

## Ministers and Churches.

THE Rev. Alex. Henderson, of Appin, has left for Scotland where his mother lies seriously ill.

THE Rev. James Gordon, M.A., of London, filled the pulpit of Knox Church, Belmont, on Sunday.

THE Rev. G. B. Howie has tendered his resignation of the pastoral charge of Knox Church, Brussels.

THE Rev. Mr. Shaw has accepted the pastorate of the Tilbury Centre Presbyterian Church, and will be inducted on the 18th.

THE Presbyterians of High Bluff are arranging for the erection of a new church which will cost \$1,500. Of that amount \$1,200 are already subscribed.

MINISTERS and congregations desiring copies of the Home Mission Report for distribution should apply at once to the Rev. Dr. Reid. Four thousand copies have been printed for this purpose.

THE Rev. J. A. Murray, pastor of St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, London, who is spending his vacation in British Columbia, is considerably improved in health. He had been unable to preach for some time before his departure.

THE Rev. J. R. Johnston, B.A., who for the past nine years has occupied the Presbyterian pulpit in Napier Church, has tendered his resignation. The people much regret his intended departure as a more efficient and faithful man will be hard to find.

THE Rev. C. B. Pitblado, of Santa Rosa, Cal., has published a series of letters in the Halifax *Herald* describing a trip across the continent by the Canadian Pacific route. His description of the run across the Rockies is a remarkably fine specimen of word-painting.

THE *Vancouver World* says: The services in St. Andrew's Church last week were well attended; in fact the edifice was filled to its utmost seating capacity. After the customary preliminary devotional exercises Mr. Pitblado chose as the text of his remarks the words found in James iv. 10.

THE Rev. J. G. Shearer, B.A., of Caledonia, and Mrs. Shearer go to Gore Bay, Manitoulin Island, for vacation, where they will remain probably until September 1st. The new manse is expected to be completed by the time of their return. It is a handsome building on a beautiful site and will be a credit to the congregation.

THE engagement is announced of Rev. Louis H. Jordan, formerly pastor of Erskine Presbyterian Church, Montreal, and Miss Kate McDonald, daughter of the chief justice of Nova Scotia, and sister of Mrs. C. H. Tupper. The marriage will likely take place at an early day, and the honeymoon will be a tour around the world.

THE congregations of Erskine and Knox Churches, Montreal, have arranged to hold united services during the months of July and August. The services will be held in Knox Church throughout the month of July. The Rev. James Fleck, B.A., preached last Sabbath. A united prayer-meeting of the two congregations is also held in Knox Church.

MR. R. KNOWLES, of Manitoba College, went to Holland last month, where he will be in charge of the Presbyterian Church for the summer months. A Winnipeg paper says: Mr. Knowles is one of our promising ministers of the future and a strong advocate for temperance. The people of Holland are to be congratulated in securing the services of Mr. Knowles.

A LOCAL paper states that the resignation of Rev. G. B. Howie as pastor of Knox Church, Brussels, would probably be handed in at the meeting of Maitland Presbytery last week. It is reported that the rev. gentleman will go as a missionary to Jerusalem. His knowledge of the language, customs, etc., of the people of the East should qualify him for successful work in that country.

WESTMINSTER Church, Richmond, Va., at a congregational meeting held lately, gave a unanimous call to Rev. James Little, of Florida, formerly of Bowmanville, Ont. This church is the outgrowth of a mission established by the First Church about two years ago. The church was organized last year, and has up to this time been ministered to by Rev. Dr. R. P. Kerr in connection with his work as pastor of the First Church.

MR. M. P. TALLING, who will be ordained and inducted into the pastorate of St. James' Presbyterian Church, London, on July 31, is about 32 years old, and a native of Bowmanville. About three years ago he graduated at Toronto University with honours, and also graduated successfully at Knox College last April. He received a call also from Ailsa Craig, and both calls were sustained by the London Presbytery, but he has decided to accept the London charge.

THE congregations of Knox Church and the Congregational Church, Ottawa, have arranged to worship together for the next six Sundays, meeting in Knox church in the mornings and in the Congregational church in the evenings, thus allowing each of their pastors a holiday for three weeks without trouble or expense. Rev. Mr. Farries conducts the services July 13th, 20th and 27th, and Rev. Mr. Wood on August 3rd, 10th and 17th. This is evidence of practical union very pleasant to behold.

