

HAMILTON, Jan. 15th, 1891.

TO THE OFFICIAL BOARD OF THE FIRST
METHODIST CHURCH.

GENTLEMEN:

On behalf of my mother, sister, brothers and myself, I beg to extend to your respected body, our most sincere and heartfelt thanks, and appreciation of the thoughtful kindness and many loving favors we have received from you during these last few days of our sore bereavement. We take it all as an indication of the esteem in which our dear father was held by you and we can assure you that he fully reciprocated your feelings. We regret that it will not be possible for us to express our thanks to all of our friends personally, but we assure you that, though we shall never be able to repay your many acts of kindness, we shall never forget you.

As some of us will be leaving Hamilton probably for good in a very few days, we take this opportunity of bidding you an affectionate farewell, and trust that the Almighty Father will continue to bless the work in your church from which our father has been so suddenly called.

We would esteem it a favor if you will have this expression of our thanks and esteem regularly entered upon the minutes of your meeting.

Faithfully yours,

FRED C. LAIRD.

Items.

We welcome Mr. Pescott to our church and homes, and trust his coming among us at this time, may be a great blessing. We are sure that each member of the church and congregation will feel under renewed obligation to be found in his place, and become a co-worker. Mr. Pescott's home will be at the parsonage, where he will no doubt be pleased to meet any one in the capacity of friend and pastor.

The "Gleaners" have begun rehearsals for an entertainment to be given the 26th Feb. We hope every one will rally to the help of the Gleaners as in former years.

The Sunday school anniversary is also approaching, and committees have been formed to arrange the order of exercises, which will be duly announced.

During the four Sundays we were without a regular pastor the following gentleman rendered very efficient services. Mr. J. L. Hughes, Toronto. The missionary Sunday services were conducted by the Rev. Geo. Boyd, of London, and the Rev. Mr. Woodsworth of the Manitoba conference. Rev. Mr. Blackstock and Dr. Dr. Burns both of this city, the following Sunday, and the fourth Sunday the Rev. Mr. Willoughby of Toronto, preached most acceptably morning and evening.

We are glad to receive contributions to our paper, but will request all correspondents to kindly sign their names to their articles, the names may or may not be printed as the writer directs.

The James St. Baptist's young peoples society has fallen into line, under the banner "for Christ and the Church." This makes twelve societies of Christian Endeavor in our city, three of which are Baptists.

We are desirous of joining our congratulations with those of the many friends of Mr. and Mrs. Bristow, upon the celebration of their silver wedding. We hope they may be spared to enjoy happy anniversaries of that blissful event.

Mr. Edg. Hunter left for Buffalo this week to engage with a large firm of architects. We are sorry to lose him from our church and school but wish him every success.

The third Y. P. S. C. E., social of the series, was extremely enjoyable. Rev. W. E. Pescott occupied the chair, and made many friends by his genial manner. The program was good, while the intermission was taken advantage of to get the autographs of the strangers present.

THE first month of the New Year found our school in a very prosperous condition. The missionary anniversary of our church being held on the third Sunday of the month, our school had a missionary service in the church in the afternoon and listened to a very instructing and entertaining address by Dr. Gifford, of Acton. The average attendance for the month was 480, the collection being \$7.60. The special collection on missionary Sunday amounted to \$10.40, which, of course, makes the average higher than last month.