

greatest obstacles to the progress of the Church. The finished product of the traffic is a wreck, physically, socially, morally and spiritually.

Second, the traffic is not decreasing, as some suppose, nor is there any sign that its attendant evils are abating. According to the official returns, drinking has increased in Ontario by thirty per cent. during the past three years. Last year \$50,000 more were spent on intoxicants than in any previous year. Should this traffic, therefore, be allowed to continue, the indications are that it will become more strongly entrenched, more aggressive and, in its effects, more baleful, as the years go by.

Third, if a prohibitory act were passed, the bar-room would be out-lawed and the treating system, which is so pronounced a bane of modern society, would probably be abolished. When the bar-room is taken away, one of the most powerful and seductive temptations is removed.

Fourth, the act which will soon be submitted to the electorate is probably as perfect a piece of prohibitory legislation as it is possible to frame at the present time. It has been drafted with the greatest care, it has passed through the Legislatures of Manitoba and Ontario, and every effort has been made to avoid the mistakes in the legislation of the past.

Fifth, should this Act come into effect, there appears to be no reason why it should not be fairly well enforced. Thirty millions of people in the United States are now under prohibition; we who are British subjects have surely not less respect for law and order than they. This Act has been declared to be good law by the Privy Council. If therefore, a measure which is beneficent in its design, which has been drafted with the greatest care and which has been sanctioned by a large body of the electorate, cannot be tolerably well enforced, our country is in a deplorable condition, and we may well weep over its wickedness.

Sixth, the conditions imposed by the Government in taking the vote are such that the elector who votes against this Act, or who abstains from voting, declares himself in favor of the traffic with all its attendant evils. There is no alternative. Let this issue be clearly understood. If this measure is not sustained by the people, the Government would be justified in concluding that they desire the liquor traffic to continue. Unless an elector is prepared to assume his share of responsibility for the evils caused by the drink traffic—and these evils are simply indescribable—he should cast his ballot in favor of this Act.

Seventh, Christians should vote as they pray. The man who prays "Hallowed be Thy name," should not vote for an institution wherein the name of God is so often and so shockingly blasphemed. The man who prays, "Thy kingdom come," should not vote for a traffic which almost every branch of the Christian Church has pronounced one of the greatest barriers in the way of the coming of the Kingdom. The man who prays, "Lead us not into temptation," should not vote for an institution—the bar-room—which stands as one of the most alluring temptations on the street.

In the name of the Presbytery of Kingston, whose humble servant I am, let me repeat that the mind of the Kirk Sessions is almost unanimous in favor of prohibitory legislation, and let me also express the hope that the members and adherents of our Church within the bounds of the Presbytery will faithfully discharge their duty on the 4th of December next. Yours faithfully,

W. S. MAC TAVISH,
Moderator.

Deseronto, Oct. 21, 1902.

Ottawa.

The event of the week in city Presbyterian circles was the appearance of Rev. R. E. Knowles of Galt in the Stewarton pulpit, to preach anniversary sermons to his former congregation. At both services the church was crowded to excess, and all greatly enjoyed the message of the gifted preacher. Before the close of the evening service Rev. R. Herbison, the pastor of the church, express the feeling of appreciation throughout the congregation at having with them their first pastor, whom he said might be called the father of Stewarton church. Rev. Mr. Knowles in an earnest response to the sentiments expressed by Mr. Herbison spoke of the pleasure afforded him in once more addressing his first and much-beloved congregation. His greatest hope was that they would continue to prosper in the future as in the past.

The young people of Erskine church held an enjoyable literary evening Friday night. This is the first of a series of such evenings which are expected to be attended with much profit and pleasure. The lives and works of Wordsworth, Burns and Goldsmith were compared. Mr. J. Leyden upheld Wordsworth, Mr. Gordon Watt, Burns, and Mr. G. O. Rice, Goldsmith. Mr. H. McGillivray and Mr. T. Boweman acted as critics.

At the meeting of Bank street congregation, held last week, to consider the resignation of Rev. Dr. Moore, it was unanimously resolved, on recommendation from the session and board of managers to grant Dr. Moore a retiring allowance of \$1,000 per year for six years. Many of the speakers referred in kindly terms to the Doctor's wise and faithful services; and Messrs. A. W. Fraser and D. B. Gardner were deputed to appear before the Ottawa Presbytery at its next meeting on behalf of the congregation, when the date upon which the resignation is to come into effect will be decided upon.

Rev. Jos. White conducted the service in Erskine church late Sunday morning, and Rev. D. M. McLeod of Billings' Bridge in the evening. Rev. A. E. Mitchell, who has been in New York for the past ten days, is expected home this week. The generous and energetic people of this church are moving for the erection of a manse. Meetings have already been held looking to the carrying out of this laudable undertaking. Mr. Mitchell and family well deserve all the kindness shown them by Erskine congregation.

"Kindness to those in distress will secure our own blessedness," was the theme of Rev. D. M. Ramsay's sermon in Knox church last Sabbath morning. Mr. Ramsay pointed out that assistance of the poor and distressed was the greatest work of the Christian. The poor who have not been so fortunate as the rich should always be recognized and assisted by the latter class. The fact that they have not the gifts of the world does not alter the fact that they are human, and it is the duty of every Christian who has in his power to assist his fellow-man who has been unfortunate or on whom the blessings of life has not fallen.

Northern Ontario.

