

Western Ontario.

Rev. W. G. Hanna, M. A., of Mount Forest, has been attending a meeting of the Lord's Day Alliance executive in Toronto.

Rev. E. A. Henry, of Knox church, Hamilton, has been preaching a series of sermons on the Ten Commandments. "Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbour," was the theme of his discourse last Sunday evening.

Rev. Dr. McCrae conducted anniversary services at Dorchester church last Sabbath. Mr. Walter L. Nichol, B.A., of Knox College, preached in Westminster church, Wilton Grove.

The first annual reception given by Rev. E. A., and Mrs. Henry to their congregation, was held in the parlor of Knox church, Hamilton, New Year's afternoon, from 2 to 5 o'clock. Not only were many members of the congregation present, but friends and former members visiting were pleased to accept of the genial hospitality of the pastor and his wife.

The annual Sunday School supper and concert of Knox church, London, was a very successful affair. Rev. J. G. Stuart, the pastor, presided; and the programme was an excellent one.

On the eve of her departure from Embro members of the Presbyterian choir presented Miss Pringle with an appreciative address and a beautiful pearl brooch. The pastor of the church, Rev. G. C. Patterson, read the address; and Miss Jells made the presentation.

Rev. T. A. Cosgrove has preached his farewell sermon in First church, St. Marys, and prior to his leaving for his new charge at Newark, Ohio, the congregation presented him with a handsome gold watch, and gave Mrs. Cosgrove a beautiful silver tea service and a case of pearl-handled knives and forks.

At the congregational meeting of St. Andrews church, Sarnia, Rev. J. Eadie, moderator of session in the chair, it was unanimously agreed to call Rev. J. S. Scott, M.A., of Brantford. The people hope that his response will be favorable, and that before long he will be welcomed by them as their pastor, to take up the work so suddenly interrupted by the death of their late pastor, Rev. J. Thompson, D.D.

In the preparation of the plans for the First Presbyterian Sunday school room London, which will be ready for occupation in a few weeks, the building committee did not fail to see that the structure was to be modern in every respect. There is one large room, with many class rooms partitioned off it, and so arranged that folding doors can be thrown back, giving scholars and teachers in every part of the building an unobstructed view of the superintendent's platform. The school will have ample seating capacity, and will relieve officers and teachers of a handicap under which they have been labouring for many years.

The Knox church Sunday school, Hamilton, is well equipped for another year's work. The officers elected for 1904 are: Honorary Superintendent—Rev. E. A. Henry; Superintendents—W. H. McLaren, J. A. Moffatt and Chas. Teubel; Superintendent-Chinese Dept.—T. W. Truscott; Secretaries—A. S. Leitch, W. H. Malcolmson, J. A. Cheyne; Treasurer—H. Donaldson. The year just closed has been a most successful one, and the average attendance was larger than the preceding year.

In connection with the re-opening services of Duff's church, Morriston, last Sunday, the following sketch of the new church from the Guelph Mercury will be of interest: The first Presbyterian church in Puslinch was a log structure, built in the year 1835, and was enlarged in 1840. In the year 1854 Duff's church was erected. This fine, commodious stone church stood for half a century with very little alteration. A disposition towards renovation obtained at the beginning of the present year, but those entrusted with soliciting subscriptions soon found an earnest desire on the part of many to have the work done in a complete and thorough manner making provision for safety, comfort and becoming elegance. Subscriptions more than double what was anticipated led to a reconsideration of plans, with the result that practically a new church has been built. All the material was removed from the solid stone walls, the excavation necessary for a basement was made, the walls were raised a few feet, and a roof with a modern pitch was put on. An addition of entrance, vestibule, and tower 60 feet high has been added. The basement has a kitchen, vestry, library and Sunday school room conveniently arranged. The auditorium

with paneled ceiling of proper height for perfect acoustic properties, the pulpit platform and choir with paneled screen and choir niche in the rear, the circular pews with elegant finish, the windows, a combination of Gothic and Roman styles, with leaded glass of beautiful design, all constitutes an harmonious combination of rare beauty and chaste elegance.

Northern Ontario.

Corbetton congregation, Rev. D. Urquhart, pastor, held a Christmas tree entertainment on the evening of the 22nd ult., which was a very gratifying success. The varied programme was interesting to the audience who also thought the Christmas tree very pretty.

Rev. James Buchanan of Dundalk exchanged pulpits with Rev. Alex. Sheppard of Tarbet on Sabbath the 27th ult., and conducted anniversary services at that place. Mr. Buchanan also delivered a lecture at the entertainment given the following evening.

Chalmers church Sabbath School, Flesherton, held its usual entertainment on Christmas evening and met with much success. A very pleasing programme was rendered, mostly by the Sabbath School scholars.

Rev. John Little of Holstein, was a speaker at the Varnay Christmas tree entertainment and captivated the audience with his address on "Business," Mr. Wm. Allen, who presided, gave an able and stirring address on the "Liquor Traffic."

Owing to illness, Rev. Dr. Somerville was unable to conduct service announced to be held in Division Street church, Owen Sound, on New Year's day.

Notwithstanding a postponement which is usually not helpful to an entertainment that of the Rocky Saugeen church recently held was a gratifying success. The children's part of the programme was very interesting and several solos rendered by Mr. J. S. Drysdale were highly pleasing to the audience. The pastor Rev. Mr. Aitchison, presided.

