

degree in which it is affected by the co-operation of the people themselves, were explained very concisely, and the Church was affectionately and earnestly exhorted to do its part in promoting the efficiency and usefulness of the young Pastor it had chosen.

At the conclusion of the ordination service proper, the Lord's Supper was observed, and thus ended the proceedings of a most solemn and impressive occasion. A good congregation attended both in the afternoon and evening. In addition to parties belonging to the Congregational body, a number of ministers and members of other denominations were present. Serious attention and devout interest pervaded the assemblies, and we are persuaded the occasion will not soon be forgotten by those who were enabled to attend.

On the following evening a tea meeting of welcome to the new Pastor was held and was largely attended, not only by the Church and congregation, but by the general religious public. An overflowing supply of speakers was present. Then over, the chair was taken by the Pastor, and several speeches were delivered interspersed with appropriate singing by the choir, led by the new organ. Rev. W. F. Clarke expressed his gratification, as one of the "past pastors" of the Church, at its present position and prospects. He referred to various interesting features in the present occasion, commented on Rev. E. Ebb's exposition of "the husband of one wife," given the previous evening, and descanted somewhat on ministerial marriages, closing with various advices to the Pastor and Church. Rev. W. J. Hunter, Wesleyan Minister, then spoke in a very cordial and lively strain, expressing the most catholic sentiments, and wishing his Congregational brethren abundant spiritual prosperity. Rev. J. M. Smith, of Southwold, next spoke, and after alluding to reminiscences of his own early leanings toward the ministry, urged the imperative necessity of personal worth and work in order to success. Rev. Mr. Hooper, Bible Christian Minister, gave a brief but very hearty address, insisting upon our need of Divine help, and the certainty of usefulness if we enjoyed that help. After short addresses from Revs. E. Ebb of Paris, and J. A. Miller, of the New Connexion Church, a very appropriate practical speech was delivered by Rev. F. H. Marling, in which attention to the outward business of the house of God was urged, and the duties of Christian love, wise forbearance, and willing co-operation in every good work were forcibly inculcated. The people remained with much patience, and listened with great apparent interest, although, owing to the late hour of commencing, and the number of addresses, the meeting was necessarily a rather late one. We have rarely attended an ordination service that passed off more satisfactorily, or gave greater promise of useful results. The discourses were fitting and pertinent, and a single exercise was unduly protracted, the congregations were encouraging in size and devoutly attentive, an earnest and cordial spirit appeared to pervade all hearts, and the tea meeting was every way a success. Bro. Dickson has entered on an important and promising field. May he be eminently successful in his culture!

W. F. C.

#### ANNUAL MEETINGS OF SISTER DENOMINATIONS.

The doings of the various religious bodies, our own included, have been reported with unusual fulness this year by the secular press. With the utmost liberality and good feeling, the columns of the various newspapers, including our two leading dailies, have been thrown open to the accounts furnished both of business done and speeches delivered. We cheerfully and gratefully acknowledge these courtesies on behalf of the Congregational denomination, and trust that the full publicity given to the proceedings of the various religious bodies, will increase their interest in one another, and draw them into closer fellowship with each other. The fact just referred to, renders it almost unnecessary for the purpose of information, that we should bring the doings of sister denominations before our readers, nevertheless we feel inclined to make a few "notes and comments" at least in regard to the proceedings of the leading bodies.