

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.]

In Canada.

THE congregation at Oil Springs purpose to build a new church.

REV. RODRICK MCKAY, of Douglass, Ont., has been called to Valleyfield, Que.

REV. ROBERT JOHNSTON, of Lindsay, has accepted the call from St. Andrew's church, London, Ont.

THE anniversary services in St. Paul's church, Amherst Island, were conducted by Rev. D. J. Macdonnell, B.D., Toronto.

REV. ROBERT JOHNSTON, Lindsay, has been called to St. Andrew's church, London, vacant by the death of Rev. J. A. Murray.

THE ladies of King street church, London, held a pound social for the benefit of the poor, when a large quantity of provisions was contributed.

REV. W. T. HERRIDGE, pastor of St. Andrew's church, Ottawa, has been compelled to suspend his pastoral duties owing to illness. The session urged Mr. Herridge to take a rest and recuperate.

THE new church at Acton, recently opened, is a very handsome structure. It is built of brick, modern style, with a seating capacity of over 1,000, comfortably furnished and beautifully decorated.

REV. JOHN CURRIE presided over a musical and literary entertainment held in Kilmartin church, Mapleton, at which the chief features were papers on mission work by Mr. Douglas Ewan and Mrs. (Rev.) J. Currie.

THE new Presbyterian church at Palmerston was dedicated by Dr. Cochrane, who preached to overflowing congregations. The collections were large. On the following evening he lectured again on "The Queen's Highway to British Columbia."

THE first meeting of the Missionary Society of St. Andrew's church, Appleton, was held recently, when the secretary presented his report, which was very satisfactory. During the year there were eight meetings held and the amount of the collections was \$34.05. The officers for the ensuing year were elected as follows: Rev. G. T. Bayne, president; Mr. Thos. Cavers, vice-president; Mr. W. G. Code, secretary; Mr. John Thom, jr., treasurer. Committee—Mrs. A. Wilson, jr., Mrs. Thos. Cavers, Messrs. Jessie Turner and Marion Drummond, Messrs. Wm. Paul, jr., Robert Baird and Jas. Wilson.

THE funeral of Rev. Robert D. Ross of Springville, N. S., attracted a large number of sorrowing friends. In the course of an impressive address Rev. Mr. Rogers, a classmate in college, and a co-presbyter for nine years, referred to a day which, he said, seems but yesterday, although fourteen years old last November, when a band of students entered upon their studies at the Presbyterian College, Pine Hill. Mr. Ross was one of them. The most delicate member of that class still lives, the strongest, physically, Rev. S. Roxborough, died a year ago, and now another brave heart rests from stress of storm, and struggle of life.

REV. J. W. MITCHELL, Thorold, writes: "I have given up my charge in Thorold, as you are aware. One object which I had in view in doing so was that I might devote myself fully to evangelistic work. There is demand for assistance in holding special services in a good many of our congregations and often difficulty in securing assistance from those who are connected with our own church. I am giving myself to supply this need and have associated with me Mr. T. A. Rodger, of St. James Square church, Toronto, who has experience in the work and gifts as a singer. We have just completed our first series of meetings in Port Dalhousie Presbyterian church, extending over nearly four weeks. The attendance was good and the people have been quickened spiritually, additions have been made to their number and the congregation strengthened. My

address will continue to be Thorold. It may serve some of the brethren who are casting around for assistance in special services to know that we are ready to respond as our engagements will permit."

MANY people will regret, says a contemporary, to hear of the death of Rev. Robert McCunn, pastor of St. George's Presbyterian congregation, River John, Pictou Co., which sad event occurred on Wednesday last. He was a native of Greenock, Scotland. Mr. McCunn early distinguished himself in study, having been dux and gold medallist of the academy of his native town, and having maintained a most creditable position in his arts course at Glasgow university. He was ordained to the Gospel ministry in May, 1863. Coming to this country he was in September of the same year settled in the congregation in which he continued to labour till his death, a period of thirty-one years. At the time of his settlement the congregation was in its infancy, but under his faithful and diligent ministrations it gradually made progress not only in numbers but in readiness for every good word and work. He was an earnest preacher and a diligent pastor. He possessed too an amiable Christian spirit and kindly manners, so that he won the warmest affections of his flock and was esteemed and beloved by all who knew him. He leaves a widow and large family, who have the deepest sympathy of the community.

