

QUEBEC

The Annual Meeting of the Congregation of English River and Howick was held on the 31st of January. The pastor, the Rev. J. M. Kellock, in the chair. The reports were gratifying and encouraging. The contributions for missionary and benevolent objects were \$387.24, almost double those of the preceding year. Total contributions for all purposes \$1,999.54. Membership numbers 233.

Ormiston Church, Rev. Dr. Morison, pastor. Our annual meeting held on January 25th which now has a social tea as a feature, was a very pleasant occasion. The report showed all claims met and a balance in hand of \$254.00. The benevolences of the congregation for the year amounted to \$1,489.00. An addition of \$120.00 was made to the pastor's stipend, bringing it up to \$1,200.00. Revd. J. E. Duclos, of Valleyfield, was present at the meeting and gave an interesting address.

The annual meeting of the Lachute Church, (Rev. James M. McLaren pastor), was held on the 17th of January and was largely attended. The reports showed a good year. Forty-one members were received on profession of faith and 14 by certificate. Deducting removals by death and certificate the number on the roll is 644, a gain of 20 over the previous year. During the three years of the present pastorate 230 members have been received. In 1903 \$745.00 of a floating indebtedness was paid-off and in 1904 the church was painted, tinted and seated at a cost of \$2,016.00, less than one hundred of which remains unpaid. Besides these extra expenditures the annual revenue of the congregation for the last year amounted to \$2,540.00. Certainly a very good showing!

The thirtieth Annual Meeting of the Georgetown and English River W. M. S. was held recently. The Recording Secretary reported a steadily growing interest and enthusiasm in the work. Twelve regular meetings were held with an average attendance of twenty. One special meeting—the Thank Offering—was held in June, when addresses were given by the Revs. J. Pringle, D. Dand, A. W. Lochead. Clothing valued at about \$100.00 was sent to a Home Mission field and to some French Protestants in Montreal. The Society received a bequest of \$226.31 from the estate of the late Miss L. Ogilvie—one of the first members. The total contributions not including the bequest amounted to \$276.19. The following officers were elected for the year: President, Mrs. Kellock; Vice-Presidents, Mrs. C. M. MacKeracher, Mrs. Wm. McGillivie, Mrs. A. Logan, Jr.; Recording Secretary, Miss MacKeracher; Corresponding Secretary, Mrs. Williams; Treasurer, Mrs. Shanks. Representatives on Executive, Mrs. C. M. McClenaghan and Mrs. Wm. Anderson.

WESTERN ONTARIO.

Rev. Dr. Lyle, Hamilton, is announced to conduct Anniversary services in Knox Church, Embro, next Sunday.

The recent anniversary services of Guthrie Church, Alvington, were largely attended, and the tea meeting was a decided success.

On the 14th inst., Rev. Dr. Ross, London, will lecture in Knox Church, Ayr, on Scottish Life and Character. A rich treat is in store for our Ayr friends.

Knox Church, Ayr, is making steady progress. The membership is now 325 a gain of 15. All reports were encouraging, showing a small balance on the right side.

Next meeting of Guelph Presbytery will be held in Melville Church, Fergus, on Monday, the 20th March, at 2 p.m., for Conference; and in the same place for business on Tuesday, the 21st, at 9.30 a.m.

Rev. R. G. MacBeth, M.A., of Paris, is preaching a series of sermons on "Christ the Church and Social Problems." The series, commenced on the 5th inst., promises to be of unusual interest. Social problems have always had special attractions for Mr. MacBeth, and he has already given the subject much thoughtful consideration.

By invitation of Mrs. John Bell, the Ladies' Aid of Knox Church, Ayr, held their social meeting under her hospitable roof, she kindly providing conveyances. About forty of the ladies took advantage of the sleigh-ride. The first half hour was devoted to business, the rest of the evening to social intercourse, with music and recitations by several of those present; after which abundant refreshments.

The reports presented at the annual meeting of First Church, Eramosa, showed a good balance on the credit side of the sheet. The congregation showed their appreciation of the pastor's services by presenting him with a new cutter. Mr. Mann, in a few words, expressed his gratitude for this token of kindness. This is the third time within three years that the congregation has in a similar way testified to the growing appreciation of Mr. and Mrs. Mann's services amongst them.

