

## 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.

The annual meeting of the Board of French Evangelization was held here on Thursday the 19th inst. In addition to the local members Dr. Warden was present from Toronto and also representatives from the Presbyteries of Quebec, Ottawa, Lanark and Renfrew, Glengarry, and Brockville. Principal MacVicar presided and Mr. Taylor the Superintendent of French Missions acted as Secretary. The business occupied three long sessions the last of which was continued on into the small hours of the morning in order to finish the docket. The chief matter before the Board was of course the consideration of the various fields and the grants for the coming year. In view of the treasurer's statement that the fund was likely to be short by about three thousand dollars at the closing of the books unless that much more was received than came in during the corresponding period of last year, these grants had to be considered with the greatest care. Almost no new work was taken up and that only when it was decided to drop some less promising field. The discussion chiefly turned on methods of increasing the contributions of the field towards their own support. Looking back over a period of ten years one can easily see progress in this respect and that it has not been greater is certainly not the fault of the Board. Nor can it be said to be altogether the fault of the congregations. The case to which most attention was given was that of St. John's Church, Montreal, which after being dealt with by a strong deputation from the Presbytery was able to promise only \$400 towards the ministers salary for the coming year. The statement was made that since the beginning of 1890 627 names had been on the communion roll of the church, of whom only 130 remain at the present time the others having removed in most cases from the city. This is an extraordinary percentage of change, yet during the past year the congregation had contributed for all purposes at the rate of \$18 per family or \$9 per communicant, which is within a few cents of the average over the whole church. In another Montreal congregation eleven families had been removed during the year but their places had been taken by ten new families that were never before connected with any Protestant Church. It is certainly difficult to secure effective organization and satisfactory financial results from such fluctuating and untrained materials, altogether apart from the fact that the majority of the people, as in all such work the world over, are drawn from the poorer classes. Faithful dealing must be administered in love combined with patience.

The congregation of Calvin church on Wednesday evening last extended a unanimous call to the Rev. W. Scott Whittier, D.D., at a salary of \$1,500 per annum. The result was immediately cabled to Dr. Whittier in Trinidad whither he has gone to supply a vacant congregation for a few weeks. It is hoped that an answer may be received in time for a meeting of Presbytery on the 2nd prox. when it is expected that the call will be sustained. Dr. Whittier is a native of Nova Scotia, and has already served in the pastorate of three churches the last being over an extensive homestead district in Australia, in which he left four organized churches with settled ministers. He is an effective speaker and will be an acquisition to the ministerial force in the city should he decide to accept the call.

On Friday last Sir William and Lady Dawson quietly celebrated their golden wedding. Messages of congratulation were sent from many of their friends in the city and elsewhere, and addresses were presented from various bodies connected with the University, notably the graduates' societies organized in different parts of the Dominion and in the United States. Canada as a whole and McGill University in particular owes too much to his eminent services to allow him to be readily forgotten. As a

life-long Presbyterian who in many important ways has helped its work, every member of the Church will rejoice with him and his estimable wife in the kind providence which has spared them to each other. Sir William Dawson was a member of the committee which sent out Dr. Geddie, the first foreign missionary of the Presbyterian Church in Can. a little over fifty years ago. From him came the first suggestion for the founding of the Presbyterian College in Montreal. Though now retired from active service we trust that he may have many years of quiet service still to enjoy.

### NORTH WEST NOTES.

The Presbytery of Winnipeg has organized a new congregation in the western part of the city in the neighborhood of the General Hospital. It begins with twenty-one communicants and ranks as the ninth Presbyterian church in the city. The Rev. Samuel Polson has been asked to take charge of it for six months. No assistance is asked from the Home Mission Fund.

The Rev. K. A. Gollan of Hilton has resigned his charge and the resignation is to be considered at a meeting of the Presbytery of Glenboro on the 29th of March.

The congregation of North and South Plympton, and Millbrook has unanimously called the Rev. Wm. Denyar B.A.

The people of Winnipeg are making preparations for the meeting of the General Assembly in June. The Rev. Joseph Hogg is chairman of the Committee of Arrangements, and the Rev. R. G. MacBeth is Secretary.

While the Presbytery of Winnipeg was in session on Tuesday the 9th inst., news came of the death of the Rev. Duncan Campbell B.A., formerly minister of Holland. After sympathetic references to the life and work of Mr. Campbell, a resolution of esteem was passed for embodiment in the minutes. Mr. Campbell was born in the neighborhood of Barrie, Ont., but came to this province at an early age and took the whole of his course in Arts and Theology in Manitoba College, where he was a great favorite. He was ordained as pastor of the church in Holland in 1891 and continued there till last autumn. Paralysis seized him lately and he has been called away at the age of little more than thirty, to the great grief of all who knew him.

The Rev. Wm. Hansen of the German Reformed Church in Winnipeg has presented his credentials to the Presbytery and asked, that, without severing his connection with his own communion, he be received as a corresponding member, for as he says in his letter "it is not good for a man to be alone." The Presbytery has granted the request with pleasure.