A number of representatives from Pinkerton, West Brant and Cargill were present at last meeting of Bruce Presbytery in connection with a petition for the erection of Cargill into a separate pastoral charge. No objection being offered, the Presbytery decided to grant the prayer of the petition, to take effect at the beginning of the new year. Mr. Nichol was retained as pastor of the Cargill congregation at their own request.

Praton Station, Rev. L. W. Thom pastor, held anniversary services on Sabbath the 27th ult., Rev. D. Urquhart, of Corbetton, preaching afternoon and evening. Mr. Urquhart was also a speaker at the entertainment held on Monday evening. Rev. Mr. Thom took Mr. Urquhart's work on Sabbath and his own pulpit at Flesherton was supplied by Mr. Jas. Felstead of that place.

Winnipeg.

A press dispatch, dated 31st Dec., says: Rev. Dr. Pitblado, pastor of Westminster church, returning home from a visit to St. Boniface Hospital recently, started across the ice to take a short cut, when suddenly he fell into a hole. The reverend gentleman managed to clutch the sides of the ice with both hands, and thus was able to keep his head above water, but could not climb out. For twenty minutes he was in this perilous predicament, calling for help, which at last came, and he was dragged out. Mr. Pitblado is in a serious condition from the effects of his involuntary cold bath.

The death occurred at Kildonan East on Dec. 4th of Mrs. Victoria Johnson Matheson, wife of Rev. Alexander Matheson says the Free Press. The deceased lady was in her 64 year. She was known and dearly beloved among a very wide circle of friends in Kildonan, St. Andrew's and Selkirk, where at different periods she has resided and been the helpmate of her husband in church work for almost thirty years. For the past few years she has been living in retirement with her husband in East Kildonan, almost opposite old Kildonan church. She continued up to the last a lively interest in the church and social life of the community. She leaves, in addition to her surviving husband, a family of four sons and one daughter, Miss Minnie to

mourn her loss. Three of the sons, Alexander, James and David, reside in Winnipeg, and the other Robert, is a resident of Regina. The Cornwall Standard adds: Mrs. Matheson was a sister-in-law of Mrs. George Johnston, Second Street, Cornwall. Her husband was Presbyterian Minister at Lunenburg for some years.

Death of Rev. Dr. Watson.

From Beaverton Express.

In the death of the late Reverend David Watson, M.A., D.D., this community suffers the loss of a most distinguished citizen. On Wednesday evening of this week he passed peacefully from us without sadness of farewell and with the outworn tide his strong spirit was borne to the Land that is Far Away, yet ever nigh, that heavenly home to which with goodness and rare confidence always, he would point the way to all who came within the wide scope of his ministry.

David Watson was born at Inverness, Scotland, a little more than eighty years ago. In his early youth the family removed to Canada and settled in Middlesex county, near London. He early manifested that love for books and eagerness for learning which to his latest years, was so strongly characteristic of him. He continued his studies by himself for a time and later at a grammar school in London, where he was prepared for the University.

To reach this stage many difficulties had to be overcome. While pursuing his studies by himself he was known to have walked to London, a distance of 18 miles to find out about a puzzling Greek verb. His years of study were broken by periods in which he himself became teacher. In one of these periods he had for his pupil the present Premier of Ontario, Hon. G.W. Ross, as well as other lads who have since become distinguished men.

He entered Queen's University in 1847 having for classmates two such now well known Canadians as the Hon. Mr. Justice McLennan and Mr. Alexander Muir. His literary course was a distinguished one, leading to the degree of B.A. which he received in 1850 and M.A. in 1852.

In the spring of 1853 he graduated in Theology from the same institution and in August of that year was ordained and inducted into the charge of St. Andrew's church, Thorah, then in connection with the church of Scotland. This was the beginning of a period of forty-five years faithful ministry in a pastorate, the success of which may be attributed to the fact that he was a brilliant preacher. That his strong pastorate work has left its mark on the community and not least to a life ever courteous, ever kind, a daily life wonderfully consistent and blameless in the eyes of the public.

His attainments and worth were recognized by the authorities of his University to which he had proved a good friend and in 1886 the degree of D.D. was conferred upon him honoris causa.

When he first came to Thorah he found himself the only minister in a large district and all his young energy and enthusiasm were devoted to the work of ministering to the widest possible circle of settlers. His pioneer work in the townships of Mara, Eldon, Brock and Georgina is a cherished memory of many of the oldest settlers.

No one understood Dr. Watson who did not see that the deep, strong currents of his life flowed steadily on, unchecked by obstacles and never thwarted by the lesser or trivial; thus it was in the fine loyalty of his nature that he adhered to the church of his father in the midst of changes; and it was the same loyalty that made him so interested in the welfare and devoted to the interests of his congregation though under another minister and connected with another church.

His loss will be felt and mourned not only by his immediate friends but by the whole community and Mrs. Watson and the members of the family may be assured of the profound sympathy of all.

Tobacco and Liquor Habits.

Dr. McTaggart's tobacco remedy removes all desire for the weed in a few days. A vegetable medicine, and only requires touching the tongue with it occasionally. Price \$2.

Truly marvellous are the results from taking his remedy for the liquor habit. It is a safe and inexpensive home treatment; no hypodermic injections, no publicity, no loss of time from business, and a certainty of cure. Address or consult Dr. McTaggart, 75 Yonge street, Toronto.