

1914. With his initial year's work as a criterion, anticipations are sanguine for a return of the steadily increasing spiritual progress that has marked the larger portion of our history. The present Session comprises Rev'd D. H. Currie, who is its Moderator, with Messrs. Thos. Campbell, John Hutton and Jere Wallace, Elders. The Board of Managers of financial affairs are Messrs. John Riddle, Robt. Montgomery, Aaron Gore, John Byers, Harvey Irving, Robt. Dodge and A. H. Runions. Mr. Robert Montgomery is treasurer of the Congregational and Missionary funds. The Sabbath School is in a healthy and progressive condition, with Jere Wallace superintendent, and George Briggs his assistant, and a corps of efficient teachers. The Women's Missionary Society is doing effective work in the Pittston Branch, the 3rd Street Branch, and the North Channel Branch, with Mrs. James Riddle as Central Secretary and Treasurer.

CHAPTER V THE SEXTON.

There is one feature that cannot be overlooked in this sketch, and one which it is the rare privilege of any church to record in its Semi-Centennial Jubilee. That of having in active service to-day the same person as caretaker of the church and grove's, who began that work when the church was opened for Sabbath service. Duncan Burns can look you in the face, and with a tap of his hand on his pocket, say: "Rev'd Mr. Mullen gave me the keys and charge of the church when it was first opened, and I hold them to-day." Duncan, as he is familiarly called, points with pride to the square stone in the front gable of the church on which is the inscription, "The Kirk, 1865." The Mainsville church is his Temple, and to it he devotes the larger portion of his time, for he is now in a sense a man of leisure. Indeed the place would not seem complete without

the presence of his familiar figure. Neither winter's storms nor summer's heat prevent him from being on time to unlock the door on the Sabbath day. Although there have been some breaks in his period of Sextonship they were not of long duration and appear so faintly on his mind that to him it was one long continued service. The words of the Psalmist found in the 84th Psalm, 10th Verse, might be fittingly quoted in reference to our friend, Duncan Burns. May he long



DUNCAN BURNS

First and Present Sexton

be spared to unlock the door.

Few are they who are now with us who were the pioneers of the church at its erection; of these Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Brown are the eldest, and remain a splendid type of Presbyterian training, upright, earnest, humble and reverent, the minister's true friend.

The same pulpit Bible is still in use, the gift of the ladies of Spencerville church, at the dedication of the church. Mr. Samuel Montgomery is remembered by his founding the Library for the Sabbath