

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.

At a special meeting of the Presbytery of Montreal held on Wednesday last, the call from Knox church, St. Thomas, was presented to the Rev. D. R. Drummond of Russelltown and was promptly accepted by him with the full concurrence of the Presbytery and of the congregation he is leaving. Their representatives, however, spoke in the strongest possible terms of appreciation of his work and expressed their deep regret at his departure. Certainly Mr. Drummond has the fullest reason to believe that he is following the path of duty in accepting this call, inasmuch as it is a unanimous invitation from a church which has never heard him or seen him. The members of Presbytery here who have seen all too little of him will follow him with their best wishes for his success. Not the least remarkable feature of the translation is the fact that Russelltown congregation has already virtually selected his successor and immediately applied for a moderation in a call with the least possible delay. The edict will be read on the same day that the church is declared vacant. At the same meeting of Presbytery leave was given to moderate in Beauharnois and Chateauguay at an early date and arrangements made for the supply of Melville Church Westmount.

The annual convocations of the Student's of the Presbyterian College to their friends was given on the 22nd inst. A large number of invitations had been sent out and the attendance well represented the various churches of the city as well as the student life of the University. The hall was beautifully decorated with bunting and the entire building was thrown open for promenading. The entertainment provided was very various. A short programme of about half an hour consisting of addresses, songs and readings gave delight to the majority in the main hall. In the library the unique treasures of the college collection of books were laid out for inspection. A large assortment of interesting stereopticon views were shown in the reading room where also a gramophone gave a forecast of what the concert of the future tends to become, when the greatest singers in the world will be heard in every country village at any time for a dime. In one of the class rooms an artful if not artistic picture gallery amused the more youthful members of the company. It was after eleven when the last of the visitors retired all feeling that they had enjoyed a delightful evening.

The Sunday School Association of the Presbytery of Glengarry held its annual convention on Tuesday and Wednesday Jan. 19th and 20th in the New St. Luke Church South Finch. The weather was very cold on the first day of meeting notwithstanding which the attendance was remarkably large. Every available space was utilized during the convention which is now recognized as the most popular religious gathering within the bounds of the Presbytery. Interesting discussions took place on young children and church membership, opened by the Rev. D. D. McLennan of Apple Hill; and on the duties of parents to the Sunday School, opened by the Rev. A. Graham of Lancaster. The Rev. J. Matheson of Williamstown gave a carefully prepared address on "How our Bible came" and the Rev. J. McLeod of Yankleek Hill found most appreciative listeners as he spoke on "The Teacher preparing to Teach." The Rev. A. Girvan of Williamstown gave many excellent hints on "Getting the most out of the Bible." The reports given in showed that the schools of the Presbytery were in a healthy condition. Perhaps the most hopeful feature about the convention was the fact that it was carried through entirely by the members of the Presbytery themselves without any help from speakers or specialists from outside. What is done by this Presbytery could as easily be done by almost any other Presbytery in the church when the congregations are not too

remote from each other. The next convention will be held at St. Elmo.

The Rev. Principal McRae, of Morrin College was in Montreal last week attending a meeting of the corporation of McGill College. He is deeply interested in a proposal now being encouraged by Dr. Peterson for the entire remodelling of the Arts course of the University. The desire is to limit the number of subjects that must be taken, increase the options that will be open and insist on much more thorough work in the subjects that shall be studied. It is a movement in favour of greater depth somewhat at the expense of breadth of scholarship. As yet there is some difference of opinion on the matter within the University and considerable discussion is likely to take place before all views are harmonized.

GENERAL

Last Sabbath a special collection was taken up in Knox Church, Perth, in behalf of the deficit in the Foreign Mission Fund.

The Rev. D. L. Dewar, Ailsa Craig, is holding an exceedingly interesting series of Friday evening meetings, especially adapted for the young people of the congregation.

The Rev. Alexander Sutherland tendered to the Presbytery of Meliland his charge of the pastorate of Knox church, Ripley. It is laid on the table till the meeting of Presbytery in March.

Fifty-six new members were received into the Presbyterian church, Toronto Junction, on Sabbath Jan. 24th. The communion services were conducted by the pastor, the Rev. J. W. Rae, assisted by the Rev. Mr. MacWilliams.

Rev. Dr. Sexton preached to large congregations in St. John's church, Halifax, N.S., on the 24th of January, and lectured in the same place on the following evening. Long reports of both sermons and lecture appeared in the Halifax papers.

Successful anniversary services were held in Burn's Church Sarnia on Jan. 17th-18th. The Rev. J. O. Tibb preached both morning and evening. On Monday quite a pleasant time was spent and some excellent addresses were delivered.

The Rev. D. M. Buchanan, of Lanark, conducted the anniversary services at the Congregational church, Hopetown, on a recent Sabbath evening. His subject was "God's Dividing Line," Rom. xiv. 23, "Whosoever is not of faith is sin."

At the annual meeting of the congregation of Knox church, Tavistock, on Jan. 13th, it was seen from the various reports that the congregation had raised over \$700 during the year 1896 for congregational purposes. The debt on the new church will this year be reduced to the sum of \$400.

