

success during the nine or ten years he has laboured in this district. It will cost some \$22,000. To the north and west of this, on College Street, is the centre of another large suburban congregation, comprising over three hundred communicants under the pastoral care of the Rev. Alex. Gilray, an earnest and devoted minister. This is his first charge and his church is the original mission one, erected some years ago—a wooden structure seated for five or six hundred people, which will probably give place to a larger and better one ere long. In the meantime Mr. Gilray has obtained leave of absence for a few months, on account of impaired health, and is about setting out on a visit to the Holy Land.

A succession of four new churches now rises up in my memory, of which, as I took no notes at the time, I carried away a somewhat bewildered and confused recollection. In some particulars, each seemed to excel the other, and all were beautiful. They have all been built within the last two years. They cost from \$30,000 to \$50,000 each, and each of them has a sufficient amount of debt remaining to satisfy the most fastidious, and to serve as a spur to continued and united effort. They severally accommodate from 800 to 1,200 persons. The first is **ERSKINE CHURCH**, at the head of Simcoe Street, a mile north from St. Andrew's. It is built of white brick faced with free stone and adorned with a handsome tower. Its internal fittings are said to be complete in every respect. But I could not get in to see for myself. The Rev. John Smith, formerly of Bowmanville, is the minister of this congregation, numbering 260 communicants, and formerly a part of the old Bay Street charge, which divided itself a few years ago. The other half, having purchased the site of the old Knox College, in Grosvener street, erected the **CENTRAL CHURCH** and called the Rev. David Mitchell, formerly of New York, to be their minister. Apart from the Church proper which is, outwardly and within, a thing of beauty, the adjoining apartments, spacious, and elegantly furnished are a remarkable feature. On the ground-floor we find, *inter alia*, a splendid ladies' parlour with Brussel's carpet, sewing machines, and what not. Above this are the Sunday-school class-rooms, admirably suited for their purpose. Below, is the "culinary department," from which, when occasion calls for it, the creature comforts of life are conveyed to the upper stories by means of a hoist. Nothing indeed remains to be desired, so far as these external accessories are concerned. But, unfortunately, an amount of debt has been contracted in connection with them which presses heavily on the congregation, and the minister, who has received a call to Belleville, is about to leave them. The next that

came under notice was the new church on Jarvis Street, known as "OLD ST. ANDREW'S"—a very tasteful stone structure. It is not yet completed, that is to say, the School-rooms, and parlours, and lecture-rooms, &c., included in the plan, have yet to be built, but as far as it has gone, it is admirable; and a large congregation is growing up under the ministry of the Rev. G. M. Milligan, formerly of Detroit. The last of the four is by no means the least worthy of mention. Indeed it would be difficult to find anywhere a Presbyterian Church to surpass in elegance and comfort that of the **ST. JAMES' SQUARE CHURCH**, Toronto. The auditorium, seated for about 1200 persons, seemed to me to be almost perfect, and all the other parts of the building, "ladies' parlours" and Sunday-school rooms included, appeared to be models of convenience and comfort. The congregation is large and able enough to carry the pretty heavy debt they have incurred in this great undertaking, but, the sooner they get rid of it the better it will be for themselves and the Church. The Rev. J. M. King, their pastor, is the oldest Presbyterian minister having a charge in the city, but he does not look very patriarchal yet. He is still in the prime of life. The Rev. John Hogg, of **CHARLES STREET CHURCH**, was the only one of the city ministers whom I failed to meet. The congregation over which he presides is a large and prosperous one, and the church in which they worship, though less elaborate than those just referred to, is extremely comfortable. The Rev. Dr. Reid, the moderator of the General Assembly, is an Elder in this congregation. Though I did not see the **EAST CHURCH**, I had the pleasure of meeting its accomplished minister—the Rev. John M. Cameron, and from others learned of the success that is attending his faithful ministrations in that part of the city. His congregation numbers over 300 communicants. They worship still in their original mission church, prudently biding their time when they too will make a new departure.

In addition to those above-named, there are two large congregations, vacant at present.—**KNOX CHURCH**, one of the largest and wealthiest in the Dominion, having 650 communicants on the roll. It will take a long time to dissociate the name of this Church from that of its late estimable and accomplished pastor, Dr. Topp. The other is **COOKE'S CHURCH**, of which Dr. Robb was pastor, and to which the Rev. John Kirkpatrick from the United States, is about to be inducted. Including the Mission Churches of Broekton, Parkdale, and Leslieville, there are no less than *fourteen* Presbyterian Churches in Toronto, embracing nearly 4000 communicants, and 3300 young people in the Sunday-schools and Bible-classes. C.