

LONDON AND VICINITY.

On Sabbath, the 24th March, the Rev. W. J. Clark closed his pastorate of First Presbyterian church, London,—a pastorate of 17 years, minus three months, and of unbroken harmony between him and his people. At both diets of worship the church was crowded to its full capacity. In bidding farewell to them he gave expression of highest encomiums to elders, managers and members of the congregation for their loyal support and able assistance they had rendered in furthering the interests of the congregation.

The members of the Ministerial Alliance of the city of London entertained Mr. Clark to luncheon at noon on Monday and presented him with an address which was read by Rev. Mr. Hamilton of the Congregationalist church,—all the Protestant churches being represented. Brief speeches followed from one minister representing each denomination. It happened that Dr. Milligan being in the city, was present also and gave one of his characteristic addresses.

The officers of the St. Andrew's Society of London, of which Mr. Clark has been chaplain for some time, called on him at his residence on Monday evening, and presented him with a jewel symbolic of the society.

On Tuesday evening the Sabbath school of First Presbyterian church held their annual entertainment. The congregation took advantage of the occasion to surprise Rev. Mr. Clark and wife with a very substantial and handsome farewell present—to Mr. Clark a solid gold watch, and to Mrs. Clark a solid silver service. During the last two weeks, Mr. Clark has been continuously receiving expressions of golden opinions which he has won from many classes and individuals, and this last was the climax. He left London for his new charge in Westmont on the following evening with a genuine hearty Godspeed from a very much attached congregation in London.

Rev. R. W. Leitch, of Delaware, who has been in the Southern States for three months on leave of absence, is reported to be considerably improved in health and is expected to resume his pastoral duties on the first Sabbath of April.

It is to be regretted that Rev. T. R. Shearer, of Melbourne, has returned home from his visit to Ottawa not much improved, and is not likely to be able to resume pastoral work for some time. The Presbytery has taken steps to relieve him for some time longer.

An interesting meeting of women at the Y. W. C. A. rooms, London, was addressed on Thursday last by Mrs. Anna Ross on the subject of "Prayer," as illustrated in the history of the mission work of Rev. Dr. Wilkie at Jhansi, India, under the Gwalior Presbyterian mission.

Under the auspices of the Women's Home Mission Presbyterial Society, Revs. Dr. Hunter and Mr. Bodrug addressed audiences in First and Knox Presbyterian churches. The visit of these missionaries to London will tend greatly to intensify the interest the women already take in the hospital and other benevolent work in Manitoba and other places in the Northwest. The benefit of these missions to the Dominion, even from a political point of view, to say nothing of the spiritual, may easily be underestimated.

Rev. D. Johnston, of Wanbano, Sarnia Presbytery, has accepted a call to English Settlement, and will be inducted on the 18th April.

Messrs. Childerhose, McNab and McKibbin, ministers, and Messrs. G. Morrison, Joseph Farrel and Hart Proudfoot, elders, were elected Commissioners to the General Assembly, by North Bay Presbytery.

DEDICATION AT POINTE-AUX-TREMBLES.

The dedication of the Pointe-Aux-Trembles schools took place last Friday, March the 22nd. The graduates of the institution and their friends were favored with fine weather, which made their visit the more agreeable. The president, Rev. Mousseau, gave an address of a practical nature. A very good report was read, which indicated progress on the part of the institution, which has now been existing for the last sixty years, and last Friday was celebrated as its jubilee. The principal produced quite a surprise when he announced "that the present boys and girls had subscribed the magnificent sum of \$560, which shall be used for the ornamenting of their elegant convocation hall."

The graduates were invited to the platform and one of their number, Rev. P. N. Cover, of Waterville, Maine, delivered an inspiring address. The dedication of the new building took place in the afternoon. Prayer was offered in English by the Rev. Dr. Campbell of St. Gabriel's church, Montreal, and in French by Rev. R. P. Dugas, of Ia-croix church.

The Rev. Mr. Rondeau of Erskine church, Montreal, preached a sermon, short, but to the point. Rev. Clark of Chalmers church, Quebec, and Rev. Dr. Pigeon of Toronto were invited to address the gathering.

The Rev. Brandt, principal of the schools, who is a gentleman of culture, being a graduate of Montreal Presbyterian College and having taken several scholarships during his college career, was also called upon to deliver an address in French, which he did in a most forcible and most eloquent manner. At certain moments, the speaker held his audience spellbound, and his discourse, delivered with fire and conviction, will long be remembered by those present as a most masterly oration.

