

PREFACE

The following pages recount the history of Bank Street Presbyterian Church from the beginning until the present time. They will be of interest, not only to those who for many years have been identified with the interests of the congregation, but will also be stimulating to those who have more recently identified themselves with it. They contain a great deal that will be of permanent value in the religious history of the city and community for the last half century. They are written by one who has personal knowledge of what he relates, and whose retentive memory has enabled him to set forth, authoritatively many things entirely unknown to those of the present generation.

The one omission in the narrative which will impress the reader, is that the main actor in so many of the scenes described, is kept so much in the background. This is natural, but it has led me to crave permission to add one brief word.

In Bank Street Church, in the city and Presbytery of Ottawa, and in the Presbyterian Church at large, the name of William Moore, D.D., will not soon be forgotten. His long and successful pastorate of almost thirty-seven years in Bank Street Church, amply attests his resources of body and mind and spirit, and the esteem in which he was held, and continues to be held, by the people. His work as a preacher and pastor was always of a high order, and his exceptional powers of administration are everywhere manifest. His ready and effective help in the general religious work of the city made him and his church an exceedingly important factor in the religious life of the community. The Presbytery speaks for itself in the resolution adopted on his retirement.

The church at large has honored him with high position and responsibility. There is scarcely an important standing committee of the Assembly of which he has not at some time been a member, and for many years he was Convenor of the Foreign Mission Committee. In the year 1897, the church conferred upon him the highest gift in her power, by electing him to the high office of Moderator of the General Assembly. A leading theological College in the neighboring Republic conferred upon him the honorary degree of Doctor of Divinity.

Bank Street Church, at the time of his resignation, marked their esteem by what financial recognition they felt able to undertake, and afterwards by unanimous wish of the Session, he was asked and consented to be made, Pastor Emeritus of the congregation.

Personally, I am glad to bear public testimony to the very cordial relationship which has existed during all the period of their association between the Pastor Emeritus and the present minister of Bank Street Church; and I can confidently express on behalf of the congregation and of his brethren in the ministry of the Church, the earnest hope that his old age may be abundantly satisfied with the choicest blessings of a bountiful Providence.

J. H. TURNBULL,

Minister Bank Street Church.

Ottawa, October, 1911.