Anniversary services to mark the third year of the induction of Rev. P. W. Anderson into the pastorate, were held in Knox church, Shelburne, on Sabbath last.

Rev. D. Currie, of Keady, preached at the annual Harvest Home thanksgiving services at St. Paul's church, Warton, on Sabbath last. The usual festival was held on Monday evening.

The congregation at Pike's Bay has suffered a great loss by the removal of their organist, Miss Kyles, who before her departure was presented with a purse of gold as a token of appreciation of her services.

The W.F.M.S. of Erskine church, Dundalk, held their annual Foreign Mission Rally on the evening of Thanksgiving Day with a gratifying measure of success. Rev. A. P. Lidingham of Dhar, Central India, was the speaker of the evening.

On Sabbath the 12th inst., Rev. R.W. Dickie, of Orangeville, exchanged pulpits with Rev. Mr. Teemer and conducted anniversary services at Mono East. Revs. H. Matheson of Caledon East and J. R. Bell, of Laveril, exchanged pulpits the same day.

The young people of St. Andrew's congregation, Orangeville, have reorganized the Young People's Association and have elected officers as follows: Hon. Pres., Rev. R. W. Dickie; Pres., Mr. E. H. Sproule; Vice-Pres., Mr. H. H. Smith; Sec. treas., Mr. R. G. Harshaw.

Rev. S. H. Eastman, of Erskine church, Meaford, preached a special sermon a fortnight ago to young men; and his discourse, which bore the marks of thoughtful preparation, manifested his heart's strong desire for the spiritual welfare of that class in his congregation.

On the 3rd inst, Presbyterianism at Alton lost a noble son in the person of Mr. Thomas Russell who peacefully passed to his home of rest at the patriarchal age of 100 years, 4 months and 10 days. The funeral was very largely attended and an impressive service was held in the Presbyterian church when the pastor, Rev. Geo. McKay, preached an appropriate sermon from Rev 14: 13. Mr. Russell, who was born near Edinburgh, united with the church when 16 years of age. At the age of 32

he came to Canada and settled in the first house built in Alton. Soon after his arrival he opened in a barn, the first Sabbath School in that section. There being no Presbyterian church there, he joined the Congregational and for 30 years served as clerk and deacon. Subsequently, he assisted in the formation of a Presbyterian congregation and was elected elder. In secular affairs he filled the position of school trustee, councillor and reeve; he was also a Justice of the peace and a Commissioner of the High Court of Justice.

Quebec.

From a recent Witness we clip the following interesting account of a memorable event; The jubilee of the Presbyterian cause in Joliette was enthusiastically celebrated last Sunday by the opening of a beautiful new church edifice. The little band of Protestants there, English and French, have been most active during the past year and have greatly strengthened their hold upon the community. The men who have been foremost in church work are the men who are also foremost in public industries, and these men stand before the community as men of the highest integrity and worth. The strength of the cause therefore is not to be measured by the number of families or communicants, but rather by the strength of influence exerted by men who are dead in earnest in the advancement of the gospel in their midst. The new building is a credit to the town and will prove a great boon to the work, both in accommodation and comfort, and also as a witness to the strength and earnestness of the Protestant cause. The Rev. G. Colborne Heine, of Chalmers Church, preached an impressive and helpful sermon in the morning. The Rev. Mr. Morin and pastor, the Rev. J. H. Paradis, assisted in the service. In the evening, the Rev. Mr. Morin preached in French, which was understood by all the English-speaking people, followed by addresses by the Rev. Messrs. Heine, Cruikshank and Paradis. An interesting feature of the morning service was the reading by Mr. N. M. Carswell of a brief history of the fifty years gone by together with an encouraging financial statement. The church was erected at the cost of \$3,500, and will seat between 350 and 400 persons. Some eighteen hundred dollars have been subscribed and partially paid without any assistance from without, save a few voluntary subscriptions. An appeal for help to raise the entire indebtedness will be made forthwith and friends of this important and deserving cause cannot do better than lend a helping hand. Contributions will be received by the Rev. J. H. Paradis, pastor, or by Mr. Copping or Mr. Carswell.

TO MINISTERS.

The attention of ministers is directed to the action of last General Assembly regarding rates to the Aged and Infirm Ministers' Fund (See Assembly Minute volume, age 67, sec. 3, a and b). A number of ministers, in the last week or two, in paying their rates, are sending the same sum as they have been accustomed to do, whereas last Assembly effected a change regarding rates. It is requested that ministers comply with the new regulation, and, in forwarding their rate, state the year of their connection with the Fund, and their age at that time.

SPECIAL TO MINISTERS.

The Empire Loan & Savings Company, Temple Building, Toronto, offers excellent opportunities to ministers to add to their incomes by selling the stock of the company. Stock certificates guaranteed and paying 6% semi-annually. Kindly write for particulars when you read this.

JUDGE EDWARD MORGAN, W. M. GEMMEL,
President, Manager.

TO CONSUMPTIVES.

The undersigned having been restored to health by simple means, after suffering for several years with a severe lung affection, and that dread disease Consumption, is anxious to make known to his fellow sufferers means of cure. To those who desire it, he will cheerfully send (free of charge) a copy of the prescription used, which they will find a sure cure for Consumption, Asthma, Catarrh, Bronchitis and all throat and lung Maladies. He hopes all sufferers will try his remedy, as it is invaluable. Those desiring the prescription, which will cost them nothing, and may prove a blessing, will please address,
Rev. EDWARD A. WILSON, Brooklyn, New York