Rev. Mr. McKenzie of Orangeville, Ont., preached in Knox church, Ottawa, at both services Jan. 24th. His sermons were impressive and scholarly deliverances. At the morning service he spoke from the text "I am the light of the world." In the evening his text was "Ye are the light of the world."

The members and friends of the Thames Road congregation Usburn, held their anniversary on Jan. 17th-18th. On Sabbath two excellent sermons were preached by Rev. Grant, St. Marys. On Monday evening despite the cold weather the entertainment passed off quite successfully. Receipts of the evening \$100.00.

The new Presbyterian church at Harvey Settlement N.B., was formally dedicated on Sunday January 17th. Rev. Jas. Ross of St. John preached the dedicatory sermon which was listened to by a very large congregation. He also preached an admirable sermon to a large congregation in the evening. Rev. Mr. McLean, the pastor, spoke briefly of the history of the structure, and of those who had so energetically and generously assisted towards its erection.

On Sunday Jan. 17th quite a large number attended the opening of the new Presbyterian Church Millbrook, which is a beautiful and comfortable edifice and reflects great credit upon the united energy and perseverance of the members and friends of the church. Rev. Wm. Patterson, Toronto, preaching morning and

evening and the Rev. L. Phelps in the afternoon. After the evening service Rev. Mr. Patterson addressed the Y.P.C.E.S. Collections during the day \$49, and on the following Monday night the ladies of the church served an excellent tea in the basement, after which, in the upper part of the church the Rev. Mr. Rae, of Tercentio, gave an able lecture, "Trinity of Good things." A good disposition, a home and a good church. Receipts of the tea, \$54.45.

The Rev. G. D. Bayne, was, at the close of the annual meeting, presented by the congregation with an affectionately worded address and a costly Persian lamb coat. The anniversary services were announced to be held on Feb. 14th, and Prof. Scrimger, D.D., is to preach on that occasion. Dr. Bayne is a graduate of McGill University and of the Presbyterian College, Montreal.

At the annual congregational meeting held in the King Street Presbyterian church, London, the salary of Rev. Thos. Wilson was increased \$200 making it \$1,200. It is only six months since Mr. Wilson took charge of this congregation which has for a good many years been a heavy drain upon the Augmentation Fund. At the time of his induction they were drawing \$100 from the fund in order to make the salary \$1,000. The congregation besides raising the salary \$200 has also become responsible for the \$100 promised by the Augmentation.

At the congregational social at the First Presbyterian church, London, on Jan. 13th, the entertainment was eminently successful and enjoyable. The pastor, Rev. W. J. Clark, made the introductory address, and briefly reviewed the history of the congregation. Since the erection of the new building, \$1,000 in cash had been placed on the plates at each of the annual services. Last Sabbath, though an exceedingly bad day, that amount was exceeded by \$10 or \$15, and received without any undue urging. Revs. M. P. Talling, Robert Johnston, Thomas Wilson and Walter Moffatt also delivered brief and interesting addresses. Rev. J. G. Stuart was out of the city, but extended his congratulations to the congregation, and referred to the pleasant relations existing between himself and Mr. Clark.

At the annual meeting of the Missionary Association of the Central Presbyterian Church Toronto the following officers were elected:—Hon. President, Rev. Dr. McTavish; President, Mr. Theron Gibson; First Vice-President, Mr. Andrew Jeffrey; Second Vice-President, Mr. William Wilson; Secretary, Mr. Thomas Young; Treasurer, Mr. Charles E. Gordon. An Executive Committee was also elected, composed of Messrs. A. T. Orombie, P. McCullough, John Ferguson, R. Kilgour, C. B. Petrie, D. W. White, Henry Meldrum, D. McIntosh, John McEwan, Meedames A. Jeffrey, Bolder, Sampson, Kilgour, Glover, Gowans, and Misses Mather and Bella Little.

The oldest extant church in the County of Bruce where worship has been conducted continuously for the last 40 years, has been replaced a few weeks ago by a handsome new building. The style of the new church is gothic and is finished throughout with the latest modern improvements. The basement has three compartments: a study for the minister, a vestry, and a main hall, for Sabbath school, etc. The Auditorium is in taste to suit the most fastidious, the sides and ends are in stucco work, the ceiling in hard finish while over the pulpit stands a fine arch. The carpets, the vestibule doors and under arch behind pulpit are in rich green, at entrance the floor is two feet higher than at platform, thus giving corresponding elevation to seats as they recede from pulpit, the seats are in amphitheatre form and made of black ash and cherry. The windows in leaded fluted and ground glass of alternate colors, with 5 on each side and a large gothic window in front end. It is heated throughout with hot air and is supposed to accommodate 400 people. It was opened on the 30th of Dec. by the Rev. J. L. Murray, M.A., Kincardine. The day was very favourable and the gathering the largest ever seen at Glamis. At morning and evening services both basement and auditorium were crowded. At 3 p.m., the church was also well filled Rev. Mr. Murray