Sabbath of August to good congregations, and finds New Jersey climate agree well with him.

It will also be a matter of great interest to our Church at large, and especially to the many personal friends of the late Principal King of Manitoba College, to know that, a work on Biblical Theology for which he had prepared a great part of the materials before his death, is in the press and will soon be published. Dr. King had many of the qualities of mind, judgment and scholarship which fitted him to prepare such a work, and it is sure to be marked by calm, sober, well weighed judgments on the subjects treated. The western people think the present

an auspicious time to put into execution a proposal, which, since his death has been lying in abeyance, but not forgotten, to found a Chair in Manitoba College, which he did so much for, which indeed he saved to our Church, to commemorate his memory. The initial steps have been taken to raise \$50,000 for this object, and from the spirit and manner in which it is gone about, success is certain. No better way could be taken to keep alive the memory in the Church of one who served it so long and so well, and with such entire and single-hearted devotion.

A thoroughly interesting and if well carried out, most useful series of books should be that begun by the Morang publishing house of this city, entitled "The Makers of Canada." The first is to be a "Life of Sir Wilfrid Laurier" by Mr. J. S. Willson; a second being prepared is a "Life of Sir Oliver Mowat"; a third is a "Life of Rev. Dr. Robertson" our late missionary superintendent, on which Rev. Charles W. Gordon of Winnipeg is now at work. A biography of Lord Strathcona, the best known Canadian now in London, by Beckles Wilson has also appeared, and cannot but convey an inspiring lesson to all young men, Canadian or otherwise. Arrangements, it is understood, are being made for a "Life of the late Principal Grant, to be included in the series, without which indeed it could not be complete. Literary activity in Canada has received a great impetus in recent years, and this series to which we have referred may not only increase this, so much to be desired, but stimulate and nourish patriotism as well. We hope the undertaking may meet with complete success.

The meetings of the General Conference of the Methodist Church now being held in Winnipeg, and of the General Synod of the Anglican Church in the Dominion, going on in Montreal, are sure to be of great interest and of real importance to the cause of religion in the country. Many subjects of vital consequence to the bodies themselves and the general wellbeing of the country are sure to be brought up and carefully considered, and methods of work canvassed, and it will be strange indeed, if we as Presbyterians, cannot learn some useful lessons or get some useful hints from the proceedings of these two assemblies, and the reports of their work and discussions of great public questions which they, as well as we, have to deal with. The meeting of the Reformed Episcopal Synod under the presidency of Bishop Fallows of Chicago, has just been held here, and among other things done was the adoption of a new Catechism, compiled by Rev. Mr. Whitten of Barrie, and a resolution to publish a Church paper. It is of interest to notice the visit to Toronto, of Bishop Lofthouse, recently appointed to the new Diocese of Keewatin which extends west from Hudson's Bay, say 700 miles, and up into the North 1500 miles and upward. He has spent over twenty years among the Esquimaux and other Indian tribes. A little over forty years ago the gospel began to be preached by the Church of England among the Indians at York Factory and on Hudson Bay, and the bishop tells us that, now there is not an Indian on its shores who is not at least a professed Christian. The Church of England deserves all honour for its long, patient, faithful work among and for the benefit of the native races of the Dominion.

Trades and crafts of all kinds made a brave show here on Labor Day. It is estimated that not fewer than 5,000 men were in the procession, besides an immense number of delivery wagons and vehicles of all kinds, many of them, most of them indeed, had their horses gaily bedecked in a great variety of ways. It did a Canadian's heart good, to see such a multitude of well fed, well dressed, respectable looking toilers at all kinds of trades and manual labor.

Sir Edmund Barton, premier of the Australian government, has been here and feasted, and making an important speech. Altogether he has made and left behind him a very good impression of our brother empire-builders on the other side of the globe. Speaking of the Conference of Colonial premiers he said: "We are all very well satisfied with its results. I think it was a most important and most significant gathering, and if as much progress is made in each successive Conference, we shall be doing well for the solidarity and strength of the empire."

