

Ministers and Churches.

OUR TORONTO LETTERS.

On Friday of last week the Rev. Alex. Gilray completed a quarter of a century of service as minister of College St. Church, Toronto. The occasion was marked by a special service, not of the usual tea and cake order, but a religious service. The Rev. A. L. Geggie, of Markdale, preached an appropriate sermon. The Moderator of Presbytery, Rev. J. McE. Scott, and the oldest active pastor in the Presbytery, Rev. James Carmichael, D.D., conveyed the greetings of the Presbytery to the minister and his people. Rev. R. H. Warden, D.D., was also expected to be present, but was unfortunately detained by illness.

Rev. A. Mahaffy will be released from his Milton charge on Sabbath next and inducted into his new charge at Port Elgin on the following Thursday. Mr. Mahaffy has done excellent work in Milton, and brings a richer, fuller life to his new field of labor, because of the training secured in his present charge. His brethren all speak in the highest terms of him and follow him to his new field with earnest prayers and good wishes.

During the present week special services are being held in almost every congregation in connection with the week of prayer. The meetings of the Evangelical Alliance were fairly attended, but the great interest seems to centre about congregational work. Eventually the many little fires will emerge in one great flame, but the time for concerted action has not yet come.

Considerable discussion arose in the Presbytery at its last meeting respecting the propriety of holding combined Evangelical meetings in some central locality. It was contended that time was being frittered away, and that a golden opportunity was being allowed to slip by unimproved. But the prevailing opinion was embodied in the words—"Tarry ye, till ye be endowed with power from on high."

Rev. R. P. Mackay seldom occupies his pew in his old church. Far and near he journeys to preach for his brethren. He is ever at the call of others, and seems to delight in an opportunity to preach. Last Sabbath he was in Cedarville, preaching at the opening of a new church there, speaking a word too, for those who have as yet no church home.

Two other Toronto preachers were out of town. Rev. J. A. Macdonald visited Galt to preach in Knox Church at both services. Rev. Dr. Robertson was at Boston Church, Esquimaux, speaking in the interests of the great parish under his care. The efflux is bothering most ministers this year, especially those on the outskirts of a great city; but it is the influx that bothers Dr. Robertson. The mass is so heterogeneous that even he is puzzled to know how to treat it.

Rev. W. Frizzell's committee of three will be one of the hardest worked of the committees of the church; it covers all the field assigned to it. The control of all supply for each vacant charge is given into its hands, and to it all supply received from any source whatsoever, must be reported. We presume it has power to decline to grant a supply that may be reported, but that authority will be seldom used. There are only two vacancies now under its care—Chalmers Church, Toronto, and Knox Church, Milton. Mr. Frizzell will not be inclined to allow his committee to sleep.

It is rumored that Chalmers Church is about to call, but the premature announcement of names may put an end to action. It is most unfortunate that such announcements are made.

Several of the Toronto men are exercised over the proposed mode of nominating the Moderator of Assembly. The proposal to ask a committee of ex-moderators to nominate a moderator seems to favor of bureaucracy, and our men won't have it. In favor of the plan it is argued that the man chosen should have opportunity to prepare for the position. But the nomination of the grave and revered ex-moderators may be set aside at the last moment by some member nominating another on the floor of the Assembly. Of course this nominee would be in an address, but it would hardly work up into anything else.

WESTERN ONTARIO.

The next meeting of Hamilton Presbytery will be held in Knox Church on Jan. 16 at 9:30.

St. Andrew's Church, London, is to be re-opened after the alterations which have been made, on Jan. 28.

Rev. Dr. Johnson of London, preached last Sabbath morning on "National Reverses and their Causes."

Rev. Jas. Scott, of Brantford, lectured on the

evening of Jan. 5 in the lecture hall of St. Andrew's Church, London on the "Holy Land."

At the regular meeting of London Presbytery held at St. Thomas on Jan. 9 the call from the congregation of Glencoe to Rev. Jas. Wilson, of Niagara Falls, was presented and approved.

