

## Ministers and Churches.

### Ottawa.

Rev. Dr. Ramsay is the moderator of Ottawa Presbytery for the ensuing six months.

Rev. Dr. Ramsay is interim moderator of the MacKay Church Session during the vacancy. With him is associated a committee on supply.

The pulpit of Stewarton church last Sunday was filled in the morning by Rev. Jos. White, and in the evening by Rev. Dr. Moore, interim moderator of Session.

Rev. J. A. Macfarlane, M.A., of Bristol, Que., is interim moderator of the Session at Bristol, the pulpit there being vacant since the death of Rev. J. D. Morrison.

At the last meeting of Ottawa Presbytery, Rev. Drs. Armstrong and Herridge in flattering terms congratulated Dr. Ramsay upon the title conferred upon him by Knox college.

In Ottawa Presbytery, Rev. Dr. Herridge moved, and it was unanimously carried. That the sessions within the bounds of the Presbytery be urged to call the attention of the younger members of the church to the duty and privilege of contributing to the schemes of the church.

The chief business of the Ladies' Aid Society of St. Andrews' church, which held its last meeting for the season last week was the discussion of a system of collections, by which each lady in the congregation is asked to contribute ten cents a month.

The members of the Ladies' Aid society of MacKay church, have made the preliminary arrangements for a bazaar to be held early in June, probably on the 9th. A special meeting will be held shortly to complete arrangements.

Rev. Dr. Armstrong, reporting to last meeting of Ottawa Presbytery on home missions, said that the required grants for the various fields had been obtained, and announced that McFarlane Davidson had been ordained to Poltimore and Portland and A. S. Reid to Plantagenet.

The anniversary of Bethany church, Hintonburg, was observed last Sunday. Rev. J. W. M. Milne of the Glebe church preaching in the evening and Rev. J. H. Turnbull of Bank street church in the morning; a successful tea was held on Monday evening, when there was a programme of much interest submitted to the audience.

At the meeting of the Glebe auxiliary to the Women's Foreign Missionary society, Mrs. McElroy read a very interesting paper on the subject for the month, "Early Chinese Missionaries," sketching the life and work of Dr. Kenneth McKenzie, while Mrs. Dalglish followed with a paper on Rev. W. C. Burns. Mrs. Lyle Reid sang a solo during the meeting, which was held in the church.

Referring to the acceptance of the call to Brockville, the Recorder says: The congregation of First church are to be congratulated on the prospect of so soon having a settled minister, and on having been able to secure one of such fine ability both as pastor and preacher as they will have in Mr. MacLeod. He may depend upon a warm welcome from the people not only of First church but of Brockville generally.

Rev. S. A. Woods, of Richmond, has accepted the call to Mecalfe, and his induction there will take place on the 26th inst. when the moderator, Rev. Dr. Ramsay, will preside. Rev. J. H. Laveria will conduct the services, while Rev. T. A. Sadler will address the people, and Rev. A. E. Mitchell the factor. Rev. Mr. Finley, of Bell's Corners will act as moderator of session during the vacancy.

Last Sunday Rev. Dr. Pringle, the Klondike missionary, spoke in St. Paul's in the morning and in Knox church in the evening, on the theme he has so much at heart, viz., mission work among the miners in the Yukon Territory. Dr. Pringle told a deeply interesting story—sometimes humorous, often very pathetic, but always well calculated to awaken and deepen the interest of his hearers in the large problem of how best to follow with the Gospel the ever increasing tide of settlement to our great West.

At the closing meeting of the Men's Association of Erskine church, the president, Mr. J. T. Pattison, read an instructive paper on the Russo-Japanese war. A musical programme followed. Refreshments were served by the ladies of the church and a vote of thanks was tendered them for their kind assistance at all the meetings dur-

ing the winter. The members of the Men's Association have agreed to raise a \$1,000 by the end of the year, to go towards reducing the church debt.

The Presbyterian Ministerial Association met on Monday in Bank street church. A most interesting and instructive paper was the review by the Rev. Dr. Armstrong of the book, "Variety of Religious Experiences." A short discussion took place in regard to the procuring of a library in connection with the association, but no definite decision was reached.

The meeting adjourned until October. The president, Rev. Dr. Armstrong, of St. Paul's church presided, and the following ministers were present: Rev. J. H. Turnbull, Rev. Dr. Ramsay, Rev. R. Gamble of Wakefield, Rev. J. W. H. Milne, Rev. R. Eadie of Hintonburg, Rev. D. S. Ross of Westboro', Rev. D. M. McLeod of Billings' Bridge and Rev. J. Finley of Bell's Corners.

The Rev. Norman MacLeod, pastor of MacKay church, Ottawa, has accepted the call to the First Church, Brockville. The call was considered at a meeting of the Ottawa Presbytery on Tuesday. A delegation from Brockville, composed of Rev. Dr. Strachan, John M. Gill, Tennent, Lewis, and Sheriff Dana, earnestly presented the claims of the First church upon Mr. MacLeod's services. On the other hand nineteen commissioners were present from MacKay church to resist the transfer. In addition, the Mayor of Ottawa, who is a member of the church of England, spoke in high terms of Mr. MacLeod and referred to the great loss which would result to MacKay church in his removal. After a full hearing of both sides the call was then placed in Rev. Mr. MacLeod's hands and he decided to accept. In stating his decision he said he felt it his duty to go where there was a larger field for his services, and more work to be done. His duties at MacKay he said had always been a pleasure to him, and he regretted the severance from his hosts of friends there. It has been arranged that Mr. MacLeod will be inducted in his new charge on Wednesday, May 25th.

