

## Ottawa and Vicinity.

The Ladies' Aid Society of Erskine Presbyterian church elected the following officers at a recent meeting: President, Mrs. J. Whitten; vice-presidents, Mrs. A. Younger and Mrs. F. E. McKnight; secretary, Mrs. Wm. Anderson, and treasurer, Miss C. McCuaig.

Rev. Wm. Meikle continued during the past week the evangelistic services commenced by Dr. Chapman. The attendance has been good and the interest well sustained. This week the meetings are being held in Knox Church, with afternoon and evening services every day till Friday night.

The following were appointed as the board of managers of the New Edinburgh church for the current year: Messrs. J. C. Gordon, J. Johnson, A. McGinnis, R. Clemence, W. Cherry, J. Graham, F. Dawson, B. Slinn, E. D. Holt, W. Fallis, J. C. Hope, L. MacLaren, L. Lunam, W. Perley, John Phair, J. T. McElroy, A. Sharpe, S. Sherwood and P. Macdonald. With such a strong board the business of this thriving congregation should be well looked after.

The Erskine Congregation already know something of their new minister. But with their pastor's wife they have yet to become better acquainted. Mrs. Mitchell will not join her husband here for a few weeks. Meanwhile we reproduce the following from the address elsewhere referred to. "We would be derelict in our duty did we fail to recognize the value and importance of the ready assistance which Mrs. Mitchell has always given to the work coming within her sphere. She has ever been ready to respond to the calls made upon her, and to her efforts is due a large measure of the success which has attended the work in which the ladies of the congregation have been so specially engaged."

The Rev. Mr. Mitchell's first Sabbath in Erskine church was a very busy one. In the morning he preached an intensely practical sermon from the words: "Sir, we would see Jesus;" in the afternoon he spoke to the Sunday School scholars; and then again in the evening he preached very impressively from John 20, verses 21 and 22. Mr. Mitchell's sermons are evangelical in the best sense. His presentation of the truth is pervaded with spiritual thought and eloquent with earnestness. At all the services on Sabbath the hall was crowded; and all were more than satisfied with the choice they had made. Under Mr. Mitchell's leadership Erskine church has made a fresh start in the good work of extending the reign of righteousness in the important neighborhood in which it is situated.

On Saturday memorial services were held in Christ Church Cathedral, in the Dominion Methodist church, and a union service of all the city Presbyterian and Congregational churches in St. Andrews, which was heavily draped in black and purple. The pulpit and communion rail were hidden under the heavy folds of mourning. The choir and gallery were also covered with black and purple. The Dead March in Saul was played as the opening voluntary. All the ministers assisting in the services wore gowns. Appropriate hymns were sung and the choir rendered an anthem. Dr. Moore, of Bank St. church, opened the service with prayer. Rev. Wm. McIntosh, of the First Congregational church, read the first Scripture lesson, and Rev. D. M. Ramsay, of Knox church, the second lesson. Rev. Dr. Armstrong, of St. Paul's church, offered the second prayer. Rev. Dr. Herridge preached an eloquent memorial sermon. At the close of the service Chopin's funeral march was played by the organist.

The induction of Rev. A. E. Mitchell, of Almonte, into the pastorate of Erskine church, took place Thursday evening in the Mission Hall, Concession street. There was a large attendance. Among the visitors was Rev. Dr. Campbell, of Perth, ex-moderator of the Presbyterian Church in Canada, and at present agent of the century fund. Rev. Mr. Milne, on behalf of the Ottawa Presbytery presided. Rev. Mr. Heribson preached an appropriate sermon from Psalm 126, verse 3: "They that sow in tears shall reap in joy." Rev. Dr. Armstrong addressed the minister and Rev. Mr. Ramsay the congregation. These addresses were very practical. At the close of the proceedings Rev. Mr. Mitchell was made a member of the Ottawa Presbytery, and afterwards Mr. and Mrs. Mitchell were introduced to the members and adherents of the congregation, as they were passing out. The settlement is a very happy one and the members of Erskine church are to be congratulated on having secured such an able preacher and pastor.

