

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.]

Montreal Notes.

After an illness of over two months born with exemplary Christian patience, the Rev. Dr. Smyth, of Calvin Church, passed away on Tuesday 24th October, surrounded by the members of his family. For some days before his death, however, he had been quite unconscious, and the end came without any sign of recognition. Dr. Smyth had been pastor of Calvin Church for upwards of eleven years, and the Church under his charge had enjoyed untroubled prosperity as regards attendance and membership. Under ordinary circumstances this prosperity would have advanced the interests of the work in every respect, but as the result of a scheme of street widening carried out by the city authorities, the congregation two years ago found itself saddled with a debt of six thousand dollars without any compensating advantage whatever. This brought a certain amount of financial embarrassment, and there is little doubt that the additional worry caused by this situation preying on a constitution never too robust and already exhausted by the cares of his very laborious pastorate, helped to bring on the disease which cut him down at the comparatively early age of fifty. His loss will be keenly felt. The funeral was a very large one, the church being crowded to its utmost capacity. The service was conducted by the moderator and members of the Presbytery assisted by Dr. Ross, President of the Protestant Ministerial Association.

At a special meeting of the Presbytery held on Tuesday evening, the resignation of the Rev. W. D. Reid, of Victoria Church, was accepted, to the great regret of his congregation. They offered to give him a year's leave of absence in order that he might visit Britain to continue his studies as he desired if he would consent to return at the end of that period. This proposition, however, he felt constrained to decline as being at once injurious to the congregation and embarrassing to himself. He has rendered excellent service in the district during the five years he has been connected with the church, and at the end of the first pastorate the congregation is well organized for work. One thing which deeply impressed the members of the Presbytery was the fact that all the commissioners who appeared on behalf of the congregation were young men under thirty who presented their case with a fitness of language and fineness of feeling not always found in similar circumstances among men who are much their seniors.

The formal opening of the new Diocesan College building took place on Wednesday last. After appropriate religious services in the morning, the formal presentation of the building, by Mr. A. E. Gault, took place at three o'clock in the afternoon in presence of a large assembly of the public representing all denominations. After it had been formally accepted, a handsomely illuminated address of thanks was presented to Mr. Gault, and warm congratulatory speeches were given by a number of eminent church dignitaries, including Dr. Macbray the Primate from Winnipeg, and by representatives of other educational institutions, including the other three Theological Colleges affiliated with McGill University. The occasion was, however, rendered a somewhat sad one by the fact the Rev. Dr. Henderson, Principal of the College, after a prolonged illness expired the preceding evening. All the addresses of congratulation were therefore tinged with the sorrow caused by his loss. He was a man of eminent learning, earnest spirit and simple piety who had won the thorough respect and esteem of all who knew him in the twenty years of his service as head of the institution. In addition to the gift of the building which is admirably suited for its purpose and handsomely furnished throughout. Mr. Gault has presented the College with the sum of fifty thousand dollars toward endowment. The total gift is worth about \$150,000 and places the institution

on a tolerably secure foundation for the future. It is but another proof of the interest which is taken by the merchant princes of the city in the matter of education and marks a step forward in the complete equipment of the system that circles about McGill University. The new college is situated at a point immediately adjoining the university grounds.

General.

Rev. W. Coulthard, of Toronto, is at present supplying the Presbyterian congregation at Little Rapids, Algoma, Ont.

The Ladies' Aid Society of Bank-street Presbyterian Church, Ottawa, have established a home for servant girls out of employment.

Rev. James Gourlay, formerly pastor of the Port Elgin Presbyterian Church, has been engaged to occupy St. Paul's pulpit, Hamilton, for three months.

An unanimous call is extended by the congregation of Ashfield Presbytery of Manitoba to the Rev. Alexander Miller of Kilmartin, Presbytery of London.

Rev. John McNicol and bride, of Aylmer, were presented with a handsome Davonport and picture holder by the members of the Presbyterian congregation.

Anniversary services were held at Chalmers' Church, Toronto, Sunday October 18th. Revs. John Mutch, Wm. Patterson, and Prof. G. L. Robinson, Ph. D., preached.

On the eve of leaving Moldrum Bay and Silverwater, Manitoulin Island, to resume attendance at Knox College, Mr. Arch. Bell was presented with an address and a purse of money.

Anniversary Sermons were preached at the Presbyterian Churches, Baltimore and Cold Springs, on Sabbath the 18th inst., by the Rev. Dr. Sexton. There was a large attendance at both churches.

Rev. Hugh Taylor, of Lochwinnoch, was the officiating clergyman at the sixth anniversary of the opening of St. Andrew's church Armprior, Oct. 18th. The collections, which were for the church debt, amounted to \$117.

The thank offering meeting of Winchester W.F.M.S., was held at the mansion recently. Mrs. Connery the President in the chair. This promises to be the most prosperous year in the history of the society, the offering was upwards of \$50.

Rev. D. G. S. Connery M.A., has been re-appointed Watkins lecturer in elocution at Queens University to commence duties in November. Mr. Connery held the lectureship for several years before he accepted the call to St. Paul's Winchester.