THE New Edinburgh Presbyterian Church Sabbath school with their teachers embarked on board the *Empress* for the beautiful grove near Mr. Edwards' mills at Rockland last Friday week to have their annual picnic. The sail to and from Rockland was charming and the weather all that could be desired. Some 150 gathered in groups in the grove and spent a delightful day. The children entered with zest in the sports prepared for their amusement. All seemed to enjoy the many and varied races and took great interest in noticing the victors receiving their laurels in the shape of books and small coins.

THE *Vancouver World* says: The Rev. Alexander Dunn, of Wharnock, officiated in the North Arm Presbyterian Church yesterday, exchanging pulpits with Mr. Jaffray. It is some seven years since Mr. Dunn last visited that section of the country. Then the Presbyterians had a borrowed church. There were no roads; the people had to come by boats. Now all is changed. That denomination has a fine church and a manse of its own, whilst the attendants drive to the place of worship in double and single waggons and over good roads. All this is typical of western energy and enterprise.

THE Rev. G. E. Freeman, B.A., pastor of the Deer Park Presbyterian Church, Toronto, spent the winter in Florida as he seemed to be failing in health. He has returned to his charge with much increased vigour, and the members of his congregation are pleased with the effect of his Southern visit. On Sunday week the pastor's youngest child, Edwin Gardner Dunn Freeman, was baptized, and the following day the ladies of the congregation presented the little fellow with a solid silver bowl and spoon. The child was born in Florida. Next day the Sunday school children and their friends had a picnic at Locust Hill, and enjoyed a good time.

ON Wednesday, the 25th ult., the annual picnic of the Sunday school, Holland, Man., was held. Teams were procured and the whole school with parents and friends were driven out to Crescent Lake where an enjoyable time was spent. Games and sports for the children were provided and not the least item was the full baskets of provisions to which ample justice was done by all. Mr. Holland, superintendent of the school, before returning called the picnickers together, when R. E. Knowles gave a stirring and practical address. The "sound of the Sabbath bell" is now heard in Holland. A fine bell has been placed on the Presbyterian church.

THE St. Andrew's Church, Ottawa, Sunday school picnic last week was attended by about two hundred children and a large number of adults. The excursionists were conveyed in eight busses and the drive was a most pleasant one. Sports of various kinds were

indulged in and the children were delighted with the outing provided for them. The following teachers took part: Misses M. Scott, Brough, Smith and Halkett; Mrs. A. Scott and Mrs. McGilliean and Messrs. James Gibson (superintendent), A. G. Pittaway, Geo. S. May, F. Nelson, McDonald, J. Gordon and McMin. The committee were indebted to Mr. Gilmour for the use of the grove, and to Mr. Kirby for his kind attention. The party returned to the city in the evening thoroughly well satisfied with the trip they had enjoyed.

SUNDAY special services were held in Zion Church, Brantford, recently, in connection with the lamented death of Donald B. Thomson. In the afternoon all the classes of the Sabbath school met in the lecture-room, when addresses suitable to the sad occasion were delivered by Dr. Nichol, Mr. Hossie, Mr. Gilchrist and Dr. Cochran. In the evening Dr. Cochran preached from 2 Kings iv. 26, "Is it well with thee? is it well with thy husband? is it well with the child? And she answered, it is well." And at the close of an impressive and appropriate sermon made special reference to the loss the Sabbath school had sustained in the sad and sudden death of one who was so full of promise.

THE Scotch Mission Church, Jersey City, had its first communion recently. The Rev. David Mitchell presided, being assisted by his session, and also Rev. Thomas Houston, the blind evangelist. After admitting twenty-four persons on confession and three by certificate, the congregation, composed of ninety-five others from the Scotch and other churches, stood up and repeated the Apostles' Creed. Mr. Mitchell delivered a sermon upon the words, "Come, for all things are now ready;" after which a practical address was given by Mr. Houston. The singing, led by the Scotch church choir, was excellent. The Scotch church and the people of the district in which the mission is built are to be congratulated upon this new and interesting departure.

