

## Ministers and Churches.

THE Rev. Dr. Sexton has recently received a pressing invitation to accept the pastorate of the Presbyterian Church, Mitchell, South Dakota. The Doctor is considering the call and it is thought that he will most likely accept it. If so he will leave for the West in about two weeks.

THE next meeting of the Presbyterian Sabbath School Union will be held in St. James Square Church, Friday, 17th October, at 8 o'clock p.m. The address will be delivered by Rev. Dr. McTavish on "The Bible: the True Foundation of National Life," and the International lesson will be considered by Rev. W. A. Hunter, M.A.

AT the sacrament of the Lord's Supper on the 28th of September, in St. John's Church, Brockville, 150 communicants sat down, the largest number in the history of the congregation. It is a noteworthy fact that during the past six months, notwithstanding the prevalence of typhoid fever and other diseases, there has not been a death in the congregation.

THE Presbytery of Kingston held a special meeting on the 30th ult. for the induction of the Rev. S. Childerhose, B.A., to the pastoral charge of the congregation of St. Columba and St. Paul, Madoc. The Moderator of Presbytery, Rev. Dr. George, presided, and preached the induction sermon. The Rev. D. Wishart addressed the minister and the Rev. J. Steele the people. Mr. Childerhose received a cordial welcome from the people of his charge and enters upon his work with encouraging prospects of success.

THE communion services of Sumach Street Presbyterian Church, Toronto, were held on Sunday and were conducted by the pastor, Rev. James Bryant, and were largely attended. The preparatory services were conducted on Friday evening by Rev. Mr. Leishman, of Chester. Mr. Leishman preached an excellent discourse in which he clearly and forcibly set forth the grounds of the believer's hope. Thirteen persons were admitted to membership which makes about eighty for the year. Mr. Bryant is doing excellent work in that section of the city and the prospects for building up a strong healthy congregation are very good.

SABBATH week, Rev. R. P. McKay, of Parkdale Presbyterian Church, dispensed the first sacrament in the Morningside Mission, Swansea, where Mr. J. S. Conning, of Knox College, has been labouring with acceptance since the mission was opened last winter. The General Assembly, at its last session, ruled that no student would in future be allowed to preach oftener than once in four weeks during the winter six months. The members and adherents of the mission having become attached to Mr. Conning there are general feelings of regret among the Swansea people that they cannot have him more frequently to conduct the services.

ON Sunday, 28th September, the congregation of St. John's Church, Brockville, which is neither large nor wealthy, put on the collection plate \$1,149.50 to cover an instalment of \$1,120 on the debt upon their church. A year ago when it was proposed to pay off a debt of \$3,000, with interest, by three annual collections, it was predicted that the plan would not succeed, but two of the instalments have been met by collections which amounted to more than the necessary sum, and there is no reason to doubt that a year hence the debt will be wiped out. The method adopted is better than raising money by tea-meeting or bazaar, or even by carrying round a subscription list.

THE anniversary services of the Atwood Presbyterian Church, of which Andrew Henderson, M.A., is pastor, were conducted on Sabbath, September 28th, by Rev. William Cochran, D.D., of Bradford. The church was crowded both morning and evening, there being between five and six hundred present at each service. It is needless to say that the Doctor's sermons were exceedingly able and eloquent, and that his services were very greatly appreciated by the people. The tea-meeting held on the Monday evening following proved more than ordinarily successful. The speakers were Rev. Messrs. Campbell, Cameron and McKibbin (Presbyterian), Dack (Baptist), Rogers (Methodist), and Eccleston (Episcopalian), and the choir of the church supplied music in a very efficient manner. Amount realized was about \$210.

THE new Presbyterian church—St. Paul's—Sydenham, (Presbytery of Owen Sound) was opened for public worship on Sabbath, the 5th inst. The Rev. Professor McLaren, D.D., of Knox College, Toronto, preached forenoon and afternoon to large and attentive congregations. The Doctor's sermons were eloquent and highly instructive; that of the morning being preached from John xiv. 12, and afternoon from Zechariah xii. 10. The new church is built of brick, and was designed by Mr. Gregg, of Toronto. It is in every respect a modern building, being heated by a hot air furnace and having all necessary arrangements for ventilation. Its seating capacity is upwards of three hundred, and that part used for Sabbath school purposes can be opened up when necessary.

