

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.]

In Canada.

THE REV. J. A. F. SUTHERLAND has been supplying acceptably the pulpit of Minnedosa.

THE congregation of Burnside, Man., has resolved to call the Rev. A. McTavish. He has resigned his charge at Chater.

AN adjourned meeting of the Presbytery of London will take place in the Fir Presbyterian church, London, on April 4th at 11 a.m.

REV. JAMES A. GRANT, Toronto Junction, preached a memorial sermon, last Sabbath, of the late Mr. Adam Speer, one of the elders of the church.

THE REV. MR. FORBES, who came before Christmas from Scotland, has been ordained as the first minister of Fort Saskatchewan, Alta., which was formerly part of the Edmonton congregation.

THE REV. SAMUEL POLSON, who last autumn built at his own expense a small church and established an independent mission near the C.P.R. workshops in the western part of the city of Winnipeg, is applying for recognition as a member of the Presbytery.

THE pulpits of Corunna, Mooretown and Knox church in the Presbytery of Sarnia were preached vacant on Sabbath last week by F. O. Nichol, Sarnia, who will act as moderator during the vacancy. The Presbytery passed a resolution of condolence with this congregation whose pastor, Rev. Alex. Urquhart, passed away on Sabbath evening, March 3rd.

A NUMBER of the young people of Flodden congregation gathered recently at the manse in Kingsbury, Que., and after spending a very pleasant evening one of the number on behalf of the party presented their pastor, Rev. J. McClung, with a purse, as a token of esteem and kindly feelings towards him. A bountiful repast was provided by the ladies, after partaking of which they repaired to their home carrying with them the good wishes of the pastor and family.

AT the preparatory services in Knox church, Guelph, conducted by the Rev. John McInnis, of Elora, on Friday, March 8th, a statement was read from the Missionary Association by Rev. R. J. Beattie. During the past year the sum of \$1,151 was contributed by this congregation for Church Schemes, this being the first time that the actual missionary contributions of the members had reached the amount expected by the Presbytery and General Assembly.

THE following are some of the items given at the annual meeting of the Ennisville and Cartwright congregation. The total revenue for the year was about fourteen hundred dollars (\$1400). This sum was applied as follows: for repair on manse and churches, \$250; for Missionary Schemes of Church, \$150. The balance was used for stipend and regular congregational expenses. The membership shows a net gain of twenty-four (24) for the year. Two C. E. societies were organized with an aggregate membership of over sixty. One hundred feet of new sheds were erected for the Blackstock church.

THE teachers and scholars of the Springfield Sabbath school were treated to a sleigh ride recently, to the home of the superintendent, Mr. James Mitchell, who lives about four miles distant in the country. Rev. M. Anderson, the newly inducted pastor, and Mr. G. Stewart, head teacher of the public school, and a number of other friends were present. The ladies had a plentiful supply of provisions, and the little ones were delighted with the pleasure of the evening, the only regret amongst them being that these happy occasions did not come oftener. The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper was dispensed on Sabbath, March 3rd, in this church, when five members were added to the communion roll, two by certificate and

three on profession of their faith; one adult was baptized. Rev. Mr. Anderson is winning his way to the hearts of his congregation, and working like a good soldier of the Cross "Compelling them to come in that in house may be filled."—COM.

REV. MR. FOTHERINGHAM writes: A meeting of the General Assembly's Sabbath School Committee will be held (D. V.) in the Board Room of the Y. M. C. A., Toronto, on Tuesday, April 2nd, at 10 o'clock, a.m. This is the day before the closing of Knox College. It is hoped that members will come prepared to give the whole day to the work of the committee, as matters of the very gravest importance will be laid before them for discussion. There are no funds for the payment of travelling expenses; those, therefore, who attend are requested to procure at the R.R. station from which they start, certificates for attending the closing exercises of the College. These will be signed by Rev. W. Burns, secretary, and entitle to a reduced return fare.

THE Presbyterians of Glenboro, Man., Rev. A. McD. Haig, pastor, lost their church by fire, Sabbath, 3rd inst. It broke out about 10 a.m., and in two hours all that was left of their commodious and comfortable building was strewn about the street. Organ, lamps, chairs and pews were saved. The subscription list was started the next morning, and before the ruins had ceased smoking most of the congregation had been canvassed with very encouraging results. Arrangements were also made for bringing stone for the foundation of the new church. Great unanimity and heartiness were shown by the congregation in preparation for rebuilding, indicating that though the loss is felt very sorely yet they are not at all discouraged. Coming so soon after organization in 1887, church building in 1889, purchasing a manse in 1890, being made (along with Cypress River) self-sustaining in 1893, and added to all this the general financial depression, the struggle required will severely try the congregation. Assistance of congregations who find it possible to help would be gladly welcomed. The Methodist church has been kindly placed at the disposal of the congregation for morning service.