WHILE our countrymen are found in every business enterprise throughout the Western States, their Church work is not forgotten, as the following will indicate: A. Gordon Murray, formerly of Knox Church, Ingersoll, during the Rev. R. N. Grant's pastorate, has organized three Presbyterian churches in Chicago, one of which gave Rev. P. R. Ross, Mr. Grant's successor, a unanimous call to become their pastor. They are now erecting a large building on Warren ave. Mr. Murray is superintendent of Dr. Wallace's Sunday school, asst.-superintendent of the Waifs' Mission, which feeds from 500 to 1000 in the armoury every Sunday, chairman at Bethesda Mission, Little Hell of Chicago, and is now organizing a branch of the Young Men's Christian Association for coloured men. Bro. Murray has also been elected for three terms chief of the Highland Association of Illinois, the largest Scottish society in America.

THE first annual convention of the Young People's Societies of Christian Endeavour and kindred societies in the county of Renfrew was held on Thursday and Friday, 3rd and 4th inst., in the basement of the Presbyterian Church, Renfrew. The attendance of delegates was not quite as large as was anticipated, but what was lacking in numbers was made up in enthusiasm, and very interesting and enjoyable meetings were held. On Thursday evening a public meeting was held in the body of the church, the principal feature of which was addresses delivered by the Rev. J. A. R. Dickson, B.D., of Galt, and the Rev. A. H. Scott, M.A., of Perth. These addresses were of a highly interesting character, containing much valuable information in connection with Christian Endeavour work. Before the adjournment of the convention on Friday a county union was formed with a full set of officers. It is hoped that much good will result from these meetings, that new societies will be formed, that societies which have been lagging behind will have fresh life imparted to them and an impetus given to Christian work among the young people throughout the whole country.

SUNDAY week was children's day at St. Paul's Church, Peterboro', and special services appropriate for the young folks of the Sabbath school were held in the morning and afternoon. In the morning the children of the junior classes occupied the front seats in the church and listened very attentively to the discourse delivered by the pastor, Rev. E. F. Torrance. The hymns selected for the service were familiar ones and the children were thus enabled to join in the singing. The sermon, which had for its theme obedience, was couched in suitable language for the young people, and contained many lessons and much that should be remembered by the children. His text was: "And He went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was subject unto them" Luke ii. 5. In the afternoon an interesting service was held in the church. Singing, responsive reading, and an address by Rev. E. F. Torrance made up a very pleasing service in which the children entered heartily. The infant class sang a number of hymns in a very creditable manner, and each of the children in this class left a pretty little bouquet on the pulpit table before leaving.

ON a recent Sunday Rev. A. Macgillivray, on entering the fourth year of his pastorate in St. John's Church, Brockville, gave most interesting and highly encouraging facts in connection with the work of the congregation. The membership has nearly doubled, 153 having been added to the communion roll since Mr. Macgillivray was settled three years ago. The contributions to the Schemes of the Church have increased from \$100 to \$550. About \$3 500 have been paid on church debt. Woman's Missionary Society, Mission Band and Sunday school are flourishing, and a Young People's Association with a membership of 130 has contributed not a little to the general prosperity. Within the past year two or three events in the congregation's history are of more than local interest. One Sabbath a collection of \$1,180 was given, being the amount needed to meet a payment and interest of the church debt. The same method will be adopted to meet the next payment. At the last annual meeting it was unanimously agreed to make all the seats free. The salary for six months of a missionary student to the North-West is guaranteed by the congregation. And three months ago the pastor's salary was increased by \$200, the increase to take effect from the first of June.

LAST Sabbath evening Principal King, of Manitoba College, occupied the pulpit of St. James' Square Church, Toronto. He preached an able, impressive and practical sermon from John xvii. 3. At the close he embraced the opportunity of saying a few words expressive of the deep interest he felt in the prosperity of the congregation to which he had so long faithfully ministered. He stated that the progress of Manitoba College had far exceeded the most sanguine expectations. It was now in a most satisfactory condition financially. The appeals on its behalf had met with a generous response. The debt that for a lengthened period had been so burdensome was now almost extinguished. Dr. King since the meeting of the General Assembly has visited Quebec, Montreal, Perth, Smith's Falls, Carleton Place, Kingston, Belleville, Peterborough, Port Hope, Bowmanville, Whitby and other places, preaching and addressing weekly meetings, making collections with a view of covering the last installment of the debt still resting on Manitoba College. In most instances there was gratifying evidence of the kindly interest in the progress of this institution. At the close of the service Dr. King was warmly greeted by many of the members of his former congregation.

