

## Church News

[All communications to this column ought to be sent to the Editor immediately after the occurrences to which they refer have taken place.]

### MONTREAL NOTES.

The Presbytery of Montreal held a special meeting on Thursday evening last for the purpose of inducting the Rev. D. MacVicar, B.A., late of Bromore, in the Presbytery of Saugeen, into the pastoral charge of Victoria church. There was a large attendance of the congregation and the services were much appreciated. An able sermon was preached by the Rev. J. D. Anderson of Bauharbour. The new pastor was addressed by the Rev. Dr. Amaron, and the people by the Rev. Dr. Campbell in place of Dr. Barclay who was unable to be present. A welcome social was given to Mr. and Mrs. MacVicar on Friday evening when there was even a larger attendance, and appropriate addresses were given by a number of the neighboring ministers of various denominations. This field enters upon a new career with this induction as very important changes are likely to take place in the district during the coming year. Hitherto it has been somewhat isolated from the rest of the city by the Grand Trunk Railway yards and the Canal basins. But the reconstruction of the Victoria Bridge which has just been decided on and the contracts for which have been already let may change all that. An important feature of the new bridge is the provision which will be made for electric car tracks and a carriage way in addition to the double track for the use of the railway itself. These features will necessarily affect the approaches to the bridge to a considerable extent. St. Lambert's on the south shore will certainly profit greatly by the change, and it is not improbable that the district at the city end may be considerably affected in like manner. Mr. MacVicar has qualifications which will enable him to hold any advantage from changes thus brought about.

Mr. James Gill, the senior elder of Eskimo church, passed away to his rest on Sunday morning, the 2nd inst., after a brief illness in his ninety-second year. Mr. Gill had resided in Montreal almost continuously since 1833, and enjoyed the highest respect from all who knew him. For several years back he had retired from all active duty in the church as well as from business, but he was almost never absent from his place at service on Sabbath morning and to the very last these services were his delight. His venerable form and his happy smiling face will be missed by many for years to come. He leaves one son Mr. John M. Gill, president of the James Smart Manufacturing Co., Brockville, and two daughters, one of whom is the wife of Mr. John Murphy, the well-known dry goods merchant of this city.

The Rev. Prof. Ross on Thursday evening last lectured in Barré, Vermont, on "Scottish Characteristics" to an appreciative audience. The Presbyterian church at that point is composed largely of Scotch men from Aberdeen who are engaged in the quarries. Their minister is a Canadian, brother of the Rev. Mr. Mitchell, of Almonte.

Mr. M. H. MacIntosh, B.A., a member of the graduating class of this session in the Presbyterian College, left on Friday morning last for British Columbia to fill an appointment from the Home Mission Committee in the Kootenay District.

### GENERAL.

Rev. Mr. Mitchell, who has been conducting very successful revival meetings in Balsover, Ont., for some time past, is now giving a series of addresses in Montreal.

All parties corresponding with the Presbytery of Stratford will notice that the present address of the Clerk is, "Rev. W. M. McKibbin, Stratford, Ont.", instead of "Milbank, Ont." as formerly.

A business meeting of Knox Church, Galt, congregation was held recently to discuss the advisability of procuring a pastor temporarily to carry on the work during the week until a permanent incumbent is secured. This it was decided to do, and the matter was placed in the hands of the Supply Committee, who will see that one is appointed.

At a meeting of the Presbyterian congregation at Huntville, an almost unanimous call was extended to Mr. McVicar. Mr. McVicar is a B. A. of McGill University, Montreal, and has for two or three years been engaged in mission work in British Columbia.

The people of St. Andrew's, Gananoque, on the 1st May, presented the Rev. H. Gracey with a beautiful new gown and robe—a very gratifying token of good will on the nineteenth anniversary of his induction to the pastorate of that prosperous congregation.

Anniversary services were held at Central Presbyterian Church, Toronto, on May 2, and notwithstanding the unfavorable weather were well attended. In the morning Rev. Dr. Carmichael, of King, preached an interesting and appropriate sermon; and in the evening the pulpit was occupied by Rev. Elmore Harris.

Three well-attended services were held in Union Presbyterian Church, Toronto, on May 2, it being the anniversary of the Sunday school, and the sixth anniversary of the induction of the pastor, Rev. Alex. McGillivray. The pastor preached in the morning, the Rev. W. J. McCaughan, of St. Andrews, in the afternoon, and the Rev. Dr. Warden in the evening.

The Woodville manse was agreeably surprised a short time ago by the young people of Wood Island section of the congregation who presented their pastor, Rev. A. S. Stewart, with an address and a beautiful study chair and lamp as tokens of their regard for him. In reply Mr. Stewart gratefully acknowledged their kindness, not only for the gifts now presented, for which he was much pleased, but for the interest they have always manifested in his work by their co-operation with him in it.

The anniversary services of East Presbyterian Church, Oak St., Toronto, were held on May 2, and were well attended. Three services were held, commencing at 11 a.m., 3, and 7 p.m. respectively, and at each the Rev. Robert Johnston, B.A., of London, preached. The Rev. gentleman's discourses were marked by clear earnestness, and were followed attentively by the congregations. A choir of 150 voices, under the leadership of Mr. Stoddart, led in the singing of appropriate hymns.

