

Correspondence.

Editor PRESBYTERIAN REVIEW:

SIR,—It seems to me that the conference for post-graduate study in Knox College struck high water mark on Thursday morning on the occasion of an exceedingly able paper on "The Christian Ministry and Modern Thought" by Dr. Armstrong, of Ottawa, and as his name has been mentioned as a candidate for the chair of Apologetics it is a pity that all who will have the privilege of settling the question of the coming professor should not have heard this paper, which Principal Caven and Dr. Milligan so highly praised. If you could give your numerous readers the privilege of reading this address you would confer on them a very great favor, in order that an intelligent opinion may be formed.

ONE WHO WAS THERE.

[The paper referred to in the above we have secured and will publish in our two succeeding issues.—ED.]

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 the communion service in St. Paul's church on Sabbath, Jan. 26th, Dr. Barclay made feeling reference to the fact that it marked for him the completion of twenty-five years service in the ministry, of which period nearly one half has been spent in Canada. At the annual meeting of the congregation on the following Tuesday evening he was able to report that the debt of \$20,000 which stood upon the church three years ago had all been cleared off. Both pastor and people are to be congratulated on this satisfactory result.

In a recent number your British Columbia correspondent refers to the comparative claims of Montreal and his own province for the service of a missionary to the Chinese. He makes out a strong claim for the Pacific Coast with its large Chinese population, and it is to be hoped that the number of missionaries there may be speedily increased. But there is no need to disparage the importance of the work in the east, where Dr. Thomson is rendering splendid service. There are at least 500 Chinese in Montreal at the present time, and this is only a part of Dr. Thomson's field. Either by personal visitation or by correspondence he has been promoting work among the Chinese in Ottawa, Toronto, Hamilton, London, St. Thomas, St. Mary's Stratford, Brantford, Galt, Simcoe and Perth. Other places will doubtless be added as soon as he can overtake them. The work is peculiarly hopeful in these places and especially in Montreal, owing to the strong support which it is receiving from the churches on all hands. Teachers have offered themselves freely as needed, and have thrown themselves into the service with enthusiasm. The expense is also being largely met already from local sources. During the past year over \$1,000 have been raised for this special work in Montreal alone. Besides the churches the Protestant school commissioners have thrown open their Berthelot street building for an evening class of forty, and it is pleasing to note that St. Paul's church has placed an organ at the disposal of the teacher so that they may learn the Gospel hymns as well as a knowledge of English. Two weeks ago a new school was opened in Erskine church under the charge of Mr. David Yuile, who has taken a deep interest in the work. Let our British Columbia friends have a little patience, there is no better way to increase the interest of our wealthier congregations in this department of missionary effort than to have them take part in it themselves. More remote fields will soon fare all the better because of it. In another direction Dr. Thomson has just rendered an important service to the cause of morality among the Chinese. One of the institutions of Chinatown is a large hotel or boarding house to which the C.P.R. sends large numbers of those who pass through the city in bond. The proprietor of this boarding house was well known to be taking advantage of his position to carry on a good deal of gambling in the establishment. Largely through Dr. Thomson's efforts he has been convicted and heavily fined. The verdict gives much satisfaction to the resident Chinese in general,

who are glad to have this temptation, for the present at least, removed out of the way of their fellow-countrymen. One result has been an increased attendance at the schools, some of which have grown so large that they will shortly require to be divided.

The Anglican Synod for the Diocese of Montreal has been holding its annual session in the city during the past week. The discussions of course largely related to matters that are purely domestic and local. But two of the reports which created most interest were those relating to Sabbath Observance and French work. That on Sabbath Observance was given in by the aged Canon Anderson, and fairly electrified the house with its vigor and brilliancy. That on French work boldly proposed to open a summer school for French in the handsome new d'occean college now being erected, so that all the clergy of the diocese might be qualified to minister to the French speaking population of their parishes.

The Rev. J. A. Vernon, one of the pioneer French missionaries brought over from Europe by the old French Canadian Missionary Society, passed away at his residence, Ste. Sophie Lacombe, a few days ago. Mr. Vernon had not been in active service for some years past, but to the very last was interested in the work to which he had devoted his life, and communications from his pen frequently appeared in the French Protestant papers.

The Rev. M. S. Oxley has returned from Europe, but, unhappily, is still unable to resume his work in Westminster church. On the voyage home he suffered from an attack of pneumonia and is not yet fully recovered.

North-West Notes.

The Presbyterian church at Rounthwaite had a narrow escape last week from destruction by fire on account of an overheated stove. The actual loss, which fortunately was small, was promptly adjusted by the North-West Fire Insurance Co.

The Rev. Wm. Menkie, evangelist, is conducting special services at Rat Portage.

The annual meeting of the Gladstone Presbyterian church, Rev. J. E. Munro, pastor, was held on the 10th ult. The financial report showed that the stipend had been paid in full, and that about a thousand dollars had been paid on the debt. On the 17th the ladies gave a tea in aid of the funds of the church.

