

## Ministers and Churches.

### Our Toronto Letter.

Very deep interest has been aroused in the city during the week by the accounts given in our papers of the bravery of Canadians in the fight at Harts River. Sympathy also is felt and warmly expressed for those who have lost their loved ones in the battle, and for friends anxious for the wounded. A large part of our papers have been given up to notices of the dead and wounded, who, it is worthy of notice, belong to all parts of the Dominion from the Atlantic to the Pacific. War in its mildest form is a dread thing enough, but when it has to be, we are glad and proud of the record of our soldiers for cool, unflinching, determined courage. Another and strong link has been forged in the chain binding all parts of the empire together in a united struggle for a great common object. Peace will be welcome when it comes, provided it is a peace that will stay, but our hopes fluctuate sadly and are one day up and the next down. But it is coming.

St. Giles' Church, Oak street. Rev. Mr. Atkinson's, which was lately badly damaged with fire, has been re-opened. Rev. Dr. Milligan, Rev. W. W. Weeks, Baptist, and Rev. Dr. R. P. Mackay preaching morning, afternoon and evening respectively. The former, Dr. Milligan, has finished the doctrinal portion of a series of sermons which for some time past he has been preaching on the Epistle to the Hebrews on Sunday evenings. Rev. Alfred Gandier preached a strong but carefully weighed sermon a week ago last Sunday, on "The Teaching of Scripture as to Wine and Strong Drink." The Canadian Temperance League brought to a close its thirteenth season's Sunday Gospel Temperance meetings by two great meetings held at 1.30 and 6 o'clock p. m. These services have as a rule been very largely attended, and have no doubt been an important agency in promoting temperance sentiment in the city. The Crossley and Hunter revival services in the Queen street Methodist church have also come to an end, with the result that, some two hundred new members were added to the church. At the free breakfast given at the Yonge Street Mission a week ago Sabbath, Rev. Alexander Esler of Cooke's church, successor to Rev. Wm. Patterson, was the speaker and made a most impressive address.

The pulpit of the Church of the Covenant, made vacant by the resignation of Rev. James McCaul, is being temporarily filled by Rev. Mr. Munro, assistant pastor of Knox church, Winnipeg.

The Coronation and other attractions in Britain this year will, no doubt, as usual take a great many of our citizens across the Atlantic. Among others sailing lately, not necessarily, however, for the Coronation or other great functions, we notice the names of Rev. Prof. and Mrs. Douglas and family.

On the afternoon of the 11th inst., the closing exercises for the season of the Ewart Missionary Training Home were held at the Home, 540 Church street. Rev. Dr. R. P. Mackay in the absence of Rev. Dr. McLaren presided, and among others present were Rev. Principal Caven, Rev. Dr. Milligan and Prof. Ballantyne. The class having finished the theoretical part of their training, now take up practical mission work in the city. Last Sabbath, owing to the absence from the city of Rev. W. C. Wallace, Rev. Dr. Warden occupied the pulpit of Bloor Street church in the morning, and Rev. Prof. Ballantyne in the evening. Rev. Dr. McClements, formerly pastor of Chalmers' church here, but now of Rutherford, N. J., conducted anniversary services in his old church in the city last Sabbath. The sixty-ninth annual meeting of the now venerable but still vigorous and useful Upper Canada Bible Society is to be held in the schoolroom of St. Paul's church on the 24th inst., and will be addressed on Mission Work in China, by Rev. W. J. Doherty, one of the speakers at the Student's Missionary Convention, and also by Rev. Mr. Gordon of the Bond street Congregational church.

The Technical School of the city which is meeting by evening classes a felt want for education of that kind for many who have not leisure to get it during the day, closed its evening sessions last week. This has been the most successful year in its history. It has an enrolled attendance of 1706, and an increase of thirty per cent in its average attendance. It gives instruction under many heads in mathematics, draughting and industrial art, in chemistry and domestic

science. At the close of the evening sessions many prizes were awarded to successful competitors in the various departments.

The great society function here just now, and which is attracting large numbers from far and near, is the Horse Show. Apparently, judging by newspaper reports, the attendance is composed very largely of ladies, but whether their presence is due to a great love of horse flesh, or to a desire to display their gowns I cannot say positively. Judging, however, from the long and full accounts of the latter, one would conclude that they are the most important part of the show.

Though in our great New Ontario, Manitoba and Northwest and British Columbia we have ample room for a population of many millions, if the present rush continues and grows as rapidly in future years as it is now doing, our next census will show a very large increase. On the 8th inst., two hundred and fifty settlers from the Western and South-western sections of Ontario alone, left the Union Station for Manitoba and the Northwest. Since the first Tuesday in March the home-seekers excursions to the Northwest have taken between 3,600 and 3,800 settlers from Ontario. A large party of Welsh we see, to be brought from Patagonia to that region, not to speak of thousands pouring into all the new parts of the country from Dakota and many other States across the border. Canada's turn is coming if it has not already.

### Western Ontario.

Next meeting of Huron Presbytery has been fixed for 8th July at Clinton, Ont.

Rev. Thomas Davidson, M. A., of Blake, has obtained leave of absence for two months.

Rev. Dr. Smith, of Bradford, is conducting a pre-communion class, which is largely attended.

Rev. A. L. Budge, of Maudsamin, and Rev. Smith-Baker of Camlachie, exchanged pulpits on a recent Sunday.

The Synod of Toronto and Kingston, is announced to meet in Knox church, Toronto, on 12th May next, at 8 p. m.

Last Sunday Rev. Dr. Hamilton, of Stratford, late of Motherwell, preached morning and evening in Knox church, Mitchell.