The Almonte papers contain full reports of the farewell tendered Rev. A. E. Mitchell on the eve of his leaving for this city. Dr. Hanly presided and introduced a short but interesting programme. After this had been disposed of Mr. Jas. McLeod was asked to discharge the task assigned him, who at once proceeded to read an appreciative address which voiced in unmistakable terms, the feelings of warm affection as well as the great respect felt for their late pastor by the people he is leaving. The address was accompanied by a purse containing the sum of \$130 in gold. Mr. Mitchell made a feeling reply. He spoke of the task it had been for him to leave a congregation where he had found so many loyal, warm-hearted, sympathetic friends, and where he had spent nine-and-a-half years so happily, for a new field of labor in which there was no church or manse, and where new friendships would have to be formed; and he assured the audience that the step he had taken was taken but for one reason—because he felt it his duty to do so under all the circumstances.

At the thirteenth annual meeting of the Woman's Home Missionary Society of St. Andrew's church the following officers were elected: President, Mrs. Herridge; vice-presidents, Mrs. Levi Crannell, Mrs. A. N. Burgess, and Mrs. W. G. Perley; corresponding secretary, Mrs. Gillespie; recording secretary, Mrs. Gullcock; treasurer, Mrs. C. C. Ray, and council, Mrs. W. Drummond Hogg, Mrs. Blair, Mrs. Robert Allan, Mrs. John McDougall, and Mrs. Robert Bell. The resignation of Mrs. Gemmill, who held the office of recording secretary ever since the society was organized, was accepted with much regret. The treasurer reported receipts for the year, exclusive of the proceeds of the fair, of \$276.70 and an expenditure of \$182.98, leaving a balance of \$93.72. The receipts of the fair were \$91.07 and the sum of \$1,187.77 was sent to Swan River during the year. Dr. Herridge made a short address in which he alluded to the national sorrow and said it must have been intended to suggest to us the worth of those Christian qualities which distinguished Her Majesty.

## Eastern Ontario.

Rev. Prof. Jordan, D. D., of Queen's, preached anniversary services in Knox Church, Perth, last Sabbath.

Rev. R. Young, Pakenham, conducted anniversary services in St. Andrew's, Appleton, last Sabbath.

Rev. J. A. Macdonald, St. John's church, Pittsburg, has been presented with a well-filled purse, and his stipend is to be increased in future.

The reports presented to the annual meeting of St. John's church, Cornwall, were most satisfactory. An increase of \$250 was made in the stipend of the pastor, Rev. Dr. McNish.

Rev. Dr. Crombie, of Smith's Falls, had a slight attack of paralysis a few days ago, but hopes are entertained that in spite of his eighty-old years he will soon enjoy his usual health.

At the annual meeting of St. Andrew's church, Appleton, the treasurer's report showed the congregation to be in a healthy and prosperous condition. The church will start the new century with virtually a clear sheet financially.

Rev. W. S. Smith, Middleville, conducted anniversary services at Macdonald's Corners, which were much appreciated. The annual social was a great success. Rev. James Binnie occupied the chair, and a good programme was presented. The financial results were satisfactory.

At the annual meeting of St. Andrew's, Pakenham, encouraging reports were given from the session, managers, Sunday school and ladies' aid, all branches showing an advance with the exception of the Schemes of the Church, which had somewhat decreased, no doubt owing to the big push to pay off as much as possible of the debt on the church this jubilee year.

Calvin church, Pembroke, (Rev. Dr. Bayne, pastor), has had a very successful year. Mention was made of the fact that during Dr. Bayne's ministry of 13 years, 574 were received into the church, while 270 were removed by certificate, death or otherwise. The membership is now 429. Financially, the year closed has been a banner year for Calvin church, the congregation having raised for all purposes upwards of \$9,000. The following are the committee of management: Messrs. A. Millar, H. Jamieson, Hugh Fraser, Jas. Stewart, Geo. Thibodeau, Sheriff Moffat,

W. E. Biggs, S. S. M. Hunter, Frank Thompson, Thos. Clarke, T. M. Skinner, H. S. Bowden and J. M. Taylor.

## Northern Ontario.

Revs. W. J. Graham, of Dornach, and J. Little, of Chatsworth, exchanged pulpits last Sabbath. The latter's many friends on his old field were pleased to hear him again.