The session of St. Andrew's, Amherstburg, at the annual meeting of the congregation, reported an increased average attendance at Sunday service; the largest addition to the membership in 14 years; the largest number of baptisms in the history of the church; the largest amount contributed to missions and benevolence in any one year; the celebration of the 75th anniversary of the establishing of the Presbyterian church in Amherstburg and South Western Ontario; and the near approach of the 15th anniversary of the present pastorate. The board of management reported a more permanent basis of financing established, and net receipts larger by over \$400.00 than in any previous year of which financial record has been preserved.

At the annual meeting of St. Andrew's Guelph, Mr. K. Maclean took the chair, and Dr. Lowry acted as secretary. The reports presented gave evidence of substantial progress during the year. The indebtedness was reduced from over \$2,500 to about \$1,300. A pleasant feature of the proceedings was presentations to Mr. Hugh Walker and Mr. John Davidson, treasurer and session clerk respectively for many years. The recognition of their valuable services took the shape of a finely upholstered easy chair to each. Both gentlemen expressed their appreciation of the gifts in fitting terms. The managers for 1905 are as follows: Wm. Ross, George Archer, M. McCormack, Joseph Lawson, H. Turner, W. A. Clark, A. B. Petrie, Jr., John Strachan, J. B. Dryden, Samuel Broadfoot, J. A. Maddock; treasurer, Hugh Walker.

MONTRÉAL NOTES.

The Rev. Wm. Shearer, late of St. Andrew's church, Sherbrooke, occupied the pulpit of Erskine Church on Sunday morning and Calvin Church in the evening. At the close of his sermon on each occasion he referred to the new work to which he had been called, namely, the canvassing of the churches for the \$80,000 needed for the erection of new Mission Schools at Pointe aux Trembles. Mr. Shearer spoke of the great encouragement he had already received and expressed his firm conviction that it would not be very long before the whole amount would be subscribed.

The annual meeting of St. John's French Presbyterian Church, Montreal, was held last week and the reports of the various organizations were of an interesting character. Eleven members were added, most of them from the Roman Catholic church. The contributions of the people were the best in the history of the congregation. The missions of the church were not forgotten. For French evangelization \$23; for Foreign Missions, \$15.90; Home Missions, \$14.55; Pointe-aux-Trembles Building Fund, \$15; from the Sunday school and \$30 from the Women's Missionary society. In response to an appeal on behalf of the Pointe-aux-Trembles Building Fund, St. John's church contributed the substantial sum of \$1,250.

At the inter-collegiate conference held in the David Morrice Hall last week, the Rev. J. L. Gilmour and Rev. Dr. Amaron gave well prepared and timely papers on the relation of Protestantism to Roman Catholicism. Dr. Amaron said that it was the duty of the Protestants of this country to study the Roman Catholic system, not as it manifests itself in the life of a few innocent, pious, godly peasant women, but its principles and in the application of these principles in French Canada. It would soon be discovered that angelical Protestantism are as opposed to one another as light is to darkness and that if the Protestant church preached the Gospel the Roman church does not. Hence our duty to proclaim the Gospel message. Two opposite results are produced by Romist teaching: On the one hand dissatisfaction, grief, sorrow, fear among the pious souls, that trust in their own righteousness for salvation and on the other hand infidelity.

OTTAWA.

The Stewart congregation are contemplating the building of a new church. The first step was taken at the annual meeting on the 17th ult., when a committee was appointed to look over the situation and report at the next meeting. The view most generally held is to dispose of the present site by selling it and, if possible, secure a site at a considerable distance from Bank street and the city. It is said that a substantial site may be secured from the Glebe. St. Andrew's church, of which congregation is an off-shoot.

The annual meeting of Stewart Presbyterian Church was held on the 17th inst. The attendance and adherents was exceptional. The record of the past year exhibited a progress which indicated faithfulness and his which prevailed in the congregation's weekly contributions to the sustentation amounted to \$1,865.61—an increase of \$1,000 over the previous year. The contributions for the year were \$193.97; paid-up debt \$2,000. The total liabilities on the congregation at date, including re-mortgage, church, are \$3,519.05. The total resources were \$4,079.58. The estimated expenditure for the current year, including the debt, is \$2,093.