Huron Presbytery has nominated Rev. A. McLean, of St. Andrew's church, Blyth, for the moderatorship of next assembly.

The congregations of Manchester and Smith's Hill have called Rev. A. E. Comp. B. A. The stipend proposed is \$800 and a manse.

The Huron Presbytery recommends members within the bounds to do all in their power to have the vote for Prohibition as large as possible.

On Sabbath last, in St. Andrew's church, Bayfield, James Donaldson, James Campbell and Donald McKenzie were ordained and inducted as Elders.

Rev. Geo. Cuthbertson, of Toronto, has been preaching with much acceptance at Avonbank. Mr. Stewart's induction takes place at Motherwell on 2nd inst.

The Rev. B. McCulloch B. A., B. D., Tavistock, and Rev. Mr. McKay, of Montreal, have been occupying the pulpit of the Woodville church for the past two Sabbaths.

The Ladies' Aid Society of St. Andrew's church, Chatham, held a sale of useful and ornamental articles last week, which resulted in a goodly addition to the Society's funds.

At the last meeting of Huron Presbytery the congratulations of the members were tendered the Rev. Alex. Stewart, B. A., on his having conferred upon him the honorary Degree of Doctor of Divinity, by the Senate of Knox College.

The following have been elected commissioners to the General Assembly by Huron Presbytery: Dr. Stewart, Messrs. Musgrave, Sawors, Larkin and Shaw, ministers; and Messrs. Duncan, Tom, Reid, McQuarrie and Mordie, elders.

In Huron Presbytery Mr. Henderson was appointed convener of the home mission committee. Messrs. Fletcher and Duncan were appointed members of the Synod's committee on bills and overtures, and Mr. Shaw a member of the Assembly's committee.

Rev. Mr. Larkin gave a report on the statistics and finances of congregations in Huron Presbytery for the past year, showing that there is an increase of members and of contributions for missions, as compared with the previous year, the total contributions for missions this

last year being \$7,535, and the total for all purposes \$13,580.

Rev. Dr. Johnston, of St. Andrew's, London, has returned to his work after a brief absence, in renewed health. He assured a reporter, who called upon him, that there was no foundation for the rumour that he was invited to Union church, Worcester, Mass. Months ago a movement had been made by that church, but he had then assured the committee that he could not consider the call.

The Stanley Street manse, Ayr, was destroyed by fire, said to have been of incendiary origin. The fire started while the inmates were at prayer meeting; and the contents (only partly covered by insurance) consisting of all the furniture, clothing, valuable library, and many articles which cannot be replaced and which money could not buy are a total loss. Rev. Mr. Nixon has the sympathy of many friends in this severe loss.

The 20th annual meeting on March 11th and 12th of the Montreal Women's Missionary Society, was the most encouraging ever held. Six new auxiliaries were formed during the year. The Society supports four pupils at the Pointe-aux-Trembles School. It also supports two Home Missionaries in the North West, two Foreign Missionaries, one in China and one in India and two French Bible Women, one in Montreal and one in a country district in the Province of Quebec. The office bearers for the year are: President, Mrs. G. A. Grier; Vice-Presidents, Mrs. J. A. MacMaster and Mrs. R. Campbell; Treasurer, Miss MacIntosh; Recording Secretary, Miss S. MacMaster; Corresponding Secretary, Mrs. R. A. Dunton.

### Eastern Ontario.

The next meeting of Lindsay Presbytery will be held at Cannington on Monday, 23rd June.

On Sunday evening in Knox church, Sunridge, the pastor, Rev. J. Becket, preached an able sermon on Sabbath desecration, pointing out, with much force some of the ways in which the Sabbath is desecrated.

The congregation of Knox church, Owen Sound, showed their appreciation of the services of Rev. Dr. McRobbie, who acted as interim moderator during the vacancy, by presenting him with a purse of \$50.00.

It is announced that the new Braeside church will be opened for divine worship next Sunday, when the services will be conducted by Rev. D. Strachan, M. A., of Brockville. The pleasing intimation is made that the church will be dedicated free of debt.

The congregation at Moose Creek has let the contract for a commodious manse for their minister, Rev. L. Beaton. If the manse building is anything like the beautiful new church, completed a few months ago, it will be one of the best in the Presbytery.

There are at present three vacancies in Lindsay Presbytery, as follows: Woodville, Rev. N. A. Macdonald, Lorneville, moderator; Sunderland, Rev. D. M. Martin, Cannington, moderator; Bobcaygeon and Dundas, Rev. R. C. H. Sinclair, Fenelon Falls, moderator.

The local papers speak in high terms of the excellent presentation of the sacred Oratorio of Gaud's "Holy City" by the choir of St. Andrew's church, Carleton Place, under the direction of Mr. John Miller, choir master of the church. It was a rare treat; and high praise is awarded to all concerned.

The marriage is announced of Rev. W. McDonald, B. D., of Halville, Ont., to Miss Jean Copeland Minnes, of Kingston, the officiating minister being the groom's brother, Rev. J. A. McDonald, B. A., of Pittsburg, Ont. The young couple have the hearty good wishes of a large circle of friends.

### Aylmer, Que.

Rev. A. E. Mitchell, of Erskine church, Ottawa, preached and administered the sacrament of the Lord's Supper at the morning service in the Presbyterian church here on Sunday. The evening service was taken by Rev. M. H. Scott, of Zion church, Hull.

Mr. D. J. Craig, evangelist, who for the past four years has labored with much success at Casselman and South Indian, has been appointed by the Ottawa Presbytery to take charge of the Presbyterian church here for the next six months. Mr. and Mrs. Craig have arrived in town and have taken up their residence in the manse, Eardley road.