Special evangelistic services are in progress in Chalmers church, Flesherton, Rev. J. Little, of Chatsworth, assisted the pastor last week and Rev. J. B. Simpson, of Thornbury, is assisting this week.

The annual meeting of Knox Church, Northmanby, was held on the 15th ult., when very satisfactory reports were presented, showing the church to be in a prosperous condition, financially and otherwise.

Largely attended and deeply interesting evangelistic services have been in progress the past fortnight in Knox Church, Owen Sound. Mr. J. M. Whyte, gospel singer, and Evangelist Kennedy assisted last week.

The congregations of Esson and Willis Churches became vacant on the 23rd December, in consequence of the Rev. A. F. Webster having resigned the charge. At a meeting held 28th Jan., they agreed to extend a call to Rev. A. M. D. Haig.

The annual meeting of Chatsworth congregation was held on the 13th ult., and was a gratifying review of the year's work under the pastoral care of Rev. J. Little. The total receipts were over \$2000 which was a distinct advance on former years. A new manse is to be built for the minister and his family. Special services are in progress, the pastor being assisted this week by Rev. Ellison, of Southampton.

Though having been without a settled pastor for some time the reports presented at the annual meeting of the Cedarville congregation were very satisfactory. The handsome new church in which they now worship is a credit to Presbyterianism in the community. Rev. H. Broad, a recent graduate of Knox College, who was a few days ago ordained and inducted into this charge, enters upon his work with bright prospects for a useful ministry among his people.

The annual meeting of the Durham congregation was held on the 21st, with a good attendance. The congregation has had a very successful year. Marked improvements had been made on the church property for which subscriptions amounting to \$2,800 had been secured and over half paid; \$400 had been paid to the century fund (common); \$200 given to missions; and after all obligations met \$177 remained in the treasurer's hands. Messrs. J. Morice, J. Ireland and T. McFadden were elected to the managing board. In the evening a social gathering was held in the basement of the church, tea was served and a pleasing programme rendered.

Erskine church, Dundalk, and Knox, Ventry, under the pastoral care of Rev. Jas. Buchanan, held their annual meetings on the 10th and 17th ult., respectively, and the reports presented showed that excellent work had been done in these congregations during the year. In Erskine church 35 new members were added to the roll. The revenue from all sources aggregated \$914.64 being \$350 more than any previous year. Out of revenue \$155 were given to missionary and other benevolent purposes. Knox church revenue amounted to \$1223.92. Of the above nearly \$200 was given to missionary and other benevolent work. Preparations are going on for the building of a commodious new church.

The annual meeting of Chalmers church, Flesherton, Rev. L. W. Thom, pastor, was held on the 17th inst., and the reports from the various organizations showed the congregation to have had a prosperous year. The session reported 130 members on the roll, 7 infants and 2 adults baptised. The auditor's report showed the revenue to have been as follows: Cong. Treas. \$509.52; mortgage acct., \$597.23; L. A. Society, \$105.07; Sabbath School, \$117.88; C. E. Society, \$73.53; schemes of the church, \$32.75. Total \$1435.98. The expenditure consisted in \$284 on mortgages; \$250 deposited in bank on mortgage account; \$25 to Indian famine fund, Stipend and all other liabilities fully met leaving a balance in the various treasurers' hands of \$160. Messrs. Jas. M. Mullen, F. Cairns, W. Stewart and A. Gilchrist were elected to managing board; J. McKee, trustee; A. S. Vanusen and J. Blackburn, auditors; T. J. Sheppard, Secy.-Treas., and choir leader and Mrs. J. B. Blackburn, organist.