

RELIGIOUS.

CHURCH OF ENGLAND.

By the time this meets the reader's eye the Synod will have met, and, it is to be hoped, have elected a Bishop.

St. George's new schools were opened on Friday evening last. A large number of the parishioners were present. A dedication service was conducted by the rector, who was supported on the platform by Revs. Dr. Holo, F. H. Almon and T. Poole, of St. Paul's; H. G. Lancaster, of St. Stephen's; J. S. Edwards, Chaplain to the Forces, and other gentlemen. Speeches were made by several of the clergy, and the hope was expressed that the building might prove a blessing to the parish. The children occupied it for the first time on Sunday.

"Froo Against Powed Churches," was the subject discussed by the Southern Convocation of the Episcopal Church of Massachusetts in Boston lately. Dr. Phillips Brooks and others spoke in favor of renting pews, while several speakers advocated making all pews free.

PRESBYTERIAN.

Rev. P. McF. McLeod, pastor of one of the leading Presbyterian churches in Toronto, has accepted a call to a church in Victoria, B. C. This step he has taken in the interests of Presbyterianism in that province, an able minister being sadly needed there.

The friends of Principal Grant will be pleased to learn that his health has so far improved as to enable him to perform his duties at Queen's College. He will, doubtless, be the next Moderator, as many of the Presbyteries have nominated him for the position.

Rev. Dr. John Hall has been pastor of the Fifth Avenue church, New York, for about twenty years. Last year his congregation raised for missions and benevolent purposes \$131,758, and for church purposes \$32,266.

Rev. Dr. Talmage has accepted the position of chaplain of the 13th regiment of Brooklyn, for a long time held by the Rev. Henry Ward Beecher.

As a result of the revival services held at Saltsprings, Pictou, under the leadership of Messrs. Vans and McKay, two hundred names were added to the membership roll of the Presbyterian churches of the district.

The Third Presbyterian Church of Chicago on January 8th observed the first anniversary of the pastorate of the Rev. Dr. Withrow, formerly of Boston. The church debt of \$30,000 has been paid or pledged through his efforts, as he has made it his personal work to clear the debt on one of the largest and most fashionable places of worship in this city. He has secured within the last few weeks more than \$35,000, thus wiping out the debt and leaving a surplus. During the year 225 members have been added to the list of the church.

BAPTIST.

Mr. Spurgeon has been interviewed by a deputation of the Baptist Union with reference to his withdrawal. It was hoped that he would reconsider his resignation, but he strongly maintains the position taken by him. He recommended that the Union adopt a simple basis of Bible truths such as are accepted evangelical doctrines. He also expressed his opinion that the Union did not possess sufficient powers to enable it to deal with members who disclosed heretical tendencies. He said that he would continue to support the departments of the Union in which he was specially interested.

Rev. Dr. Rand, the venerable Mic-mac missionary, for some time seriously ill, is reported to be out of danger.

The Board of Missions connected with the Baptist church in the Upper Provinces will shortly determine as to whether the new university shall be located at Toronto or Woodstock.

METHODIST.

The new hall built by the Methodists of Truro was dedicated last Sunday week. Revs. J. S. Coffin, F. H. W. Pickles, and others, took part in the services.

Reports from many of the circuits throughout the province state that special services are being held with good results. A special effort is being made by the Conference Evangelistic Committee to organize mission bands for the better carrying on of the work.

A sacred concert, under the leadership of Mr. Powell, was given in Grafton St. church on Tuesday evening, in aid of the Jost Mission. The large audience present heartily enjoyed the service.

Connected with the different branches of Methodism in the United States there are 41,271 churches.

In Minneapolis there are 129 churches and mission edifices, of which the Methodists have the largest number.

During the past two weeks special religious services have been carried on at the Methodist church at Lockport. The Methodists are being assisted by an evangelist of great power and gifted with a fine voice for singing. The services will probably be continued for some time, as much interest is being manifested by the people, and good has already been done.

A meeting of the members of the Methodist Episcopal Church of Lowell, Mass., was called on January 23rd for the purpose of discussing the advisability of petitioning the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal church, that holds its session in New York next May, so to modify the ritual that water should be substituted for wine at the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper, on the ground of such action being for the best interests of the church and humanity.

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