

MONTREAL.

The Rev. Dr. Robert Johnstone was in Halifax last week, where he lectured before the Alumnae of the Ladies College.

Rev. M. S. Oxley, M.A., of Montreal, gave his interesting Scotch lecture to an appreciative audience at Dunvegan last week. The proceedings were enlivened by excellent music furnished by local pipers, violinists and Gaelic singers and concluded by a happy speech and vote of thanks to the lecturer by Mr. D. J. McPhee.

Owing to an affection of the throat, Rev. D. J. Graham was compelled to resign the pastorate of the MacVicar Memorial Church, and on the eve of his departure for the west the congregation presented him with a purse containing \$370, while a deputation of the congregation proceeded to Mr. Graham's residence and presented Mrs. Graham, who was indisposed, with a beautiful bouquet of flowers.

Rev. Dr. Barclay, minister of St. Paul's, who some time ago tendered his resignation of the charge, has been strongly urged to reconsider the matter. In his reply he said: "It is not without deep pain that I now announce my adherence to the decision I intimated to the annual meeting of the congregation. I came to that decision after months of careful and anxious deliberation. The great kindness of the people constrained me to review it, but I am still fully persuaded that I am taking the right step at the right time. It is now expected that Dr. Barclay will take formal measures to separate his connection with the congregation in October next."

The first social gathering of the united congregation of the First Presbyterian Church was held in the lecture hall of the old Chalmers Church building last evening, and was very successful. The Rev. W. R. Cruikshank presided. The Rev. Dr. Campbell, former pastor of St. Gabriel Church, and the Rev. Malcolm Campbell, present pastor of the united congregation, were also present and spoke. Short addresses also were given by Mr. John Scott, of the church session; Mr. A. E. Taylor, chairman of the board of managers; and Messrs. Darling and Douglas, members of session. The speeches were interspersed with music, completing a very enjoyable programme. Refreshments were served by the ladies of the church at the close of the exercises.

Taylor Church was filled with a large congregation when the Rev. W. D. Reid preached his last sermon before departing for the west. This took the form of a review of the work accomplished in the church since he took up the pastorate, eleven years ago. At that time the church had a membership of 268 and during the eleven years, in which he had charge of it, 1,791 people were received into the membership. The membership now stood at 1,262, the difference in the figures being accounted for by the fact that the congregation was a migratory one. A large number of the Presbyterian missions in the vicinity of Montreal were filled and manned by Taylor Church people. Eleven years ago there was \$15,000 of a debt on the church, but that had all been wiped off, and many improvements taken place. During the eleven years, \$107,988 had been raised in the church, as well as \$17,582 for missionary and benevolent institutions. The number of baptisms was 673, marriages, 362; funerals, 405, and the number of families visited last year, was 375. Mr. Reid said that during his ministry, his preaching had not been of a literary type, but had been simple, evangelical and earnest. It was purely positive; any things which he doubted had no place in his ministry. Christ had been the centre of his work, and he had endeavored to make clear the fact of His divinity and atonement. The farewell service was a spontaneous expression of the esteem and affection of the large congregation for their late pastor. Among the gifts was a beautiful suit case from the Sunday school children.

The congregations in Stratford Presbytery will be asked to consider a scheme for defraying the expenses of Presbytery meetings.

Mrs. Alexander Bunting, of Montreal, offers one thousand dollars towards the erection of the new hall to be built for the Valleyfield congregation. The Presbyterians in Valleyfield possess a handsome church and a magnificent memorial organ. Next summer will witness the addition of a large hall, with all conveniences necessary for carrying on the work of the church and school.

For a long time the Presbyterian Evangelical Institute at Pointe aux Trembles had felt the want of a properly equipped reading-room until Mr. William Anderson, a well-known and highly respected English resident of Pointe aux Trembles generously gave an order to a Montreal firm to furnish the room in his best style. The reading-room was recently opened to the pupils, and now contains two handsome slanting oak reading desks and twelve chairs of the same quality. The pupils greatly appreciate the interest and kindness which Mr. Anderson has always shown them, and of which the gift is but a further proof.

Last Sunday, Rev. C. H. Cooke, B.A., of Orillia, conducted the service in the Presbyterian churches at Washago, Ardrea, and Hampshire Mills, and thereafter until the minister recently called is inducted or declines the call.

Exchanges of pulpits last week appear to have been frequent. Rev. W. R. McIntosh, Elora, exchanged with Rev. D. W. Snider of the Methodist; and in Ayr Rev. D. I. Ellis exchanged with Rev. D. H. Taylor, of the Methodist church.

At Chalmers Church, London, Rev. Walter Moffat preached an illustrated sermon, entitled "The Rich Man and Lazarus," and pointed out that the rich man is a type of the man who is to all appearances perfectly respectable, but yet is extremely selfish, and uses his wealth only to satisfy his own selfish delights and neglects entirely to hear the needy.

