

Ministers and Churches.

Montreal Notes

The Rev. J. L. George, of Calvin church, has the sincere sympathy of all his brethren in the ministry, in the bereavement, lately suffered, in the removal of his aged mother. Mrs. George, died in Culross, Fife, Scotland, on the 10th of January.

At the present moment, we are in the throes of Aldermanic elections in Montreal, and last Sunday many of the pulpits rang forth the note of duty on the matter clear and strong. The difficulty that in many cases seems to be that there is no choice so far as the good man is concerned. It is hard to know which way to vote, when, as it is in one ward, one man is a cigar maker, and the other a liquor vendor.

A very largely attended meeting of the Bible Society, was held in Erskine Church on the evening of Jan. 28th. The financial report was read by Prof. Tory, and addresses were delivered by Dr. Symonds, Vicar of the Cathedral, and by His Honor Judge Forbes, of St. Johns, N. B. The meeting was presided over by the President of the Montreal Branch, Archbishop Bond.

The Montreal Annex congregation, (Rev. D. J. Graham, pastor) is in remarkably good shape, especially as regards the finances. The contributions and collections amounted to \$1,144.49. Toward the building fund there had been collected \$1,015.94 and out of this the sum of \$500 had been paid on the mortgage. The Ladies Aid had raised \$175 towards the building fund, and the Sunday School had contributed \$200. There had been a net gain of 22 members during the year, and there were 115 names on the roll. The pastor's stipend was increased by \$100.

St. Andrew's, Westmount, reports a good year in every respect: A balance which stood against the maintenance fund last year had been wiped out; one hundred dollars had been appropriated to the building fund and there was still a balance. During the year a floating debt of \$2,500 had also been paid off and in addition the sum of \$1,200 had been paid on the \$8,000 mortgage which was on the property. The Missionary Society's report stated that \$1,200 had been raised and appropriated to missionary objects. The pastor's salary was increased by \$250.

This is the stock-taking time for the churches, the time of Annual meetings. Judging from the reports of the various churches in Montreal, 1903 has been a growing time, both financially and spiritually. Of course one cannot always judge from the reports as given in the daily press, as in many cases there seems to be a suppression of figures. All, without exception report "a very encouraging year," but where statistics are omitted it is somewhat hard to pass opinion on such things. It is not a swelling of the finances of itself, nor is it alone, the enlargement of the communion roll, nor the mere energy of the different societies that constitutes a successful year in the highest and best sense of the term. Nevertheless when the people have bled, when they have filled the house of worship, when scores have come forward, with the church, when every department of the church has been active, the pastor stilled in saying "We have had a successful year."

A meeting of Taylor Church was held on the evening of January 21st, Rev. W. W. Taylor, in the chair, and reports of the various bodies read and the total number of communicants for the year, was 153, leaving the church after being thoroughly purged. The Sunday School reported having now on the roll 606 officers. During the year the year-end reduced, from \$5000 to ready to pay of \$1200, and at \$1800. This will save the church free, used by this congregation for the extinction of money raised year was \$981.00. A large balance was used to raise the sum of \$1014.00 work during the year, decided, that as every Sunday is free at the

Peterborough.

Sabbath School conventions in different parts of the county are being arranged for this month.

The ladies of Lakefield church are preparing for a dramatic entertainment to be given next week.

Burn's anniversary was successfully celebrated in St. Andrew's church, Peterborough, on Monday evening of last week.

The annual meetings recently held show a successful and highly satisfactory year both for St. Paul's and St. Andrew's churches.

A Women's Home Missionary Society was organized at St. Paul's mission last week by Mrs. (Rev.) McClelland of Toronto.

Some of the pastors in rural districts have had difficulty lately in fulfilling their appointments owing to the heavy roads.

Rev. J. G. Shearer, B. A., secretary of the Lord's Day Alliance, held mass meetings in Peterborough on Sunday, Jan. 24th.

Rev. J. A. Wilson, assistant pastor at St. Paul's, has been unanimously invited to remain for a third year. Mr. Wilson's work has been much appreciated.

Mr. Glover of New Zealand spoke in St. Andrew's church on Sunday evening in the interests of the temperance cause. His address on "Where are the Nine?" was a vigorous one.

St. Andrew's Y. P. S. C. E. has arranged to celebrate the origin of the C. E. movement by special services next Sunday, followed by a rally on Monday to be addressed by Rev. Alex. Ester M. A. of Cooke's church, Toronto.

Eastern Ontario.

Rev. Arch. McKenzie, Douglas, was elected moderator, of Lanark and Renfrew Presbytery.

At Lanark and Renfrew Presbytery, Rev. Dr. Armstrong, of Ottawa, was nominated as moderator of the General Assembly; and Rev. Dr. C. E. Amaron, of Montreal, as moderator of the synod of Montreal and Ottawa.

The congregation of Calvin church, Pembroke, is to hold a meeting shortly to make arrangements for the enlargement of their church building. A costly new organ is also to be installed.

The Rev. Dr. Bayne, of Pembroke, conducted anniversary services in St. Paul's church, Smith's Falls, on the 24th January. He was greeted by large congregations. The evening attendance filled the church to overflowing. The musical portion of the services, under the direction of Prof. Calla, were of a high order.

The Augmentation report, presented by Rev. John Hay, Renfrew, to the Lanark and Renfrew Presbytery, asked for a considerable increase in the amount required, one cause for the increase being the request from the mission field of Scotland and Micksburg to be placed upon the list of augmented congregations.

