

## Introduction



THE Semi-Centenary celebration of Cromarty Presbyterian Church was held on Sabbath, June 27th, and Monday, June 28th, 1915, and was most successful in every way. The weather during both days was perfect for the celebration, and many who had been associated with the congregation in past years came from far and near to be present at the Jubilee Services.

It added much to the interest of the occasion to have Rev. R. M. Hamilton, B. A., of Toronto, whose grandfather had donated the lot on which the first Presbyterian church in Hibbert was erected, present to conduct the special services on the Lord's Day. The church was filled to its utmost capacity at both the morning and evening services, and the helpful services were much appreciated by the large congregations, the discourses containing sympathetic reminiscences of the past and unfolding worthy visions for the future.

Another interesting feature of the services was that the praise during the morning service was conducted in a manner similar to that in which it was conducted when the church was opened, only the Psalms and paraphrases were sung and the selections were sung without the accompaniment of the organ. Mr. F. L. Hamilton, now of Galt, led the service of praise in which the people heartily joined.

It was a very memorable and touching scene, when the people lingered about the church door at the conclusion of the morning service to renew friendships and recall incidents associated with childhood days.

On Monday, June 28th, a most successful picnic was held in the Mountain Grove, and a field day of races for the Sabbath School pupils and games for the adults was held in the adjoining field. The tug-of-war between the married and single men, will never be forgotten by those who took part and those who looked on, for all alike were exhausted by the excitement and strain of the titanic struggle.

At the close of the races and games an interesting programme was rendered in the Grove. Rev. R. M. Hamilton and visiting ministers and friends gave interesting addresses, and the musical programme was pleasantly supplemented by a song by Mr. George Hamilton, of Atwood, who was one of the masons who built the walls of Cromarty church in 1864.

An attractive programme of music was rendered in the church on Monday evening and Rev. A. Cranston, of Palmerston, and Rev. R. G. McKay, of Alvinston, former ministers of Cromarty, gave helpful addresses, and the minister read the Historical Sketch of the congregation.

*See also...*