

The Mission School grew rapidly. New teachers were drafted into the service, and the very children became enthusiastically devoted to what they called their own school.

The question of permanent quarters could not have been long delayed in any case, but it was much hastened by the owner of the rented building, who notified the trustees that it would be required on the first of May, 1893.

Had the proposal to purchase and build been forced on the session and managers of Bank Street Church six months earlier, it might have caused indefinite delay. The success of the School and the greatness of the need which it brought to light had created a revolution in their minds, and the only question now was where to build. Having obtained a guarantee that Bank Street Church would pay the sum of \$170 per year, and bear the expense of heating, lighting and care-taking, for a term of years, six gentlemen, *viz.*: Wm. McGillivray, Robt. McGiffin, Neil McKinnon, Geo. I. Dewar, John Keane and Angus William Fraser, borrowed \$2,000.00, on their own responsibility, bought a lot on the Corner of McLaren and Concession Streets, where Erskine Church now stands, and built a neat hall for the use of the Mission School. Of the sum guaranteed by the congregation, \$120 was to pay the interest on the note at six per cent., and the remaining fifty was to form the nucleus of a sinking fund for the redemption of the property. It was understood that whenever the \$2,000. was paid, the lot and all improvements thereon were to be handed over to Bank Street Church.

With enlarged facilities the School steadily increased until on two successive occasions the building had to be extended by the erection of annexes. In process of time, a Ladies' Aid Association was formed to assist the School in a variety of ways, and the School itself became an active Missionary Society for the spread of the Gospel in foreign lands. A prayer meeting was also begun, the care of which ultimately, at no great interval, fell upon the Pastor. Bank Street Church and all connected with this enterprise, which was begun amid many fears, had every reason to be devoutly thankful for the manifest blessing of God which rested on their labors.

Much as it was needed and excellent as was the work done, it is pitiful to have to say that it met with opposition from a quarter from which it might least have been expected.