

Ministers and Churches.

Our Toronto Letter.

The air is full of petty strife in connection with the approaching visit of the Duke of Cornwall and York. The civic committee and the citizens' committee, and the executives of the committees, and all other bodies who have anything to do with the matter, are so busy fighting that the Royal visitor will be here and away before the programme for his reception has been fixed upon. It would be laughable were it not so pitiable. There is genuine indignation at the proposal to exploit the guest of the Province and of the City as the enterprising showman exploits a freak, charging a good round fee to get within seeing distance of him. The idea originated with the military, than whom there are no greater snobs above ground. It is to be hoped the protest of the people will have the effect of checking this latest piece of folly.

There is a praiseworthy disposition to spare the royal visitor the tedium of listening to unnecessary addresses. The various federated Colleges have wisely agreed to present one address, which will be signed by representatives from each. Doubtless some would have liked the prestige of a special visit from the future sovereign, but the limited time at his disposal happily gave him the opportunity to decline any such proposals. The outward show of loyalty will not be wanting, and we believe the spirit of true loyalty to the representative of royalty will manifest itself in many little ways that do not appear upon the surface. It is anticipated that the courteous presence of the Duke of York will gather still closer about the throne of the British Empire the hearts of the people of Canada, and bind more closely together all the peoples who own the British sway.

The sympathy of our citizens with the people of the United States in the present sorrow is genuine. The flags float at half-mast, the atmosphere of business is subdued, men speak in tones of real respect for the man who has been so basely slain, and of indignation at the dastardly act by which he was stricken down. It is at times such as these that the better side, and the stronger side of life comes uppermost. There are petty littlenesses in the best of men, but in great crises these are smothered beneath the greater things that after all move a nation. The little men elbow themselves forward when things are running smoothly, but they drop back to their proper place at such a time as this. And Canada bows her head in true sympathy when the man who has represented the people of the United States for five years is being borne to his last resting place.

Many of the ministers throughout the City, on Sunday, and we presume throughout Canada, devoted one service to the death of the President of the neighboring Republic. His life has been such that it furnished material for fitting comment. He has come from the people, and from a strong stock. Behind his own strong life lie the strong convictions of the Puritan and the Covenantor forefathers. Steadily he has risen, and though he was obliged to give up some cherished ideals, he made the most of the opportunities presented, till at length he was chosen to represent his people in the position which is the highest in their gift. He filled that place of great trust well, and was again chosen, but had only entered upon its duties when he was stricken down. It is a mysterious providence, but God does not work blindly, though our eyes are often not able to follow the line along which His plan unfolds itself.

The Presbytery meets this week, on Tuesday evening, in the Church of the Covenant to consider the resignation of the Rev. James McCaul, the pastor of that congregation. For many months Mr. McCaul was in very poor health, and at one time his life was despaired of, but he has recovered, and is now in good health again. Yet he feels that he must seek a charge where there is less worry than in one of the young city charges, where the struggle to rise against the usual difficulties attending the development of a congregation towards self-support are such as to tax the energies of the strongest. It is probable that the resignation will be accepted.

The Brockville Presbytery held a public meeting at Winchester when addresses were delivered by Rev. D. Strachan, of Brockville, on "Baptism," and by Rev. A. Cameron, on the "Lord's Supper." The after discussion of both subjects was interesting and highly useful.

Western Ontario.

Rev. James Hamilton has been preaching at Avonbank.

Presbytery of Bruce meets at Paisley on 10th December, at 10.30 a. m.

Wingham Presbyterian church will in future be lighted by electric light.

Five hundred dollars are being spent in repairing and renovating the Alma church.

Rev. J. McInnes, Thamesville, has been elected moderator of Chatham Presbytery.

Rev. W. T. Hill, of Arthur, is going to the Guelph Hospital to be treated for throat trouble.

Rev. Mr. Tolmie, of Windsor, conducted anniversary services in the Tiebury church last Sunday.

Rev. Dr. Guthrie, Baltimore, is paying a flying visit to his father, Mr. D. Guthrie, K. C., Guelph.

The next meeting of Chatham Presbytery will be held in First Church, Chatham, on 12th Nov. at 10 a. m.

The next meeting of London Presbytery will be held in St. Thomas on 10th November, at 10.30 a. m.

Last Sunday anniversary services were conducted at Knowlton by Rev. Dr. McCrae, of Westminster.

Knox church, Dundas, was reopened last Sunday morning by Rev. W. J. Clark, of the First church, London.

A six years old son of Rev. A. McWilliams, of Hamilton, was severely injured by being run into by a buggy. No bones were broken.

Rev. F. D. Roxburgh, M. A., of Norwood, has been inducted into the pastoral charge of Smithville by the Hamilton Presbytery.

Rev. Mr. Fowle, of Erin, preached in the Ballinacraig church last Sunday morning. His sermon was much appreciated by all who heard him.

Rev. Peter Straith, of Innerkip, has been visiting his brother-in-law, Rev. W. M. Martin, B. D., and occupied Cavan church pulpit Sabbath morning.

Rev. A. H. Kippen, who has occupied the pulpit of Knox church, Stratford, during the vacation of Rev. M. L. Leitch, has gone to Clairemont on a visit.

Rev. J. J. Brown, of Bothwell, accepts the call to Tilsonburg; and Rev. J. McInnes, Thamesville, has been appointed interim moderator of the charge thus made vacant.

After the ordination of Mr. W. G. Russell the people of Motherwell presented him with a well filled purse closing with an affectionate worded address. The recipient made an appropriate and feeling reply.