THE first monthly meeting for the season of the Canadian McAll Association was held Thursday, October 2, in the Y. M. C. A., Toronto. The treasurer reported \$357.15; \$25 of this was received from the Woodstock Auxiliary, and \$18 from the Port Hope Auxiliary; \$308 was sent to Paris in July last, leaving a balance on hand of \$49.15. A very interesting and encouraging letter was read from Rev. D. Robert, evangelist at Toulouse, the new station taken up by the Association. The president, Mrs. Edward Blake, said a few words on the recent visit of the Rev. G. M. Wrong to some of the halls in Paris. He was impressed with the missions, and he thought the Rev. Dr. McAll was showing the great responsibility he felt, and the especial burden he had to bear recently, namely, the closing of several halls for lack of funds. Mrs. Blake read a short extract from a letter of Dr.

Pierson's in the *Missionary Review*, giving an account of the liberality of a Scotch gentleman, Mr. David Paton, who in the course of his life contributed his whole fortune of several millions of dollars to missions and is now living on a small annuity; but, hearing Dr. Pierson refer to the present straits of the McAll Mission and the threatened danger of being compelled to close thirteen of the halls, sent Dr. McAll £200, nearly \$1,250.

THE Toronto Young Men's Christian Association is a growing institution. Not satisfied with the grand work they are doing in their fine building on Yonge Street, they have this past week opened and dedicated two branch buildings specially adapted for the requirements of the work among the railway men at York and the young men in the west end of the city. The building at York contains a well-furnished reading room, amusement room and hot and cold baths, also a large hall where union evangelistic meetings are held every Sunday evening. There is a secretary in charge giving all his time to this important and much needed work among railway men. At the west end a beautiful building has been erected on Queen Street on the Asylum property, containing all the attractions and facilities which have made the Central Association such a power for good among young men. There is much need for this work because the west end is just teeming with young men, and it is expected that this healthful, attractive and Christian resort will prove a blessing to many of them. The Association has been fortunate in securing Rev. Dr. A. T. Pierson, who will deliver the address at the twenty-sixth anniversary, which will be held on Monday, October 20, in Association Hall. Dr. Pierson requires no introduction to Toronto, and he will doubtless have a large audience eager to hear his ringing earnest address.

PRESBYTERY OF ORANGEVILLE.—An adjourned meeting was held September 30th at Orangeville. The call from Oakville to Rev. S. S. Craig, of Chinguacousy, was considered, and the Presbytery agreed to his translation to take effect November 9th. Mr. Campbell was appointed interim Moderator of the Session of Chinguacousy, and to declare the charge vacant on November 16th. Mr. Campbell was appointed interim Moderator of the Session of Caledon East and St. Andrew's, Caledon, also. Intimation was received from Rev. D. McGillivray that he declines the call from Hillsburgh and Prize's Corners. Mr. McClelland reported that he had met with the people of Corbetton, Riverview and Gandier and moderated in a call in favour of Rev. R. B. Smith, late of Rosemont, in this Presbytery. The call was sustained and conditional on Mr. Smith's acceptance. His induction was appointed to take place at Corbetton, on Tuesday, October 28, at two p.m. Mr. McClelland to preside, Mr. McLeod to preach, Mr. Campbell to address the people and Mr. Hudson the minister. H. CROMER, *Pres. Clerk*.