The wife of Rev. Thos. Wilson, of King Street Presbyterian Church, London, died on January 5 after a long illness. Mr. Wilson's pulpit was filled by Rev. W. J. Clark in the morning and Rev. J. A. McGillivray in the evening.

Rev. J. Lovell Murray, M.A., was ordained and inducted into the Queenston Road Church, St. Catharines, on Jan. 4. Rev. Mr. Robertson of St. David's preached; Dr. Smith delivered the charge and Rev. J. Crawford, B.A., addressed the people. A reception was held on Friday evening.

On Jan. 5 Rev. Hugh Cowan was inducted as pastor of Shakespeare and St. Andrew's charges, left vacant by the resignation of Rev. R. Pyke. Rev. Mr. Abrey preached the induction sermon; the questions were asked by Rev. R. F. Cameron; Rev. E. W. Fenton addressed the minister, and Rev. H. McCulloch, the people.

Rev. John Wilkie, of Indore, India, preached last Sabbath morning in St. Andrew's Church, Guelph, and in the evening in Knox Church. He also delivered brief addresses to the Knox and Chalmers Sunday Schools. Altogether it was a very well filled day for Mr. Wilkie, but he gave a great deal of pleasure to those who heard him.

Rev. Principal Caven occupied the pulpit of Erskine Church, Hamilton, last Sabbath morning, when he made a statement in behalf of the Lord's Day Alliance. He told how it had been agreed that Rev. J. G. Shearer, who has done more than any one member of the society in organizing branches, should be asked to become the society's organizer. In the evening Mr. Shearer gave his decision to his congregation. He felt that it was his duty to accept the position.

On January 4 a very large audience was present at the induction services of the Rev. R. Pogue, Staynor, into the pastorate of the Hespeler Presbyterian church left vacant by the removal of Rev. James Scott to Brantford. Rev. A. J. Mann of Fergus preached the sermon. Rev. R. J. M. Glasford, Guelph, put the questions to Mr. Pogue, who was then addressed by Rev. W. Robertson, Morriston, and Rev. Mr. Johnston of Preston, addressed the congregation. At the conclusion of the service Dr. Lockhart and Mr. A. Panabaker introduced the new pastor and his wife to the members of the congregation as they passed into the school-room of the church where tea was served and a short time was spent socially.

EASTERN ONTARIO.

The congregation of Cooke's church, Kingston, intends holding a meeting on Jan. 17 to choose a minister to fill the vacant pastorate.

The twenty-third convention of the Presbytery of Glengarry Sunday School Association will be held in the Presbyterian Church, Newington, on Jan. 16 and 17.

We are pleased to be able to state that Rev. Dr. Herridge, of St. Andrew's Church, Ottawa, was back in his pulpit last Sabbath, feeling completely restored to health by his ten days' holiday.

The Rev. Henry Gracie of Gananoque, will conduct the services in the Presbyterian church, Colborne, on Sabbath, Jan. 21. He will address the congregation in the interest of the Century Fund.

Mr. J. G. Hobman, a student from the Presbyterian college, Montreal, filled the pulpit of St. Paul's church, Hawkesbury, on Sunday, December 31. The attendance at the evening service was particularly large.

Last Sunday the anniversary services of St. Andrew's church, Pakenham, were held. Rev. D. M. Ramsay, Ottawa, preached morning and evening, and Rev. E. S. Logie of Winchester in the afternoon. On Monday evening a musical festival was held.

An auxiliary of the W.F.M.S. was organized at Kempsville on Tuesday, Jan. 2 at the residence of Miss Mundie. Twenty-one ladies were present and enrolled themselves as members. The following officers were elected: Mrs. J. Chisholm, president; Mrs. J. Percival, secretary; Mrs. Cochrane, treasurer. The auxiliary starts under the most favorable auspices and the ladies are looking forward hopefully to a good year's work.