The congregations of Hillside, Craighurst and Fergusonsvale have extended an unanimous and very hearty call to Rev. Frank C. Harper, B.D. A salary of \$1,000, manse and glebe, and a month's holidays are offered. Mr. Harper has been preaching in this field for several Sundays with great acceptance. The matter will be dealt with at the regular meeting of the Barrie Presbytery on March 24.

Rev. Dr. Ross, of St. Andrew's Church, London, was heard with much acceptance in Knox Church, Galt, when preaching there for Rev. R. E. Knowles, who was conducting anniversary services in the Forest City. While in London, besides preaching twice on Sunday, Mr. Knowles addressed a large Sunday school gathering in the afternoon, and then on Monday evening delivered an interesting lecture on "Rambles Through Europe," giving his large audience vivid and informing impressions of affairs as he found them in the different countries visited. Mr. Knowles before closing, stated that he wished it understood that it was not really his lecture the audience had heard. The materials gathered for it and the inspiration therefore were due entirely to a travelling companion—a relative by marriage—who made this her peculiar care.

WINNIPEG AND WEST.

The Presbytery of Qu'Appelle is corresponding with the Assembly's committee with a view to arranging a simultaneous evangelistic campaign in that presbytery at a suitable date next winter.

On the invitation of Qu'Appelle Presbytery, Mr. Kovacs's services as minister at Bekovar were discontinued, and it was unanimously agreed that he be not recommended for work in any field in the future.

Qu'Appelle Presbytery appointed Messrs. Henderson, Leishman, Oliver and McKenzie, Ministers, and Messrs. Judge Farrell, J. A. Hill, McLean and G. P. Campbell commissioners to the General Assembly.

OUT-OF-THE-WAY NOTES.

Prepared for the Dominion Presbyterian.

A great sensation has been caused in Roman Catholic circles by the will of the late Roman Catholic priest, Father J. J. Healey, rector of the church of St. Anne, Gloucester, Mass., who has left the sum of \$175,000 to the Addison Gilbert Protestant hospital of Boston.

The Rev. Father Mingardi, a monk of Parma, has been received into the Waldensian Church at Rome. Father Mingardi held a very prominent position in the Roman Catholic Church.

At the recent Old Catholic Church Congress held in Vienna, Austria the Rev. J. Kowalski was consecrated a bishop. The new bishop is at the head of an "away from Rome" movement which started at Pologne, Prussia, in 1893, and has 200,000 communicants in 63 parishes and 33 priests under his charge.

A great stir has been caused in Rome, Italy, by the conversion of Monseigneur Gabbio, who has been received into the Waldensian Church. Mgr. Gabbio is a bosom friend of Mgr. Merry del Val, professor of Right in the academy of Noble Ecclesiastics and secretary of the congregation of Regulars, and has been for many years a prominent priest in Roman Catholic circles. Mgr. Gabbio was converted by the Rev. Giorgio Bartolo, the ex-Jesuit whose conversion to the Waldensian faith caused such a stir in Europe last year.

The Italian Methodist Episcopal Church in Rome has over 4,000 communicants with a church property valued at \$250,000, a printing establishment, a boys' college and a girls' school under the charge of Miss Italia Arabaldi, grand daughter of the famous Italian general, where some 500 girls, many children of the nobility, are receiving an excellent education. His Majesty the King of Italy has on several occasions publicly complimented Bishop Burt on the good work done by the Methodists among the many poor and needy of Rome, and has expressed himself in sympathy with their good work. There are now 16 Protestant churches of all denominations in Rome, with some 38 gospel halls or places where religious services of an evangelical kind are held. Prior to the coming of the Methodist missionaries there was little or no work done in Rome to mitigate the suffering of the poor sick and needy. "Religious competition"—to use the words of President Taft of the United States, when addressing a Roman Catholic missionary society on the Philippines—"is a good thing." This has been proved again and again in Rome, in spite of the untruthful reports sent from time to time concerning the work of the great Methodist Church in Italy by the papal authorities.

Between the years of 1890 and 1900 the Protestant pastors of Germany reported 46,600 conversions from the Roman Church; and the secessions from Protestantism to Catholicism was 6,820 during the same years in the empire.

ALOYSIUS TOSSETTO.

OTTAWA.

Service, preparatory to the Communion next Sunday morning, will be held in St. Paul's church on Friday evening at the usual hour.

The local papers speak of Rev. W. A. McIlroy, of Stewarton church, Ottawa, who preached anniversary services in Knox church, Perth, on the 20th ult., as "a north of Ireland man by birth, and one of the big men in the Presbyterian Church in Canada. He preached two powerful sermons, which were greatly appreciated by the large audiences present."

Rev. A. F. Carr, D.D., for twenty years pastor of the Presbyterian Congregation at Cambelltown, N.B., died last Tuesday, aged 66. He was moderator of the Maritime Synod some years ago, and was recently nominated by at least one Presbytery for the moderatorship of next General Assembly. A widow and six children survive.