Rev. Mr. Carrier, of Grand Bend, conducted service in the Presbyterian Church, Ravenswood, on Sunday, April 26, it being the 21st anniversary of the ordination and induction of the pastor of the congregation, Rev. H. Carrie. Each successive year has only served to strengthen the ties between pastor and people. Rev. Mr. Carrier took as his text, Exodus, xv. 23, cautioning his hearers against the sin of murmuring. The choir gave a voluntary at the close of the sermon, entitled "Trusting in the Promise."

The Session of Guthrie Church, Alvinston, has been enlarged by the addition of three members. On Sunday, April 25, the pastor took occasion to clearly explain the reasons why we as Presbyterians "believe in the government of this Church by sessions"—"to be founded on and agreeable to the word of God." Messrs Malcolm McIntyre, Donald Leitch, and Angus McKimley, after answering the prescribed questions, were then solemnly ordained to the eldership. The plans and specifications for the new church are out, and tenders ask for.

In commencing his fifth year of work as pastor of Chalmers church, Guelph, Rev. R. J. M. Glasford made a special mention of the fact in the course of the morning service on the first Sabbath of the month. A high tribute was paid the congregation, because of their fidelity to Presbyterian principles, their loyalty to the church, and their liberality to its schemes. The congregation had never used adventitious aids in the doing of its work, and its whole history has been one of quiet success and steady progress, until today it stood in the front ranks of the denominations in the Dominion. Of the influence and kindness of his predecessor, the venerable Dr. Wardrop, Mr. Glasford spoke in warmest terms. During the four years of the present pastorate the congregation had contributed the handsome sum of \$22,000.83, of which \$15,511.13 had been given for missionary and benevolent purposes.

Three hundred and ten names had been added to the members' roll, while the pastor had officiated at 37 marriages, 58 funerals and 91 baptisms. The resident membership now is 615.

The Presbyterian Church at the North-West Arm, N. S., has been thoroughly renovated and is much improved in appearance. Dedication services were held Sunday evening, May 2, and the name of "Bethany" formally given to the church. Revs. Dr. Currie, Dr. Gordon and Dr. Forrest officiated, and the services, which were of a very interesting character, were enjoyed by a large audience. It has been decided to form the Presbyterian stations of the North-West Arm, Rockingham, Goodwood and Greenhead into a congregation, with power to call a settled pastor. Rev. Dr. Forrest has been appointed by the Presbytery of Halifax to moderate in a call.

Seldom it is that a pastor is privileged to minister to a congregation continuously for over thirty years. Such, however, is the privilege enjoyed by Rev. Dr. Thompson, pastor of St. Andrew's Presbyterian church, Sarnia. The last Sabbath in April was the thirty-first anniversary of the induction of Rev. Dr. Thompson into the pastorate of St. Andrew's congregation and the services on that day seemed more than usually interesting. At the morning service Rev. Dr. Thompson officiated and preached an eloquent and exceedingly interesting sermon. Rev. Mr. White of Deer Park, Toronto, occupied the pulpit at the evening service preaching an impressive, practical and highly appropriate sermon. Special music was rendered by the choir at both services. The floral decorations at the church were very beautiful and consisted of a profusion of Easter lilies and evergreens.

Three services were held last Sabbath in Cooke's Presbyterian Church, Toronto, in celebration of the anniversary of its establishment. Each of the services drew a crowded congregation. At the morning service Dr. Gregg preached an impressive sermon. The gathering in the afternoon, when Rev. W. J. McCaughan, pastor of St. Andrew's, preached, being very large. Mr. McCaughan chose as the text of his discourse the following exhortation from the 3rd chapter of Revelation: "Remember therefore, how thou hast received and heard, and hold fast, and repent." The words were part of the message given to St. John on Patmos, to deliver to the church at Sardis. The minister, in beginning his remarks, drew a comparison between Sardis and Toronto. This ancient city was a great commercial metropolis, the seat of many industries and the centre of immense wealth. To-day a few ruined columns alone suggested its former magnificence, while its site was occupied by the straggling huts of miserable fishermen. The cause of its decay was its failure to grasp and discharge its responsibilities to religion and God. In the present age, Toronto, with her importance as a great centre, should not fail to guard the spiritual heritage which had been received from the past. The preacher regarded the exhortation in three aspects. We were to remember what our spiritual heritage was, and how it had been received; we were to retain this heritage unimpaired, and we were to repent of defections from the path of duty and right. The discourse was listened to with the closest attention throughout. In the evening an excellent sermon was given by Rev. Dr. Hall, of Maghera, Ireland.

The twenty-fifth anniversary of the pastorate of Rev. Dr. Fletcher was celebrated at McNab Presbyterian Church Hamilton, last Sabbath with the Rev. W. T. Hertridge of Ottawa as preacher. In the evening Ottawa's eloquent divine discourse on the necessary separation of the seeker after truth from the general stream of life, but showed that such separation lay in the spirit and not in the "External manner." The Sunday school celebrated the anniversary in the afternoon with music and address.

At their 50th anniversary on Sunday, May 2, the congregation of Knox Church, St. Catharines, turned out en masse, and filled the church to listen to the able and interesting sermons given by Principal Grant, of Queen's University, Kingston. The congregation spared no pains in decorating the interior of the church, the pulpit