PRESBYTERY OF COLUMBIA.—This Presbytery met in St. Andrew's Church, New Westminster, on the 9th September. There was a full attendance of members and a large amount of business was transacted. Among matters of more general interest the following may be noticed: Mr. Jaffray, of Richmond, was appointed Moderator for the ensuing year. Messrs. McLeod and Scouler reported on work assigned to them at Westham Island and Ladner's Landing. Revs. J. M. McLeod, Vancouver; James Christie, Wellington, and D. A. McKee, Dixon, California, being present were invited to sit and deliberate. Mr. McLaren reported moderation in a call in the First Church, Vancouver, in favour of the Rev. G. K. Maxwell, of Three Rivers, Quebec, with the promise of \$1,500 stipend and manse. The call was sustained, and Rev. A. T. Love appointed to prosecute the same before the Presbytery of Quebec. A petition was read from the Rev. J. M. McLeod and office-bearers, members and adherents of Zion Church, Vancouver, in connection with the Presbyterian Church in the United States, asking to be received into connection with the Presbyterian Church in Canada. The prayer of the petition was granted, subject to certain conditions. The prayer of a memorial from the Session of St. Andrew's Church, New Westminster, asking the Presbytery's sanction for the establishment of mission stations at the east and west ends of the city, with a promise, jointly, of \$600 per annum towards support of ordinances, was granted, together with the recommendation of a grant of \$400 from the Home Mission Fund and the immediate appointment of an ordained missionary. Mr. J. K. Wright reported having moderated in a call at Kamloops in favour of the Rev. Archibald Lee, of Sherbrooke, Quebec. The call was unanimous and cordial, with a promise of \$900 towards stipend and part of travelling expenses. The call was sustained, and the Rev. Dr. Warden, Montreal, appointed to prosecute the same before the Presbytery of Quebec. There was read a petition from the Rev. James Christie and members and adherents of the congregation of South Wellington—the only remaining congregation under the care of the Colonial Committee of the Church of Scotland—asking to be received under the care of the Presbytery. Messrs. D. Fraser and E. D. McLaren were appointed to visit South Wellington, make necessary enquiries and report in December. Mr. Fraser presented the report on Home Missions, to which a great deal of time and attention were devoted. Mr. Fraser was appointed to visit Alberni, dispense ordinances and consult with the people in reference to service for the winter. The deputation appointed to visit South Wellington was asked to visit Northfield and East Wellington, large coal mining districts, with the view of taking steps to organize mission stations at these points. An application from the congregation of Victoria West for a loan of \$600 towards church erection was recommended to the favourable consideration of the Board of the Church and Manse Fund. Numerous other items, including recommendations for grants and the appointment of an ordained missionary to Mount Lehman, etc., to take Mr. Moss' place when he returns

to college, were considered and disposed of. Mr. Moss was examined and certified to the Senate of the Presbyterian College, Montreal; his exercise and work during the summer were highly satisfactory. An appeal by Mr. J. N. Muir from a finding of the Session of St. Andrew's Church, Victoria, was considered. The appeal was dismissed, and the action of the Session sustained. The following standing committees were appointed: Home Missions—D. Fraser, P. McF. McLeod, D. MacRae, Thomas Scouler, E. D. McLaren and J. M. Brown; Foreign Missions—P. McF. McLeod, D. Fraser, Thomas Scouler, J. K. Wright, D. MacRae and D. Lyal; Finance—Thomas Scouler, J. M. McLeod and Thornton Fell; Colleges—D. MacRae, A. Dunn, A. Tait, J. A. Jaffray and A. McDougall; Sabbath Schools, W. R. Ross, J. M. McLeod, T. S. Glassford and J. C. Brown; Sabbath Observance—A. Dunn, A. Fraser and A. Fortune; Temperance—J. K. Wright, D. Fraser, P. F. Langill and Hon. John Robson; Systematic Benevolence—A. Tait, T. S. Glassford, A. Fraser and A. Shaw. The Rev. Dr. Robertson, Superintendent of Missions, was present, and gave a full report, with recommendations, of his visits to a large number of the mission fields of the Presbytery. It was agreed, on motion of Mr. McLaren, seconded by Mr. Jamieson, that the Presbytery express their pleasure in having with them the Rev. Dr. Robertson, Superintendent of Missions, their sense of the importance of his official visits to the different mission fields and their hearty approval of the recommendations he has submitted. Mr. McLaren, Convener of the Presbytery's Foreign Mission Committee, presented a report, and submitted a deliverance on the whole subject of work among the Chinese and Indians of the Pacific coast, which were adopted and ordered to be forwarded to the Rev. Dr. Wardrope. The circular in reference to the theological department of Manitoba College was remitted to the College Committee to allocate the amount expected from the Presbytery to congregations and mission fields. The next ordinary meeting of the Presbytery was appointed to be held in St. Andrew's Church, Vancouver, on the second Tuesday of December, at three o'clock p.m.—D. MACRAE, *Pres. Clerk*.