THE annual tea meeting was held in Woodland church, on Tuesday evening, March 5th. There was a large gathering of old and young. The ladies of the congregation provided an excellent tea which was thoroughly enjoyed. The speaking was good. The Rev. Mr. Honey, of Conn, gave a pointed address emphasizing the duty of every Christian voter to poll his vote for none but out and out prohibitionists at the approaching Dominion elections. Mr. Martin, ex-mayor of Mount Forest, gave an excellent address on his recent visit to England, Ireland and Scotland. Mr. Halsted, banker, Mount Forest, gave a most interesting account of his tour last summer through Manitoba, Northwest Territory, British Columbia, California, Utah, Kansas and other western states. Mr. Hampton, reeve of Mount Forest, gave an interesting address pointing out how useless and senseless a thing it is to be always grumbling and finding fault. That no people upon earth are more highly favoured than we are here in Ontario. Messrs. Martin and Jamieson, of Mount Forest, and Messrs. Murdoch, reeve of Egremont, Fraser, Deputy Reeve, Byo and Hunter, councillors, also made short pointed addresses. The North Luther choir, under the leadership of Mr. Sturdy, acquitted themselves admirably. The choir is to be congratulated in having such a master in the musical art to instruct them. It would pay many congregations to engage such men as Mr. Sturdy to give instruction to their young people in the art of sacred music. The choir was occupied by the pastor, Rev. H. McKellar. After votes of thanks were tendered to the ladies, the committee of management, the choir, the speakers, and the chairman, the meeting closed by all joining in singing "Home, Sweet Home, There is no place like Home." The Rev. Mr. Honey pronounced the benediction.

Presbytery of Brockville.

AT the meeting of the Brockville Presbytery, Rev. Mr. Stuart in the chair, Rev. Mr. Sinclair asked to obtain leave on behalf of his congregation to sell a portion of the glebe, the proceeds to be devoted to renovation of the manse. The home mission report was presented by Rev. J. Stuart, of Prescott. It showed missions and augmented charges to be in a flourishing condition. The clerk read a letter received from the firm of Hatcheson & Fisher, of Brockville, in regard to a legacy bequeathed the Presbytery by the will of Mr. Sicott. It was agreed to note the reception of the letter. The report on remits was then called for. It was presented by Rev. J. J. Wright. The report was received and considered seriatim. The first remit was in regard to asking all

students and ministers received from other churches to spend one year in the mission field before being eligible to a call in a vacant congregation. This remit was voted down. Rev. Mr. Connery presented a petition asking leave on behalf of the congregation at Winchester to sell their old church to the Methodists. The leave asked for was granted. Rev. Mr. Connery also presented the report on Sabbath Observance, which was a very encouraging one to all lovers of the Sabbath. The report was heartily adopted, and Mr. Connery thanked for his diligence.

Presbytery of Quebec.

THE Presbytery of Quebec met in Morrin College, on the 26th and 27th February. There was a large attendance, and a large amount of business was transacted. Rev. J. M. Whitelaw, B.D., was appointed moderator for the ensuing six months. Rev. S. J. Taylor, secretary of the board of French Evangelization, was invited to sit with the Presbytery. Dr. Kellock, convener of the Presbytery's Committee on Augmentation, reported having visited nearly every augmented congregation in the interests of the fund, and that the other congregations had been communicated with and taken action. As a result of the special efforts put forth in the interests of the fund, every congregation, with one exception, promised an increase for supply of ordinances, and applied for reduced grants, while one became self-sustaining. Grants to mission stations and augmented congregations were carefully revised, and recommendations made to the respective committees. Leave to moderate in calls at Danville and Windsor Mills was granted. Reports on the State of Religion, Sabbath schools, Sabbath Observance, and Systematic Benevolence, were submitted by Messrs. J. McClung, T. Muir, K. MacLennan and D. Tait respectively, and were received and adopted, and ordered to be transmitted to the Synod's committees. Rev. D. Tait submitted the report of the Presbytery's committee on remits from the General Assembly. The remits on the one year service in mission fields by students and ministers received from other churches, were approved, and the appointment of a committee on Jewish work was approved. The remits on the amalgamation of committees and the obligation of ministers to become connected with the Aged and Infirm Ministers' Fund were disapproved. The following deliverance on the Hymnal was arrived at:—1. That the whole Psalter (i.e., 150 psalms in common use) be retained as part of the Book of Praise. 2. That it is desirable that some new versions and selections from the Book of Psalms should be incorporated in the new Book of Praise, and that the selections submitted by the committee, when approved or revised, should form the first part of the new Hymnal. 3. That selections from the paraphrases should be incorporated in the new Hymnal. 4. That the complete collection should be called "Book of Praise," and should include (a) the whole Psalter in the metrical version now in use; (b) selections from the prose version of the Psalms and other portions of Scripture for chanting; (c) selections from the Psalms in the ordinary metrical version and in other versions; (d) hymns approved and adopted by the Assembly; (e) Scripture sentences. 5. That no book containing any portion of the materials included in the "Book of Praise" shall receive the imprimatur of the Assembly unless it contains either the whole Psalter or selections from the Psalms which shall be approved by the Assembly. 6. That there shall be a smaller book for Sabbath schools, consisting of selections from the psalms, paraphrases and hymns contained in the Book of Praise. 7. That the psalms be numbered separately from the hymns. 8. That the draft Hymnal be generally approved, but that the second verse of the national anthem be omitted. 9. That there shall only be one Book of Praise. The following were appointed as commissioners to the General Assembly, viz.: Messrs. J. M. Whitelaw, Dr. Kellock, W. Shearer, J. McClung, David Pugh; and Messrs. John Whyte, John C. Thomson, Robt. Brodie, A. McCallum and Dr. Thompson, elders. Dr. MacDonald, of Seafarsh,