At the congregational meeting of Knox church, Calgary, Rev. J. C. Herdman, pastor, held on the 15th ult., reports from the treasurer and various societies in connection with the church were read and adopted. The reports almost without exception were more favorable than for years past, the financial report in particular. The chair was occupied during the evening by James Muir, Q.C., J. Grant Mackay acting as secretary. The following were elected managers for the term of two years: J. F. Glanville, Malcolm McCrimmon, J. Russell and G. W. McBride.

The Rev. Robert Frew, of Battle, is announced to lecture in Kildonan Presbyterian church on the 22nd; in Winnipeg, for the Y.M.C.A., on the 23rd, and in Emerson on the 25th. His lectures are "Rubble Burns" and "Europe Re-visited."

The Sabbath school children of Carman instead of receiving gifts at their Christmas festival were asked to bring donations to be sent to Indian children, and the result is that a well filled box has been dispatched to supply the needs of destitute and otherwise uncared for Indians at Indianford. The Rev. A. McTavish, of Treherne, has kindly undertaken the distribution of the gifts. Similar supplies have recently been sent by the Sabbath school of Morden to the Crowstank, and by the Young People's Mission Band of Knox church, Winnipeg, to Rolling River.

The Rev. John Hegg was, unfortunately, confined to his room by illness and was unable to be present at the annual congregational meeting of St. Giles' church. Mr. John Craig opened the meeting with devotional exercises and Mr. M. Hozack acted as chairman. The session report showed an addition of thirty-four members, but on account of removals the net increase is only ten. The Sabbath school has an average attendance of 155. The revenue amounts to \$2,513 for ordinary purposes, and \$231 for missionary purposes, a total of \$2,744. The managers elected were Messrs. McBean, Hozack, Folsom, Arlath, Foltz and J. Manson.

General.

For the benefit of friends in the business portion of the city who desire to purchase tickets for the Knox College convocation, February 7th, the committee in charge have placed a number of tickets on sale at the Upper Canada Tract Society, 102 Yonge street. Extensive preparations are being made, and the event promises to be one of the season's best. Those who have been at the previous "At Homes" given by the students of Knox College will not be slow to take advantage of this opportunity of spending another social evening within the college walls.

The Presbytery of Maitland nominated Rev. Prof. D. M. Gordon, of Halifax, N. S., moderator of the next General Assembly.

The Rev. R. McLeod was inducted into the pastorate of Haron church congregation on 20th Jan.

The Presbytery of Maitland will celebrate the jubilee of Rev. A. Sutherland, Ripley, in Knox church, Ripley, on March 16th.

The Presbytery of Maitland nominated Rev. J. Somerville, D.D., of Owen Sound, Ont., as professor to the chair of Apologetics and Church History in Knox College, Toronto.

Mr. W. Dewar, B. A., who has been laboring in the Breadalbane congregation during the past few months, was ordained by the Presbytery of Brandon on the 21st inst., at Virden. It is expected that Mr. Dewar will be a valuable addition to the personnel of the Presbytery, weakened by the recent departure of two of its ministers.

The anniversary services, in connection with the Alma Presbyterian church, were very largely conducted on Jan. 12th, by the Rev. J. B. Mullin, of Fergus, who was moderator of the congregation during the recent vacancy. On the Monday evening following a large audience assembled to hear his lecture on "Rambles in Great Britain," which was exceedingly interesting. The collections on Sabbath and Monday evening amounted to \$50.

At an adjourned meeting of Presbytery of Grangeville, held at Camilla on the 21st ult., Rev. James McMillan was inducted as ordained missionary to the congregations of Camilla and Mono Centre. At the same time Rev. R. Hughes, of Rosemont and Mansfield, resigned his charge to accept a call to Worcester, Mass., U. S. The resignation takes effect Feb. 23rd, and Rev. A. E. Neilly, of Horning's Mills, was appointed interim moderator.

St. Andrew's, King, Aux. of the W. F. M. held their annual meeting in St. Andrew's church on the evening of Tuesday, the 21st Jan. The report showed good work done during the year. The membership is 47, and the amount contributed was \$92. Beside this they sent a bale of clothing to the Indians in the N. W. Dr. Smith, late of Honan, was present, and gave a splendid address on the work out there, and the need for still greater efforts to save the "heathen Chinese." Mr. Campbell, of Maple, and Mr. Watt, of Luskay, were present and gave excellent addresses.

North Side Presbyterian church, Toronto, the Rev. J. G. Potter, pastor.—The sixth year of this congregation has been so encouraging and successful that they have determined to celebrate the occasion by special services on the 9th and 16th of February. The Rev. Dr. Jackson, of Galt, will preach at both services on the 9th, and the Rev. Munro Fraser, D.D., of Hamilton, on the 16th. There will also be a special address to children and parents on the afternoon of the 16th by the Rev. W. W. Wells, of Walmer road Baptist church. The annual social reunion will take place on Thursday, the 13th. The services of the above mentioned eminent clergymen will certainly be appreciated.

Young People's Union.

The annual meeting and conference of the Y. P. U. of the Presbytery of Toronto, is to be held in Bloor street church, Toronto, on Monday, Feb. 10th, commencing with devotional exercises at 10 a. m. The programme is a very attractive one and should not fail to attract a large attendance.