The anniversary services in the Presbyterian Church in Kars, October 18th, were well attended, the church being crowded at all three services. Rev. Dr. Campbell, of Erskine Church Ottawa, preached morning and evening, and Rev. Mr. Allum in the afternoon.

The W. F. M. S. of Knox Church, Woodstock, held their annual thank offering meeting on the afternoon of October 15. After devotional exercises and a solo well rendered by Miss King, Mrs. W. T. Ball, of Toronto, gave a very pleasing and earnest address. The thank offering amounted to \$90.

At the recent communion in Guthrie Church, Alvinston, twelve were received into the Church; four by certificate; four came into full communion on profession of faith, and four professing their faith in Jesus were baptized. The collections on Sabbath which were for the Home Mission and Augmentation Funds, amounted to \$78.

The annual thank offering service in connection with the W. F. M. Auxiliary of the Scotch Settlement Presbyterian Congregation was held on Tuesday evening, October 20th, when a large congregation assembled and were presided over by the pastor, the Rev. F. Smith, of Bradford. Very able, interesting and instructive addresses were delivered by the Rev. Mr. Lecke, of Bradford, and the Rev. Mr. Pegue, of Stayner.

The announcement is made of the death at Jal Angom West Africa, of fever, of Rev. Arthur Wodehouse Marling, B. A. of the American Presbyterian mission. Mr. Marling, whose people live in Toronto, was

known as a man possessed of many sterling qualities, and intensely devoted to his work. He was an exceedingly good student, and after graduating at the university filled the position, for a time, of classical teacher in Hamilton Collegiate Institute.

Dr. Alexander Johnson occupied the pulpit of Cooke's Church, Toronto, Oct. 18. He took for his subject: "Fragments of the Divine." The sermon was a most eloquent one, and was greatly enjoyed by a crowded congregation. Dr. Johnson is the Superintendent of the Indiana School for the Feeble-Minded, and the President of the National Conference of Charities and Correction. He is visiting Toronto as a delegate from the National Conference, to make arrangements for the holding of a convention in Toronto, in 1897.

Interesting harvest home services were held at Knox Church, Owen Sound. The pulpit was decorated with flowers and on either side of the altar a display of fruits added to the attractive appearance of the handsome interior. Both morning and evening the sermons were preached by the pastor, Rev. Dr. Waitt, the texts being respectively Matt. vi. 11—"Give us this day our daily bread," and 1. Samuel xii. 17—"Is it not wheat harvest to-day?" Envelope offerings for the Ladies' Aid Association were taken up at both services.

The Rev. Dr. Begg formally severed his connection with the Presbyterian Church, Kentville, N. S., on October 18th, when he preached his farewell sermon. He has been in charge of the church for ten years, and his departure for Ontario has caused general regret. Dr. Begg has been the recipient this week of addresses appropriate to the event, and presents from the Bible classes, Sabbath school teachers, and other departments of the church. It is understood that for a time at least after going to Ontario Dr. Begg will reside at Kingston.

The Rev. O. J. Cameron, pastor of St. John's Church, Brockville, who received a call about a week ago to the Fourth Presbyterian Church, Boston, Mass., has announced his acceptance of the same. The Boston Presbytery has concurred in his transfer, a meeting of the Brockville Presbytery will be held shortly to take similar steps. He is a graduate of Queen's University, a master of arts, and a brilliant pulpit orator. He has been pastor of St. John's Church for the past five years, and his departure from Brockville is regretted by all classes of citizens.

The second anniversary of the opening of the Presbyterian Church, Paris, celebrated on the 11th and 12th was a grand success. On Sabbath large congregations were present at both services, the pulpit being occupied by Rev. W. J. Clark, of London. The Rev. gentleman delivered two excellent and appropriate sermons, his text in the morning being from II. Cor. i. 3-4, and in the evening, Luke i: 5. On Monday evening a social and lecture were given. An excellent tea was served by the ladies, after which an adjournment was made to the auditorium, where an instructive lecture was delivered by Rev. Mr. Clark on "The types of character to be found in churches." After the lecture the meeting was closed with prayer and the doxology. The total receipts for both days amounted to about \$400.

Rev. John H. Graham, B.A., B.D., was inducted into the charge of the Avonton and Carlingford Presbyterian congregations on Oct. 13th. The induction services, which were held in Avonton church, were attended by a large number of people from both congregations. This is the fifth induction of a minister that has taken place at Avonton since the congregation was organized thirty-five years ago. On Rev. M. L. Leitch, moderator of the Stratford Presbytery, devolved the duty of keeping the pulpit supplied until choice of a new minister could be made. Some weeks ago a congregational meeting was held at which it was decided to extend a call to Rev. J. H. Graham, of Watford. The call was unanimous and was shortly afterwards accepted. Rev. John H. Graham, the new minister, is a Canadian of Scottish descent. He is a native of Chateaugay, Quebec, and is 56 years of age. Mr. Graham is a graduate of McGill University and of Montreal Presbyterian College, also gold medalist of the college from which