A request from Rev. Mr. Taylor, of Lockwood, that Sand Point, Braxide and Dewar's be formed into a separate pastoral charge will come up for discussion at a special meeting of Lanark and Renfrew presbytery to be held at Arnprior, on February 27th, at 10.30 a. m., when the matter will be fully gone into.

The next regular meeting of the Lanark and Renfrew presbytery will be held in St. Andrew's church, Almonte, on Monday, April 4th, commencing at 7.30 p. m.; the first sederunt to be devoted to a discussion of reports on young people's societies, church life and work and Sabbath schools.

Rev. Dr. Bayne, of Pembroke, was appointed as representative of the Lanark and Renfrew presbytery on the committee on bills and overtures at the synod meeting to be held in Quebec in May next.

The committee appointed by Lanark and Renfrew Presbytery to deal with the question of the relationship of Queen's college to the Presbyterian church brought in the following report which was accepted. (1) It was suggested that a closer relationship between Queen's college and the church be established to the extent of the General Assembly appointing a proportion of the trustees, or in other ways. (2) While not offering any guarantee of support to Queen's college from the church that it be cordially commended to the liberality of the congregations.

Western Ontario.

St. Paul's church, Hamilton, had a good year, and added \$3000 on per year to the minister's salary which is now \$5,000.

The reports presented to the South Delaware congregation showed the church to be in a most prosperous condition financially and spiritually. Rev. R. McIntyre is now on his fifth year as pastor and at no time has he been so popular among his flock as at present, which speaks volumes for the good work done by him.

Leave of absence for three months has been granted Rev. R. J. Glassford, of Chalmers church, Guelph, who in March will start on a trip to the Holy Land. Dr. Wardrop was appointed Moderator of Session during his absence.

Learning from a communication from Mr. Robertson, of Duff's church, Puslinch, that extensive alterations and improvements had been made in their church edifice, the Presbytery of Guelph agreed to record their gratification at the same and congratulate Mr. Robertson on the signs of progress and the tokens of encouragement to him in his ministry thus presented.

Rev. J. Knox, pastor of St. Andrew's church, Strathroy, has asked his congregation for six months' leave of absence, to commence next fall. Mr. Knox's intentions are to devote this time to the mission field in the Canadian Northwest, where there is a great field for such stirring and earnest men as he has proved himself to be.

At Guelph Presbytery a considerable portion of a sederunt was spent in discussing the recommendations of the Assembly's Commission on the constitution and relations of Queen's University, Kingston. Two of these had been considered and disposed of at the meeting in November, and the third had been entered upon, but the discussion had been postponed. After the expressing of their views by those present, the recommendation was adopted in the following form: "The Presbytery regards the University as a most important part of the educational system of the Province, deserving a liberal measure of public support. It is opposed, however, to placing the church under any binding obligation to raise the necessary endowment, but would be glad to see the amount raised by an appeal to their whole constituency." Recommendations 4 and 5 were allowed to pass as proposed by the Commission.

The induction of Rev. A. H. MacGillivray of First church, Chatham, was quite an impressive ceremony. Rev. J. C. Tolmie, Windsor, moderator, presided. Rev. J. C. Little, B. A., Bothwell, preached the sermon; Rev. J. M. Nicol, Wallaceburg, addressed the newly inducted minister; and Rev. N. Lindsay the congregation. At the evening reception among others who spoke was Mr. R. F. Sutherland, M. P., who said he was present not as a politician but as a friend of the newly made pastor of this church. He had known Mr. MacGillivray for years and he doubted if ever any better pastor had graced Newmarket church. The people of Chatham, said he, must have a great liking for clergymen from Newmarket, as this was the second Presbyterian minister who had been called here from that place. Rev. Dr. Battisby had been the first. The need of the church to-day was for just such men as Mr. MacGillivray and Mr. Tolmie. The older men are going off the field and the younger ones are taking their places. He believed that the younger men, with the influence created by the examples laid down by their predecessors, would make a great success of their work.

St. Andrew's church, Amherstburg, organized in 1828, one of the oldest in Canada, west of Quebec, will celebrate its 75th anniversary on Sunday and Monday, 28th and 29th of February. The ministers in charge during this long interval have been Reverend Messrs. Alex. Gale, 1828-1831; George Cheyne, 1831-1843; Robert Peden, 1844-1850; Wm. McLaren, 1852-1857; Archibald McDiarmid, 1867-1870; Frederick Smith, 1871-1883; J. H. Paradis, 1884-1889 and Thos. Nattress, 1890. The somewhat lengthy intervals from 1857 to 1867, and 1870 to 1874 were filled in by student and irregular supply. Among those who remained for a considerable time was George Jamieson, who was here during both intervals for at least part of the time, Dr. McRobbie, late of Ridgeway, latterly of Owen Sound Presbytery and Dr. Robert H. Warden. Among the Moderators of Session during vacancies in the pastorate, were Dr. Gray, of Kalamazoo, then of Windsor, and Dr. G. M. Milligan, of Old St. Andrew's church, Toronto, then of First church, Detroit - the late Angus McColl, of Chatham; the late Wm. King, of Buxton negro colony fame; and the late Alexander McKidd. Rev. Professor McLaren, D.D., of Knox College, Toronto, a former pastor, will preach on Sunday, Feb. 18th, and dispense the communion. All former ministers interested