Miss Dow, returned missionary from Honan, China, gave an interesting address on her work in the Ballinacraig church at a union meeting of the ladies of the Methodist and Presbyterian churches on Friday afternoon.

Rev. R. E. Knowles has returned from Europe and occupied his pulpit in Knox church, Galt, at both services last Sunday. The evening service was a memorial service to the late President McKinley, and Mr. Knowles preached upon "The lessons from the great tragedy."

Chatham Presbytery appointed the following Conveners of Standing Committees: Statistics, The Clerk; Home Missions, Dr. Battisby; Ch. L. and W., Dr. Jamieson; Sabbath Schools, Mr. McGregor; Y. P. S., Mr. Radford; Foreign Missions, Mr. Argo; Aged and Infirm Ministers, Mr. McInnes.

At the earnest request of Chatham Presbytery Mr. A. A. Lang has agreed to remain in Morpeth six months longer; and Rev. M. Knowles has been appointed moderator at Buxton. It was recommended that a grant of \$5.00 per Sabbath be asked for this station, and that Rev. J. B. Scott be requested to take charge for the winter.

Rev. Mr. Drummond has been granted leave to moderate in a call to Aylmer and Springfield if necessary. The following are conveners of standing committees in London Presbytery: Church Life and Work, James Wilson; Augmentation, J. Currie; Sabbath Schools, J. H. Barnett; Examination of Students, W. J. Clarke; Young People's Societies, H. W. Reede; Statistics, J. H. Courtenay; Schemes of the Church, George Gilmore; Remits of Assembly, James Steven; Finance, D. Kelso; Supply of Vacancies, W. A. Wylie; Home Missions, A. J. McGillivray.

At last meeting of Lanark Presbytery Rev. W. J. Clark reported on the Century Fund, showing the amount subscribed within bounds of Presbytery to be \$28,732 for the common fund. Of this amount \$26,098.77 have been sent to general treasurer. The Presbytery will aim to bring the common fund subscription up to \$30,000.

In the discussion of the Sabbath School matters in Bruce Presbytery a motion was passed urging the ministers of the Presbytery to bring the matter of Sabbath School work and the responsibility of parents prominently before the congregations. The recommendation contained in the communication of Mr. Peck, agent establishing of Sabbath School Teachers' Institutes was not approved.

On motion of Rev. Mr. Kelso, a resolution appreciative of the long and faithful services of Rev. John Milloy was adopted. In part it was as follows: Mr. Milloy has been a member of this court for 30 years, ever ready and willing to do the work assigned him, and by his courteous, unassuming bearing he endeared himself to every member. During all these years he ministered to one congregation, taking the deepest interest in the welfare of his people. Painsstaking in pulpit preparation, faithful in the discharge of duty, and devoted to his pastorate, he had the satisfaction of knowing that his services were duly appreciated by an attached flock, the utmost harmony and goodwill always prevailing between minister and people. His ministry was owned and blessed by God in the upbuilding of the church, in the conversion of sinners and edification of saints. When the infirmities of 80 years began to tell upon his strength he felt it to be his duty to tender his resignation, and retire from the active duties of the ministry. The Presbytery, in saying farewell to their esteemed brother, pray that the blessing of God may rest upon him, and that when his work on earth is done, an abundant entrance may be granted him into the presence of Lord, where there is fulness of joy.

The last issue of the Walkerton Herald contains an interesting history of Knox church in that town, which is about to celebrate its jubilee. Their first church was a log structure and was raised on July 19th, 1851. The first sermon was preached in it by Rev. John Duff, of Elora. The late Dr. Barrie, of Eramosa, was appointed by the Presbytery of Wellington to preach, and organize the congregation. The church was organized on Sept. 14th, 1851, under the name of "The United Presbyterian Church, Durham Line, Brant." The first communion was dispensed on Dec. 21st, 1851, by Rev. Robert, now Dr. Torrance. The first regular minister of the congregation was Rev. Robert C. Moffat, now Secretary of the Upper Canada Tract Society. Dr. Moffat had charge also of the West Brant and North Brant congregations, and was also the founder of congregations in Hanover, West Bentinck, Malcolm and West Brant. In 1869 the old kirk began service. In 1873 a congregation was organized, and the late Rev. Geo. Bell, LL.D., was the first pastor. This congregation was known as St. Paul's, while the old congregation went under the name of "Free St. John's." In 1882 Rev. John Morley succeeded Dr. Bell, and was in turn succeeded in 1884 by Rev. A. Beemer. In 1886 the congregations were united under the name of Knox church, and Rev. Dr. Jno James was their minister until 1894. The next minister was Rev. Donald Guthrie, son of Mr. Donald Guthrie, of Guelph, who was succeeded by J. S. Conning, now in charge of the congregation.

The thirteenth annual convention of the Ontario Christian Endeavor Union will be held in Brockville on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, Oct. 1, 2, and 3. The president of the Union is Rev. J. S. Henderson, Hensall, one of our ministers. A strong programme has been prepared. Rev. N. A. McLeod, of this city, will lead the "Quiet Hour" service, and Rev. W. McIntosh will speak on "The Spirit of Consecration." Mr. J. R. Lavell, M. P., Smith's Falls, will read a paper on "The Revival of Civic Righteousness." Rev. Dr. Carmen, of Toronto, is expected to preach the convention sermon; and Rev. C. E. Elman, new field secretary of the C. E. Society, has promised to be present.

Brockville Presbytery has sustained the call from Merrickville and Jasper to Rev. A. J. McMullen, of Springfield. His induction will take place at an early date.