On January 4 Rev. C. H. Daly, late of Lyn Springs, was inducted into the pastorate of Olin, Mallertown, and Caintown Presbyterian congrega-

tions. Rev. R. Laird preached, after which the Moderator took charge and after Rev. D. Strachan had sketched the steps leading up to the call, inducted Mr. Daly into the pastoral charge. Rev. Jas. Stewart addressed the minister and Mr. Strachan, the congregation. In the evening a meeting of welcome was held.

The Century Fund campaign is making very satisfactory progress in the Presbytery of Lanark and Renfrew. In Calvin Church, Pembroke, five men have subscribed \$3.00, and the Ladies Aid have undertaken to give \$1.00. These sums will wipe out the debt of the congregation. All other subscriptions will go to the Common Fund.

The Kingston paper says: Rev. Prof. Jordan, of Queen's University, delivered two sermons in Cooke's Church last Sabbath. The tenor of both services was directed in accordance with the expressed wish of Queen Victoria, that the day be one of humiliation and prayer, the scripture lessons, prayers and hymns being appropriately chosen, and in touch with the desired sentiment. Kipling's "Recessional" was recited with a new import to many of the listeners of that famous poem. In his evening discourse Prof. Jordan spoke on the British-Ber war, viewing it from a spiritual standpoint, at the same time speaking fearlessly as a thorough Britisher, one who, having spent the greater part of his life in England, is in practical touch with English thought and sentiment. Not in many years have the walls of the little stone church on Brock street echoed the verbal expression of such unprejudiced patriotism.

An event of unusual interest took place at the Manse Manitowick, on Thursday evening, Dec. 21, when representatives from the Manitowick congregations gathered to tender a farewell tribute of their esteem and friend-ship to their former pastor, Rev. David Findlay, and his family. The party which filled the house gave unqualified testimony regarding their cordiality and respect for the family that has occupied the Manse for the past ten years. After the guests, numbering over a hundred, had partaken of the supper which the ladies had provided in their usual generous and varied manner, and when the customary amusements had been fully enjoyed, Mr. Hugh Blair (the senior elder) read an address which was accompanied with a handsome present for Mrs. Findlay and a purse containing hundred dollars, for the most part in gold. Mr. Findlay replied in very warm terms, thanking the congregation for their gift and also for their loving sympathy throughout the ten years of his pastorate. The newly ordained minister, Rev. Mr. Muir, was present at the gathering.

NORTHERN ONTARIO.

Ivy Presbyterians hold anniversary services on the 11th, to be conducted by Rev. Neil Campbell, of Oro.

Rev. Dr. Somerville of Owen Sound is to deliver a lecture on the War in South Africa in the Presbyterian Church, Annan, on Jan. 12.

Rev. G. B. Greig, pastor of Cookstown Presbyterian Church has resigned, the resignation to take effect in the spring.

The Christmas tree entertainment at Holland Centre on Christmas evening was well patronized and the programme carried out to the satisfaction of all present.

The Eugenia Presbyterian Sabbath School entertainment on New Year's evening was in every respect a gratifying success. The pastor presided and the scholars of the school acquitted themselves admirably in the rendering of the program.

The Sabbath school in St. Columbia church, Priceville, takes a foremost place for anniversary entertainments, and this season's anniversary, recently held, was quite up to their best. There was a large turn out and the audience was highly pleased at the programme rendered.

The Markdale Presbyterian Sabbath school entertainment on New Year's evening was, says the Standard "a genuine success." The children rendered their part in a very creditable manner and received hearty tokens of appreciation from the audience. A pleasing feature was the appearance of old Santa Claus in an electric car laden with presents for the children.

The anniversary sermon of Chalmers Church Sabbath School, Flesherton, was preached by the pastor, Rev. L. W. Thom, on Sabbath, Dec. 24th. On Christmas night the anniversary entertainment was held, but instead of the usual laborious affair, an enjoyable social time was spent together at the refreshment tables in the basement, after which