### PRESBYTERIAN COLLEGE, MONTREAL.

SESSION 1890-91.

The opening lecture was delivered on Thursday night, 2nd inst., in the Convocation Hall, by Rev. Prof. Campbell, LL.D.

Principal MacVicar occupied the chair, and among the gentlemen on the platform were Sir William Dawson, the Revs. Prof. Scrimger, Dr. Mackay, F. M. Dewey, Prof. Coussirat, James Fleck, John Nichol, Mr. McGillivray, Mr. Morin, Mr. McEchren (Vankleek Hill), and others, while in the audience several other Presbyterian ministers were noticed.

The subject of the lecture was "The Personal Revelation," and it was treated in a thoroughly learned style. By way of commencement Professor Campbell said it was one thing to formulate systems of apologetics in the friendly atmosphere of the lecture-room, and another to go forth into the world and reason with the classes known as sceptics and infidels, agnostics and atheists. "You may place before them a beautiful theory which to your mind is clear as the day, but it meets with no response in their darkened understandings. You cannot convert them *en masse*, as did Charlemagne the Saxons and Jagellon, the Lithuanians; they must be taken in detail. They are not necessarily careless or indifferent; many of them are deeply religious, seeking after God, yet offended with the representations made to them by the churches. Some of them have high ideals and a great love of humanity. Not many utterly deny God. They are the literary and scientific offspring of Hume and Kant, of Comte and Spencer, of Huxley and Arnold, of Strauss and Renan. They are the result of two great classes of prejudice and reasoning, arising out of disposition, education and surroundings."

The lecturer spoke of the reasoning of this class of people, and in this connection said that for the natural revelation of God we need not look to animal and vegetable organisms, or to the heavenly bodies since man is the crown of nature and his spiritual nature is the crown of man. If God is anywhere revealed to man it must be in man.

The lecturer said he did not attempt to define personality, but there were four things which entered into it—four things that we cognize in their inferior manifestations in the world. These were volition, intelligence, emotion and power. An intimate acquaintance of Professor Campbell's, who has since died, denied volition to God, since his conception of God was that of a being bound by the law of his nature to which he must conform to do everything in the one only most perfect way, hence God is not free and has no real volition. The answer to this is: Come down out of the clouds and explain how there is one only perfect way. Look at this world wherein we dwell and say if it is the best possible world. Where is the optimist that knows anything of its sins and sorrows that dare answer, Yes? Such a limited idea of perfection in creation would put an end to all gradations of being, introduce dull, uniform monotony, and be the destruction of the glory of harmony. The potter is free to make one vessel to honour and another to dishonour, but the maker of all things is not? In this freedom, the source of that which makes us responsible creatures lie divine sovereignty and true foreordination, and not in any necessity whatsoever. If God does not possess personality in the sense of free will whence comes that gift to the creature, man? The stream can rise no higher than its source. The lecturer cleverly combated the hollow reasonings of the sceptic, and gave striking illustrations of his belief and arguments. "The weight of evidence in favour of this truthful Jesus being more than a teacher, a messenger, a revealer, is overwhelming," said Prof. Campbell. After dilating on the power and love of the Div-

ine Master, he said it was a very pertinent question at the present day how the presentation of the personal revelation should affect the whole body of what was called revelation. Many documents which go to constitute it had been severely handled and the faith of many in their integrity had been roughly shaken. There would be worse shakings yet before the pendulum of faith swung evenly again. The leaders of thought within the Presbyterian Church at least, who were in part responsible for the shaking, had no mind to impair by one iota the faith of believers. They view its pendulum as somewhat old and rusty, thus failing to mark the time. They take it out to be polished and put back again, adjusted up to date, to swing with grander sweep and living vibration the arc between earth and heaven. There were two dangers to be avoided in judging of revelation. One was that of unduly depreciating the whole for the sake of a part, the other that of placing all its parts on the same dead level. The latter was the more crying evil of the two.