THE Rev. F. C. Simpson, the pastor of the Presbyterian Church at Melbourne, returned recently from a visit to his former home in Newfoundland. In connection with this trip the following pleasing announcement is from the *Presbyterian Witness*, published at Halifax, N.S.: The Newfoundland correspondent of the *Presbyterian Witness* writes as follows: Rev. F. C. Simpson, now minister of Melbourne, Ont., occupied St. Andrew's Church last Sabbath with great acceptance, Rev. W. Graham occupying the pulpit in Harbour Grace. The immediate occasion of Mr. Simpson's visit was a pleasant one, namely, his marriage to Miss Duff, daughter of Mr. Wil-

liam Duff, merchant of Carbonear, and member of the House of Assembly for that district. The ceremony was performed by Rev. W. Graham on the 3rd inst. The "happy pair" took passage in the steamship *Caspian* for Halifax, en route for Melbourne. Mr. Simpson is well known for some years in St. John's, where he has hosts of friends, whose good wishes will follow him and his amiable wife to the distant scene of his pastoral labours. The congregation of the Melbourne Presbyterian Church accorded their pastor and his bride a reception the other evening at the residence of Mr. McRae.

ON Friday week a floral concert was given in the Presbyterian Church, Regina, by the members of the Sunday school. The programme consisted of songs, duets, recitations, etc., some accompanied by appropriate motions and all given to the delight of a large audience. An address was given by the Rev. Alexander Urquhart, the former pastor of Knox Church. The decorations of flowers were most pleasing and added much to the pleasure of the occasion. There was no admission fee, but a collection was taken in aid of the school building fund. The whole concert was most successful and the programme was greatly enjoyed. On Sunday afternoon another event of great interest took place. It was the roll call. The service was commenced by the singing of a hymn, followed by a responsive reading and prayer by the pastor. During the roll call the following programme was given: Solo by Geneva Fair, "Blooming for Jesus;" Chorus by the school, "A Time of Joy;" Duet by Maud Rogers and Fanny Laidlaw, "Flowers for the Altar;" brief addresses by Rev. A. Urquhart, of Brandon, ex-pastor and Bible class teacher; Mr. John MacCaul, ex-superintendent; Mr. I. J. Campbell, ex-superintendent. Letters read from Rev. James Millar, Rev. N. H. Russell, and several former officers, teachers and scholars of the school. The exercises, which passed off very successfully, were closed with the benediction.

THE London *Free Press* says: There was a crowded congregation in the First Presbyterian Church last Sabbath night to hear the eloquent young minister who has been ordained and inducted there. Mr. Clarke chose for his text 2 Chronicles xviii. 13, "And Micaiah said, as the Lord liveth, even what my God saith, that will I speak." After a brief description of the circumstances under which the prophet uttered these words, and the immense majority and influence that he withstood as he spoke them, the preacher said in his first sermon to the congregation he desired to say a few words relative to his future course. He intended by God's help to emulate Micaiah. There were sins and sinners of old against whom it was very easy to preach, but the pride, the greed, the uncleanness, the falsehood, the dishonesty of the present day were just as hateful in God's sight, and had just as strong a hold on men's hearts. He warned his hearers against easing their conscience by the thought that their pet sins were little ones because they had the same root as the deadly transgressions of lust, adultery, murder and all the crimes of history. The Bible was full of the love of God to His people, and His faithful ministers must preach that love and forgiveness of sin which was the moral force of the Gospel of Christ, but it was of no avail to hold up the forgiveness of God to an impenitent heart, and the curse of sin must be felt before the blessing of forgiveness could be experienced. The striving of the spirit of God with human hearts and the beauties of a holy life were dwelt on by the speaker in very eloquent and affecting terms. In the forenoon the Rev. Dr. Moment, of Brooklyn, N.Y., preached a powerful sermon from Exodus viii. 27. The leading idea was that of the entire consecration to God of everything. Rev. Dr. Moment addressed the Sabbath school in the afternoon.