### GENERAL.

Rev. Robert Haddow, of Milton, will be inducted as pastor of the Presbyterian Church at Watford on 6th April.

Knox Church people, St. Mary's, have presented their pastor, Rev. A. Grant, with a good driving horse.

Professor Cavan, of Knox College, preached the anniversary sermons at Cromarty Presbyterian Church on March 7.

The Presbyterian Congregation of Lunan have decided to enlarge their church. An addition of twelve feet is to be added.

Rev. G. Grant, of Orillia, preached anniversary sermons in the First Presbyterian Church, St. Mary's, on Sunday 14th inst.

At a meeting of St. Andrew's Church, Pictou, it was unanimously decided to forward a call to Rev. W. T. D. Moss, of Marshfield, P. E. I.

Mr. E. C. Currie, a student of Queen's University, was ordained on the 22nd Dec. and inducted into the charge of Delhi and Windham Centre by the Presbytery of Paris.

Congregational Treasurers for the Presbytery of Toronto are asked to forward any monies for the Presbytery and Synod Fund to Rev. R. C. Tibb, 36 Macdonell Ave., who will acknowledge all remittances.

At the congregational meeting of the Presbyterian Church, Niagara Falls South, held recently, the Board was authorized to purchase a \$1,250 organ. \$1,100 of the

amount is already subscribed, and the old organ will bring from one hundred to one hundred and fifty. Some alterations will be necessary for the accommodation of the new organ.

The quarterly Communion in connection with St. Paul's Church, Bowmanville, was held on Sunday 14th inst. Twenty-one new members were admitted, fourteen of these being from the Base Line appointment.

Rev. R. Douglas Fraser delivered his lecture on "John Knox" at Orono on Tuesday, 9th inst., and at Columbus on the 16th, and Brooklin on the 17th. The lecture is on the monthly topic for March in the Presbyterian Young People's Societies.

At the morning service in the First Presbyterian Church, Brantford, on Sunday, March 14, four elders were ordained, viz., Messrs. Ruskin, Craig, Little and Orr. In the evening, Rev. Mr. Hamilton preached from the subject, "Why Should I Become a Church Member."

The anniversary service held in the Presbyterian Church, Unionville, on Sunday evening, March 4, was largely attended, all the available space being occupied. The Rev. M. Milne, moderator of Toronto Presbytery, preached a very much appreciated sermon, taking his text from 1 Cor. x. 31.

The congregation of the Presbyterian church at Cryder drove to South Finch on Friday evening, March 5th, and calling at the manse, spent a very pleasant evening in the course of which an address was read by James Pollock, and a handsome chair presented to the pastor, Rev. J. W. McLeod.

Rev. G. H. Wells, formerly pastor of the American Presbyterian Church, Montreal, was run over by a train and killed on 15th March, in Wisconsin. After leaving Montreal, Rev. Dr. Wells took a charge in Minneapolis, but retired on account of bad health. He had been living in retirement in Gibson, Ill.

Rev. Dr. Smith, of Port Hope, a former pastor of the First Presbyterian church, Brockville, preached anniversary sermons March 14th at the Lyn Presbyterian church. Though the weather was stormy the church was crowded morning and evening. The reverend doctor's discourses were delivered in his usual masterly manner and his listeners were more than delighted with his efforts.

There was a good attendance at the Wick Presbyterian church on the evening of March 19th, to hear Mr. John Imrie, of Toronto, deliver his patriotic lecture "The Scot at Home and Abroad." The pastor, the Rev. J. M. Cameron, presided. In moving a vote of thanks the Rev. Mr. Currie, of Somers, congratulated the lecturer on the pleasure and profit they had received from the address. During the evening some choice selections were well rendered by the choir. The gathering was a decided success financially and otherwise.

Rev. A. McMillan, of St. Enoch's, Toronto, gave his lecture on "The Hero Martyrs of the Scottish Reformation," in St. Paul's Church, Bowmanville, on the 15th inst., under the auspices of the St. Paul's Y. P. S. C. E. There was a large and enthusiastic audience. The lecture was heard with much profit and delight. The descriptions both of men and localities were to the life and the spirit was broadly Catholic. The choir of the church assisted ably, as also Mr. Ward, of Barrie, who rendered two exquisite violin solos.

The Sabbath school Committee of the General Assembly will meet (N. Y.) in Central Church, Toronto, Ont., on Wednesday, April 7th, at 10 o'clock, a. m. Members are requested to come prepared to give the whole day to the work of the Committee, as matters of very great importance in regard to the future of our work will be discussed. There are no funds for the payment of travelling expenses; those, therefore, who attend, are advised to procure at the R. R. Station from which they start, certificates for attending the closing exercises of Knox College. These will be signed by Rev Wm. Burns, Secretary of the College, and entitled to a return reduced fare. As the Committee is a very large one and the convener has not been able to ascertain the post office addresses of all the members, those who do not receive their notices will please accept.