COOKE'S church was completely filled by an audience numbering over 2,000 on Thursday, 15th inst., when an excellent service of sacred song was rendered by the Musical Association of the church. The Association is the outcome of the psalmody classes, which have been conducted by Mr. W. Johnstone, the esteemed choirmaster, during the past three years. The object of the Association is the study of sacred music and the advancement of congregational singing. The choruses consisted of anthems by leading church composers, among them Gounod, Stainer and Olvey, which were excellently sung. The quality of tone was very sweet and pleasing, which, with careful attention to the details of expression and phrasing, made a very favorable impression. The Association had the able assistance of Misses Reid, Milligan, Warnock, McCutcheon, Mrs. Coutts-Bain, Master Eddie Cook, Messrs. G. W. Grant, H. C. Wilson and G. E. Hardy, all of whose efforts were heartily appreciated. Mr. Thompson Bell gave two readings which were evidently much enjoyed, and recalls were irresistible. Mr. A. D. Guest, the accomplished organist of the church, gave two solo numbers in addition to the accompaniments to the choruses and solos in which he rendered most effective assistance. Miss Jane, organist of Old St. Andrew's, was an efficient accompanist to Miss Warnock's and Mr. Grant's solo numbers. The latter was in excellent voice and gave an admirable rendering of "I'm far from my home." Mr. Johnstone conducted with much care and had his forces well under control. A social meeting of the members and friends of the Association was held on Friday evening, which was largely attended. Mr. P. G. Close made an efficient chairman. The members took the opportunity of expressing their esteem for Messrs. Johnstone and Guest by presenting the former with a handsome gold watch, and the latter with two volumes of compositions for the organ.

Both gentlemen made appropriate replies after which an excellent programme of speech and song interspersed with refreshments was thoroughly enjoyed.

THE Presbyterians of Unionville recently bought the Congregational church in that place and have refitted it very tastefully and beautifully. One very pleasant feature of the case is this, that most of the Congregational people have cordially and heartily united with the Presbyterians, and form one congregation in the newly opened church. On 3rd March the Rev. R. P. McKay, secretary of Foreign Missions, formally opened the church, preaching morning and evening to large congregations, sermons that were greatly appreciated and well adapted to be helpful to both the inner life and outward conduct. In the afternoon the Rev. W. B. Buchanan, Methodist minister of Markham, preached an able and practical discourse which was much enjoyed by all, not only because of its own merits, but because of the excellent spirit of harmony and good will between the denominations. These services were followed by a tea meeting on Monday evening, but the weather prevented this from being a complete success and necessitated a social on Wednesday evening. Then on the following Sabbath the opening services were continued, when Rev. D. McIntosh, formerly pastor of the congregation preached in the morning, and afforded his numerous and much attached friends another opportunity of meeting with him and of hearing one of his beautiful sermons. The Rev. Mr. Hanna, of Uxbridge, preached in the evening, having also preached at St. John's, Markham, in the afternoon, and conducted the anniversary services of a neighbouring Methodist church in the morning. Upon all three occasions Mr. Hanna's services were considered excellent and profitable, concluding very appropriately a series, which have proved "a time of refreshing from the presence of the Lord." The amount of the collections and proceeds of tea meetings were in all about \$120 after paying expenses.

Presbytery of Hamilton.

THE Presbytery of Hamilton met on March 19th. Commissioners to the General Assembly were appointed, viz.:—Dr. Fletcher, Dr. Laing, Messrs. Ratcliffe, S. Lyle, J. Wilson, Grant, Bryant, Barclay, Dr. Fraser, Burson and Fisher, ministers. Messrs. J. Charlton, Lawrie, McQueen, W. Wilson, Moses, Leckie, A. J. Mackenzie, I. Black, Leitch, Gillespie and F. Reid, elders. A call from International Bridge to Rev. P. S. Langill was accepted; the induction is appointed for Tuesday, April 2nd. Mr Crawford to preside, Mr. Wilson to preach, Mr. McCuaig to address the pastor and Mr. Burson the people. The supplementary grants to congregations were considered and application resolved upon for some congregations. Rev. H. O. Blair's application to be received as a minister was approved; also an application from Rev. W. Donald, of Los Angeles, Cal.; and the clerk was instructed to issue circular letters. Rev. P. A. Tinkham, having taken the required station at Knox College, was received as a minister of the Church. The reports of standing committees were submitted and ordered to be transmitted to Synod. That on Sabbath Observance referred to the bill now before the Legislature for radial railways, and resolution, asking that the traffic on such roads shall not be allowed, was forwarded to the Attorney-General and members of the Legislature, representing constituencies within the bounds of the Presbytery.—JOHN LAING, Clerk.

Presbytery of Montreal.

AT the meeting of the Montreal Presbytery last week a good deal of important business was transacted. A most interesting event was the favourably received application of a body of Welshmen, desirous of worshipping in their own language, to be received as a mission congregation. The report of the committee on Sabbath Schools presented by Mr. J. W. Kilgour, convener, showed that there were seventy seven schools within the bounds of the Presbytery. These schools reported 595 officers and teachers, and 8,129 children upon