The afternoon session over, the friends were invited to the beautiful dining hall, where supper was served to the satisfaction of all. Tea being over, the friends gathered in Erskine Hall, and before the opening of a concert, which proved to be successful in every way, an appeal was made to the graduates for the sum of three hundred dollars, and in a short time, to the astonishment of all, the sum of two hundred and twenty-four dollars had been subscribed; and such will be used for the furnishing of the dining hall.

Our Church has a right to be proud of such schools, which possess a good staff, composed of scholarly teachers, who do their utmost to give the best of education. These schools are now in a good position, permitting their graduates to matriculate for McGill University.

In the presence of such marked success we indeed have a right to be thankful, and will not some of our wealthy Christian friends, who have at heart the advancement of God's kingdom, be willing to give several scholarships, so that students, who have brains, but not means, may continue their studies and become a blessing to their fellow countrymen.—A. G. RONDEAU, An Old Graduate.

The next meeting of North Bay Presbytery will be held at Magnetawan, on June 11th.

At the recent meeting of the North Bay Presbytery, on motion of Mr. Byrnes, seconded by Mr. Landel, a resolution was passed emphasizing the importance of having a church and manse building fund for Northern Ontario along the line of the Manitoba and Northwest church and manse building fund, and urging the Assembly's H. M. Committee to give the matter its most favorable consideration.

BRITISH AND FOREIGN.

There is only one member of the House of Commons who can speak Gaelic.

In Wales more money is spent per head on smoking than in any other part of the kingdom.

A motor being built at Paisley for Mr. E. H. Shackleton's Antarctic expedition has only two wheels. In place of the fore wheels sledge runners are being fixed.

The Prince of Wales on his visit to Glasgow on April 23rd will receive the degree of LL.D. from the University.

As the income of Fairlie U. F. Church has fallen off Rev. W. S. Fleck has offered to take £20, instead of £40, of supplement.

Rev. Lanchlan McLean Watt, of Alloa, is widely known as a poet. He is reckoned the poet preacher of the Church of Scotland.

It is expected that the Rev. Dr. Blair's successor in the junior clerkship of the United Free Church Assembly will be the Rev. James Buchanan.

Exeter Hall, London, which for so many years has been the home of religious gatherings, has been bought by Mr. Joseph Lyons, the caterer, who intends turning it into a winter garden.

Rev. Thomas Spurgeon, pastor of the Metropolitan Tabernacle, London, has tendered his resignation, partly owing to ill health. He may accept a smaller charge, which has been offered to him.

Lord Roberts is exceedingly fond of music. The members of his staff on various occasions have got up impromptu concerts to please him, and in one campaign the General was always serenaded when he retired to rest.

Mr. T. W. Russell, M.P., writes that probably in seven years the agrarian difficulty in Ireland will be at an end. Some 180,000 holdings have been bought, and £60,000,000 has either been spent in the purchase or is under agreement.

The death is announced as having occurred in Edinburgh on the 2nd ult., of Sir Charles Logan, who, until a couple of years ago, was Deputy Keeper of the Signet. Sir Charles was a member of the Churches Commission. He was knighted in 1899 in connection with the Birthday honors.

Ulster is rapidly gaining an enviable reputation for people who reach more than the allotted span. The deaths were announced on the 26th ult. of the following: Michael McNally, of Fedurris, County Armagh, who was 93, and Jas. M'Bride, of Milford, County Donegal, at the age of 100. Mrs. Bridget Corrigan still lives at Roughan, on the borders of County Monaghan and County Armagh, although she has just celebrated her 103rd birthday.

Messrs. Caswell, of South River, and Walker, of Huntsville, appeared before the North Bay Presbytery at its last meeting and expressed a desire to work as Catechists in the mission field, and stated their convictions of being called by the Master to preach the gospel. A committee was appointed to confer with these brethren and report to the Presbytery.

The Home Mission report presented by Mr. Childerhose to North Bay Presbytery showed that besides lumber and mining camps there are 31 fields containing 88 preaching stations, 7 ordained missionaries and 27 students and catechists, 4 manse and 2 rented houses. On account of increased liberality the following reduction in grants were recommended: French River, from \$350 to \$200; Emadale, from \$350 to \$325; Loring, from \$300 to \$150, and South River, from \$150 to nothing, as this field now becomes self-supporting. The new fields are Larder Lake, Giroux Lake and Byng Inlet, Magnetawan and Latchford. All congregations and mission fields were requested to take up an offering for the church schemes as soon as possible.