

A Minister's Son

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Church News

[All communications to this column ought to be sent to the Editor immediately after the occurrences to which they refer have taken place.]

MONTREAL NOTES.

The great event of the week in Presbyterian circles has of course been the Westminster Assembly Commemoration. Owing to the unusually disagreeable weather the attendance was not what might have been naturally expected, but it grew larger each succeeding evening and the interest steadily increased. The local daily papers have given excellent reports of the addresses and the cause of Presbyterianism has received a decided impetus throughout this whole district. The papers were all admirable and dealt with the subjects assigned in a popular yet thoroughly comprehensive way. The subjects were not borrowed from any of the many celebrations that have taken place elsewhere, and yet of course there is a certain resemblance. On Tuesday evening the chair was occupied by the Hon. Judge Archibald, who introduced the speakers with brief addresses, showing his sympathy with the object. Dr. Robert Campbell gave an excellent resume of the historical setting of the Assembly, and Principal MacVicar gave a thorough exposition of some of the distinctive features of the Westminster Standards. On Wednesday evening, owing to the illness of Mr. Daniel Morris, who was to have presided, the chair was taken by the Rev. Dr. Paterson, of St. Andrew's. He referred briefly to the many interesting jubilees which had been crowded into the year. Dr. Scrimgeour spoke on the Catholicity of Presbyterianism as shown in the Westminster Standards, while the Rev. P. H. Hutchison, of Huntingdon gave a most interesting address on the "Influence of the Shorter Catechism on Character." This was illustrated especially from Scottish life and literature. On Thursday evening, Dr. Moore, of Ottawa, Moderator of the General Assembly, first gave an exposition of the "Presbyterian Form of Church and its Advantages." The Rev. A. J. Mowat dealt effectively with "Presbyterian Form of Worship and its Possibilities," while the Rev. W. T. Herdridge, of Ottawa, closed the series with a striking paper on the "Future of Presbyterianism." Nothing has yet been definitely decided on as to publication but it is not improbable that some or all of these papers will be printed in some permanent form. They are worth preserving as the speakers did not content themselves with simply glorifying the past. They gave many helpful suggestions for the future.

The Westminster celebration was an adjunct to the regular meeting of Presbytery in Knox church, on Tuesday. The business consisted mainly of routine, but arrangements were completed for the induction of the Rev. T. W. Winfield, in Westminster, on the 28th inst. and for releasing the Rev. Thomas Bennet from the charge of Taylor church at the close of the present month.

St. Andrew's church, which sends all its contributions for Foreign Missions through the Church of Scotland, has provided the funds for the training of a native female doctor and dispenser in North India. The girl chosen for training is the daughter of a head master in one of the native Christian schools. She has already entered on the course and is pursuing it with success.

On Friday evening last Mr. W. J. Scott, superintendent of the Knox church Sabbath-school, at Lancaster, Ont., was presented with an address and a handsome hanging lamp by the teachers of the various Sabbath-school of that town. The presentation was made in recognition of Mr. Scott's labors at the weekly meetings of teachers, which he always superintended.

The Presbyterians of East Lancaster, have nearly completed the erection of a new church some four miles back from Bainville Railway station and expect to have it ready for opening by the first Sunday in January. This little congregation has never had a settled minister as yet. The Mission for some time back has been supplied by Mr. H. G. Crozier, a student of the Presbyterian College, Montreal.

GENERAL.

The new St. Andrew's Presbyterian church, Pakenham, will be dedicated on Sunday, the 2nd of January.

The congregation of Chalmers church, Uxbridge, has extended an unanimous call to Rev. J. R. Fraser, of Picton, N. S. This charge has been vacant about three months.

The Rev. K. McLennan, late of Honan, China, has accepted the call to Tiverton and will be inducted on Dec. 30th. Rev. J. Fitzpatrick will preside and address the people, Rev. A. H. Drumm will preach and Rev. George McLennan address the minister.

The Uptergrove and Langford congregations are now without a pastor, the Rev. John Buchanan having tendered his resignation, the same was accepted by the Presbytery, on the 14th inst. The Rev. N. Campbell, Oro, was appointed Moderator during the vacancy and to him all communications in view of a hearing are to be sent.

The congregation of Central Presbyterian church, Baltimore, Md., are in favor of calling a Canadian minister, and two of the leading members visited London last week to invite Rev. Robt. McB. Johnston, of St. Andrew's church, to accept the charge. Mr. Johnston spoke at a Christian Endeavor convention held in that city last summer creating a very favorable impression.

The re-opening services in connection with the Presbyterian church, Gifford, took place Sunday and Monday, Dec. 12th and 13th. The Sabbath service was conducted by Rev. W. R. McIntosh, of Allandale. At the Monday evening meeting a good programme was presented and interesting addresses delivered by visiting clergymen. The proceeds will be applied towards liquidating the debt incurred in renovating the church.

The anniversary services in connection with St. Paul's Church, Bowmanville, were very successful. Rev. Prof. Robinson of Knox College preached morning and evening, his theme in the morning being "The Visions of Zechariah" and in the evening "The Glory of the New Testament Dispensation compared with that of the Old." In the afternoon the children gave the closest attention to Prof. Robinson's stories of Arab robbers. The pastor, Rev. R. Douglas Fraser, M.A., announces the total collection for the day \$233.

On Tuesday, Dec. 14th, Rev. J. S. Scott, B.A., of Knox College, Toronto, was ordained and inducted into the pastorate of the Presbyterian church, Hespeler. Rev. Mr. McKinnon, of Glenallen, preached the sermon, Rev. J. Atkinson, of Berlin, addressed the newly ordained minister and Dr. Dickson, of Galt, addressed the congregation. Mr. Scott is a graduate of Knox College, Toronto, and for two seasons has lectured in Manitoba College. He has been appointed lecturer on systematic theology at Queen's College, Kingston, where he will commence his duties after the holidays, remaining there for six weeks. Afterwards he returns to Hespeler to resume his charge.

The Rev. Alexander Sutherland, late minister of Knox Church, Ripley, Ont., died at his home Kearney, Nebraska, U. S., on Monday 13th inst., after an illness of several weeks duration. He was 81 years of age and served in the Gospel Ministry fifty-two years. His labors were abundant and blessed with a good measure of success. Mr. Sutherland was born in Lairg Sutherlandshire, Scotland, in 1816, and came to America with his parents when a child, and settled in Nova Scotia but afterwards returned to Scotland and was educated at Edinburgh. He entered the ministry in 1845 and celebrated his half century of ministerial work at Ripley, Ont., Mar. 15th, 1895. He resigned his charge in July last and moved to Nebraska where his family, four sons and one daughter reside. Mrs. Sutherland also survives her husband. The remains were interred in Kearney cemetery.

Dr. Sproule, B.A., Specialist in Medical Electricity, who is a native of the North of Ireland, after making a tour of the United