

and the future beckons you on by faithful effort to still greater things. Turning from our pleasant past to that which lies before us, we would assure you of the continuance of our love and esteem, and of our loyalty to this now historic church, believing that a still grander work may be accomplished in the name of Christ our Saviour, whose servants we are. In further evidence of these expressions of our affection for you, and as a remembrance of this auspicious occasion, we ask your acceptance of this accompanying cheque, trusting that you will find amid your many responsibilities an appropriate object for its use.

We cannot conclude without referring to the many excellent qualities of your beloved partner in life which have secured for her the deep and lasting affection of the whole congregation, and we wish you, Mrs. Fletcher and your children many years of health and usefulness.

Dated at Hamilton the first day of May, A. D., 1897.

Signed on behalf of the Congregation.

[Signed] ALEX. DAVIDSON,
Session Clerk.

[Signed] D. McPHIE,
Chairman Board of Managers.

Mr. McPhie, after suitable introductory remarks, read the following address to Mrs. Fletcher, accompanying it with a handsome basket of flowers:—

Mrs. Fletcher:—The members of this Congregation cannot permit the present occasion to pass without giving you some assurance of the high place you occupy in their esteem. We recognize the fact that your excellent husband's labors have been more effective by your co-operation than they could have been without it. As Adam could not properly labor in Eden until he found an help-meet for him, so we must confess that Mr. Fletcher did not reach the limit of his usefulness until he was equally blessed.

Your own labors have earned for you a high place in the hearts of the whole Congregation, a place which I am quite sure you will never lose; your unflinching kindness, your steady devotion of duty and your exemplary Christian character have won for you the admiration of all whose happiness it is to know you. As a slight token of their admiration, I am requested to present to you this basket of flowers. Their hues borrowed from the sunshine and their perfume lent by the breezes which fanned their opening petals are emblems of your graces and your virtues. Accept these flowers with the heartfelt affection of those who give them.

In acknowledgment of these expressions of the good will of his people, Rev. Dr. Fletcher spoke very feelingly.

Lieut.-Col. Moore, Rev. Mr. MacWilliams and others joined in expressions of congratulation, and letters of regret were received from Mr. Alex. Turner, Hon. J. M. Gibson, and Mr. J. T. Middleton, M. P. P.

During the evening Miss Davies sang "Fear Ye Not, O Israel" (Dudley Buck) very acceptably.