The firemen's fund raised on the occasion of five of the brigade losing their lives in a recent fire is now complete, and amounts to upward of \$53,000.

Private schools of all kinds are reopening, with the best prospects after making changes and improvements in their premises and staffs.

Among other notabilities who have lately

favoured Toronto with a visit are, Dr. and Mrs. Burnett Smith (Annie Swan), the well-known Scottish novelist. They have come from a trip to our Northwest with which they have been greatly pleased.

Ottawa.

Dr. Herridge has returned, and occupied his own pulpit at both services on Sabbath last.

Rev. Dr. Campbell of Penetanguishene, preached in Erskine church to his old congregation while in the city.

Rev. A. E. Mitchell and family, who have been summering at Chelsea, have returned to the city. They consider Chelsea an ideal place for a restful holiday.

Stewart auxiliary to the Woman's Foreign Missionary society held its regular monthly meeting on Friday. Miss Stewart, president, occupied the chair. Arrangements were made for the annual thank offering meeting and for the packing of the box of clothing to be sent to the Alberni mission school.

At the monthly meeting of the Glebeauxiliary, a paper on Martin Luther, prepared by Mrs. Shuttleworth was read by Mrs. W. Smith. Mrs. J. S. McEwan, who had spent the past summer in the Northwest, described a visit to an Indian school at Regina, and also to an Indian reserve a few miles away. Mrs. Crombie of L'Orignal, a former member of the society, was present and opened the meeting with prayer. Mrs. Milne presided.

Western Ontario.

Knox church congregation, Owen Sound, held its annual excursion to Collingwood last week.

Rev. A. L. Budge, of Mandamin, conducted anniversary services at Marthaville on Sunday evening last.

Dr. J. M. Robinson, formerly of Moncton, has resigned his charge of St. Andrew's church, Rossland.

Rev. John McInnes, of Thamesville, Ont., formerly pastor of Knox church paid a short visit to Elora last week.

Messrs. Hay, Munro, Weir and Hammond were appointed to support the call before the Presbytery of Guelph.

Rev. Joseph McCoy, formerly of Chatham, now pastor of Vernon congregation, is taking steps to establish a Ladies' College in British Columbia.

A pro re nata meeting of Stratford Presbytery was held at the session room of Knox church on Sept. 4th, with Rev. Mr. McCauley of Mitchell, moderator, in the chair.

Rev. Dr. Johnston, of London conducted anniversary services on Sunday afternoon, Sept. 4, at the Komoka Church, and in the evening Rev. Dr. Hector Mackay, of London Junction preached.

On motion of Revs. Messrs. Leitch of this city and Cowan of Shakespeare, the call was sustained and ordered to be transmitted to Guelph Presbytery of which Mr. McKinnon is a member.

Rev. M. P. Talling, M. A. Ph. D. Toronto, has been supplying the pulpit at Oshawa with much acceptance, during the absence of the pastor, Rev. I. Hodge on his vacation.

At the meeting of the Presbytery of Hamilton held in St. Catharines on the 2nd, the call to R. W. Dickie from Knox church, Hamilton was withdrawn, and Rev. R. Martin of Erskine church was appointed moderator.

The Rev. George Grant, late of Demerara, after a few days of pleasant rest with Halifax friends, has proceeded to Picton. There is every reason to hope that his health will soon permit of his resuming work in the Home Mission field.

Rev. Mr. Haig of Millbank presented a call from Millbank and Wellesley congregations in favor of Rev. Neil D. McKinnon of Glenallan. Mr. McKinnon is promised the guarantee of a stipend of \$900 and a month's holidays each year.

Mr. D. J. Davidson, B. A., of the Presbyterian Volunteer Union for Foreign Missions, occupied the Bradford pulpit on Sabbath evening and gave an able address on behalf of Foreign Missions. Mr. Davidson's visit is calculated to and will no doubt arouse a deeper interest in Foreign Mission work in this neighborhood.