THE Hamilton *Times* says: At Carluke, Ancaster, on the 3rd inst., an immense congregation met in St. Paul's Presbyterian Church to see Rev. Walter Muir, late of Knox College, ordained to the ministry and inducted into the pastoral charge of that congregation. The Rev. J. G. Shearer, B.A., of Caledonia, presided; Rev. J. L. Turnbull, of Port Colborne, preached; Rev. Mr. Fisher, of Flamboro', addressed the minister, and Rev. Dr. Laidlaw the people. The whole service was very impressive. Mr. Fisher's ordination charge was replete with brotherly advice to Mr. Muir, holding up Christ as the model preacher in character and methods. Dr. Laidlaw's touching reference to the ordination only two years ago of Mr. Muir's predecessor, Rev. A. E. Doherty, B.A., whose sad death occurred on April 13 last at Clifton Springs, N. Y., brought tears to every eye. The ordination ceremony—in which Mr. Shearer, as Moderator *pro tem.*, led—by the laying on of the hands of the Presbytery and prayer, was such that none who witnessed it will soon forget it. An abundant supper was provided by the good ladies of Carluke, and right royally honoured by the large gathering; after which, at half-past seven p.m., a programme of addresses and music, lasting until ten o'clock, closed the proceedings of the day. The following ministers spoke: Rev. Mr. Shearer, as chairman, and Rev. Messrs. Crawford, of Niagara Falls; Cook, of Thorold; Wilson, of Toronto; Turnbull, of Port Colborne; Emerson, of Onondaga; Dr. Laidlaw, of Hamilton; and W. Muir, the recently-ordained pastor of St. Paul's, Carluke. The settlement seems a singularly happy one, and promises to be one fruitful of much contentment and blessing. It is everybody's hope that Mr. Muir may be long spared to break the bread of life to this happy and deserving people. Mr. Muir is a very promising young minister. He has already refused four calls to other congregations.

ON the morning of Sabbath week in St. Andrew's Church, Ottawa, the Rev. Dr. Smith, of Kingston, preached the annual sermon to the Sunday school children of that congregation. He spoke from the text, "Wilt thou not from this time cry unto me, my Father, thou art the guide of my youth" Jeremiah iii. 4. Addressing the children directly, he asked if there were not two principal things which all children liked, first, to be called by their Christian names, and second, to be obeyed and have their wants satisfied! In the early Church, Christ Himself, speaking to the disciples, taught them to call the God of Heaven by the affectionate name "Our Father." If children cannot call Him their Father, then there is something wrong. In their own homes, the words father, mother, sister, brother, are the most pleasing of words in common use. When a child finds it hard to use the name father, that is a sign that some sin has been committed; but good children love that happy word. So they should love to call their God our Father. They all remember the story of Joseph, his cruel treatment by his bad brothers and his father's great grief. The brothers were always in fear lest Joseph should come back again to them, and when they did meet him they could not use the word brother to him. They expected he would make slaves of them for the wrong they had done. But Joseph was kind, loved his father and forgave his wicked brothers. Just so the Father in heaven forgives those who sin against Him. He shall say to those who come in sorrow to Him, "I will forgive ye all," and then He will, as Joseph did, provide beautiful homes for them. God sees all the world, and all things in the world are connected. Most children have been in a factory, and there they must have seen the wonderful power of steam. But the steam would be useless and dangerous unless connected with the machinery. Just so the world and all the forces in it would be, unless connected with God. Jesus Christ is the connecting link between God and the people of the world. He came to earth and showed the mercy and the power of the Father in heaven. He cured the sick and raised the dead, and forced people to believe in Him, and thus God is connected with His children. They had this question to answer, "Wilt thou not from this time cry unto me, my Father, Thou art the guide of my youth?" How should they answer that question. He would tell them. They should say, "Yes" immediately to it. For we all need a guide, a quick and active guide. There is so much of evil in the world. The good and evil grow together. The weeds grow with the wheat. Thoughts of evil enter the souls of children through the senses with which the body is endowed. Through the eyes and ears evil sights and sounds