

had not been torn asunder by serious divisions, and they were therefore ready to greet the new Pastor with enthusiasm. The town of Palmerston has had its times of prosperity and also has had its hard knocks. During the first year and a half of Mr. Cranston's Ministry the town and likewise the Congregation gave evidence of growth. Thereafter the closing down of an industry and many changes in the railway service caused the removal of a great many families from the town, but fortunately the Congregation suffered less from these causes than was expected, and each succeeding year has shown an increase in membership and a healthy interest in all the various organizations. In 1908 a new cement shed was erected and has been paid for, making commodious stabling for the farmers connected with the Church. In 1910 Messrs. E. S. Watt, D. Murray, Jr., and Wm. Robertson were elected Elders. Through the introduction of the duplex envelope system the Missionary givings have been materially increased. In 1910 the Adult Bible Class was organized and has since continued an active organization. In 1911 the Church was handsomely decorated, the cost being contributed as soon as the work was completed. The annual meetings of the Congregation are looked forward to with much pleasure by the members and adherents, the reports presented are always full of encouraging details and are intelligently debated. The Choir has rendered excellent service for some years under the leadership of Miss Ethel Hamilton, who has received valuable assistance from Mrs. Greenlaw, Mrs. Fasken, Messrs. W. Robertson, J. M. Skelton, H. E. McEwing, J. B. Skelton and others.

In 1912 a Women's Home Missionary Society had been formed and it is likely to prove a means of doing much good work.

A great deal of interest has been manifested in the fiftieth anniversary now being celebrated, and the Minister has urged the Congregation for two or three years past to make an effort to clear off the mortgage, which stood at \$2,900.00 at the end of 1912, and it is a pleasant fact to record that at this writing the members and adherents have responded cheerfully, and a sum sufficient to clear off the entire indebtedness has been subscribed. The Congregation have now a valuable property, consisting of one of the neatest church edifices in this part of the Province, a suitable Manse and a commodious shed. During the past ten years a larger number of old men and women are in evidence. As was explained in the early part of this sketch the original members were all young men and women, the same being true in regard to