In conclusion Professor Campbell said: "There is darkness in the world, but it is not of God; there are curses loud and deep, but the Father blesses. Out of the fountains of life mingle the sweet waters of happiness and the bitter waters of pain, but the same fountain cannot produce two such diverse streams. Too long, through imperfection of human thought and speech, has the Father been clothed with attributes foreign to His holy nature. We want new jobs to arise and declare where is the agency in theft and murder, in consuming fire and destroying whirlwind, in loathsome disease and dark despair. We want new Lutherans as deeply convinced of Satanic workings as if he held the arch-enemy bespattered with the contents of the reformer's ink horn.

Justice will never be done to God until the devil has his due in our apologetic systems, our pulpit ministrations, our common thought and daily life—until the prayers of God's people rise day and night that He should deliver them from the evil one, and bring Satan under their feet. The Church has a right to denounce debauchery and intemperance, dishonesty and strife, worldliness and all ungodliness; but the great contest is not between the Church and these works of darkness; the great issue in every human soul for itself and all mankind is this: Who shall reign, the prince of the world or the King of Kings? All that leads to a clearer understanding of this, and to action upon it, is the new apologetic.

Rev. Dr. MacVicar in closing stated that the session opened under most encouraging circumstances. The buildings were fully occupied and a considerable number of students roomed in the city. He was not, however, appealing for enlarging the buildings meanwhile, as an increase of the teaching staff was more urgently needed. The number of new students added this session far exceeded the number of those who finished their studies last spring. He referred to the fact that five of the alumni had been sent to the foreign field, and that another, Mr. Jamieson, was recently added to this list.

### HOME MISSION COMMITTEE.

The Executive of the Home Mission Committee of the Presbyterian Church in Canada met last week in New St. Andrew's Church. The members present were: Rev. Dr. Cochran (Convener), Rev. Dr. Warden (secretary), Rev. Dr. Campbell, Renfrew; Mr. Farries, Ottawa; Rev. Mr. Tolmie, Southampton; Rev. Mr. Moodie, Stuyvesant; Rev. Mr. Somerville, of Owen Sound; Rev. D. J. Macdonnell and Rev. Alexander Gilray, Toronto.

Claims were passed upon for augmented congregations to the amount of \$12,253.76, and for mission stations, \$24,710.20. New grants were made to Home Mission fields and to augmented congregations, amounting to between \$5,000 and \$6,000.

Applications were made by the Presbytery of British Columbia for ministers for the following new fields in that province: Northfield and East Wellington, Mount Lehman and Aldergrove, Mount Chean and Campbell's and Metchosen and Soki.

Minutes were read from the same Presbytery to the effect that the congregation at Campbell's had extended a call to Rev. Archibald Lee, of Sherbrooke, Quebec, offering a salary of \$1,200. They asked the Committee to assist in paying the travelling expenses of Mr. Lee and family in the event of the call being accepted, to the extent of \$200. This was agreed to by the Committee.

The question of holding the autumn meeting of the Committee at a later date, so as to permit fuller reports from the mission fields of the Church, was considered, as was also the desirability of the colleges changing the time of their opening and closing. The subject was referred to a committee, consisting of Rev. Dr. Campbell, Rev. Messrs. Robertson and Somerville and Mr. Farries.

At the afternoon meeting the Committee reported the following overture, to be sent to the members of the Home Mission Committee, and by them laid before their respective Presbyteries, that action may be taken in the direction indicated:—

Whereas, in carrying on our mission work in outlying fields it is found that the month of April is most unsuitable for students reaching their fields and carrying on the work, and that the month of October is one of the very best of the year for missionary effort and for collecting money for services rendered; and whereas the work in our mission fields in the future ought to be done and will be done to an ever-increasing extent, by students in their literary course; therefore it is humbly overtured to the Venerable the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in Canada to change the terms of the theological colleges of the western section of the Church where necessary, so as to open in the beginning of November and close at the end of April.

Rev. Mr. Somerville brought before the Committee the propriety of uniting with the Foreign Mission Committee in the publication of a missionary map for circulation among the members and missionary societies of the Church. A committee was appointed to deal with the matter.