### Toronto.

According to a report of Rev. J. C. Tibb, clerk, there are 50 self-sustaining charges, 4 missions, 86 congregations and 67 ministers in the Presbytery of Toronto. The various churches contain sittings for 36,670, and the number of communicants 19,350, an increase of 636 over the previous year. The number of infants baptized was 571, a decrease of 24. The salaries paid by the various congregations amounted to \$78,831, an increase of \$600, and the total ordinary expense was \$104,099, an increase of \$10,000. The total received for all purposes was \$279,055 as compared with \$247,533 in the previous twelve months. The total mortgage indebtedness of the churches is \$336,710, a decrease of \$15,910.

### Montreal.

A special course of sermons is being given on Sunday evenings by the pastor of St. Giles, Rev. J. R. Dobson. The subject is "From Gethsemane to Calvary," and the third of the series was delivered last Sunday evening on "The trial and condemnation of Jesus by the religious leaders." The object of the course of lectures is a devotional study of the trial and death of Christ, making the atonement the central theme.

The death is announced in this city of Rev. T. Z. Lefebvre, formerly pastor of St. John's Presbyterian church, Quebec. He was graduated B. C. L. from McGill in 1882 where he was a gold medalist. For a period he was a teacher in the High School and subsequently studied theology in the Montreal Presbyterian College. After his ordination he took up a church in Quebec but afterwards resigned to join the staff of Westmount Academy. Rev. Mr. Lefebvre was born in Ste. Sophie, Quebec and was in his fifty-third year. His wife, five sons and two daughters survive him.

Rev. W. D. Reid, of the Taylor Presbyterian church, delivered a very direct address to his congregation, Sunday evening, on the subject, "Should I be a habitual theatre-goer?" The conclusion reached by the reverend speaker was that as a conscientious Christian he could not, and his reasons for this he delivered in direct and well-pointed sentences. The theatre itself was not denounced as such, but rather for its condition and debasing tendencies at present. The stage does not exist in the high position

ideally possible to it, and it apparently cannot be elevated and therefore must be condemned by the clergy. The preacher stated that some of his hearers might question his right to discuss the question, but as an important moral question he claimed it was within his sphere. A subject which so closely concerns a great portion of the inhabitants of Montreal, and which is brought so prominently before the public by the press and bill board advertising, is one which demands the attention of the Christian minister.

### Peterborough.

The Ladies' Aid of St. Paul's church have very kindly added a piano to the equipment of the South Ward Mission.

The people of Omeme and associated charges feel great regret at the anticipated resignation of their pastor, Rev. J. M. White-law, B. D.

Rev. Dr. Torrance of St. Paul's church, occupied Rev. Dr. Neil's pulpit in Westminster church, Toronto, on Sunday. He will remain in Toronto for the meeting of Synod.

Rev. Dr. Pringle of Yukon fame speaks in St. Andrew's church this week on his work in that remote part of the country. Dr. Pringle is heard with interest wherever he goes. The church is proud of such sons as he.

Rev. Dr. Claver of Sherbourne street Methodist church, Toronto, will, by special request, repeat his popular lecture, "The Story of Jean Valjean," in St. Paul's church, on Tuesday evening, May 31st.

The various evangelical churches of Peterborough are arranging to hold in the entertainment of delegates to the Bay of Quinte Conference of the Methodist church to be held in our town in the first part of June.

Rev. G. Yule of Springville is making preparations for a suitable celebration of the Anniversary of his induction. Mr. Yule has been in charge of Springville and Bethany for only two years, but during that time wonderful progress has been made. The congregations are certainly to be congratulated on having such an energetic man for pastor.

A most delightful open meeting of the Home Missionary Auxiliary in connection with St. Paul's Mission was held recently. The meeting was in charge of Mrs. John McPherson, the President of the organization, and was successful in every way.

Anniversary services were held in St. Paul's and St. Andrew's churches on Sabbath last, May 8th, the speakers being Rev. Dr. Neil of Westminster church, Toronto, who preached in the morning at St. Paul's and in the evening at St. Andrew's, and Rev. Principal Gordon of Queen's University, Kingston, who preached in the morning at St. Andrew's and in the evening at St. Paul's. The day was an ideal one, and crowded congregations greeted both speakers.

### Orangeville Presbytery.

At the meeting of Orangeville on the 3rd inst. there was a large attendance of members and a large amount of business was transacted. Rev. J. R. Bell, moderator, presided. The following requests were made and granted, from Maple Valley leave to build new church, estimated cost \$3,000; from Mount Pleasant leave to build new church, estimated cost \$6,000; from Corbett and Riverview to build manse, estimated cost \$2,500; from Fleshtown and associate congregations to purchase residence for manse, cost \$1,200.

Commissioners to General Assembly Revs. G. W. Rose, P. W. Anderson, J. H. Edmonson and G. S. Scott; alternates, Revs. W. D. Turner, Hugh Matheson and A. Shepherd; elders representing Mono, Camilla, Laurel and Ballinadfad.

Rev. James Buchanan, of Dandak was granted leave of absence for two months to visit Scotland. Mr. Boyle, licentiate, will supply his pulpit in his absence.

An overture for General Assembly was adopted in which the Assembly will be asked to appoint a committee to compile a Directory or selections for choirs in church services.

Saugeen Presbytery asked Orangeville to take over Kingscote congregation on the western boundary of the latter Presbytery, the Presbytery agreed to meet Saugeen Presbytery at Synod to discuss the matter and in the mean time appointed Revs. Buchanan, Bell, Shepherd and Anderson, a committee to look into the rearrangement of the congregations near the boundary.