

LONDON AND VICINITY.

Elder G. W. Armstrong, of Knox church, London South, recently conducted public worship in the Delaware Congregation, in the absence of the pastor, Rev. R. W. Leitch, who is from home on account of ill-health.

The Rev. Wm. J. Clark, of First Presbyterian Church, London, has been called to the pastorate of St. Andrew's Church, Westmount, the beautiful western suburb of Montreal. Mr. Clark succeeded the late Dr. Proudfoot in 1890, and has consequently given nearly seventeen years to First Church, his first charge. It is thought probable by some that he may accept this call.

The liberality of many smaller country congregations, though not aggregating large sums from year to year, show commendable liberality, not "by fits and starts," but by steady habit and systematic giving. The small charge of Melbourne and Riverside, consisting of about 70 families, Rev. T. R. Shearer, pastor, contributed last year \$1,650 for all purposes, an average of over \$23 per family.

At a special meeting of the Presbytery of London last week, the Rev. D. I. Ellison accepted a call from Stanley street church, Ayr. The charge of Duff church, Dunwich, and Tait's Corners congregations will be declared vacant on the second Sabbath of March, and Rev. James Malcolm, Dutton, will act as moderator of session during the vacancy.

At the same meeting, a call from the congregations of Knox and Duff churches, Puslinch, in the Presbytery of Guelph, to the Rev. S. Lawrence, of Chalmers and McBride congregations, was considered. The pleadings on both sides were heard. Pending Mr. Lawrence's making up his mind, the final issuing of the matter was deferred till the Presbytery meets again on the 5th of March.

The new church is a very neat building of red brick, and will be a creditable ornament to that part of the city in which it is located. It is ornamented with two very beautiful memorial windows, both of which were donated by members of the congregation. The reading desk and chairs with Bible were also donated. It is hoped the cause of Presbyterianism will be greatly advanced in the district by the erection of this attractive edifice, and the debt upon it be rapidly lifted.

First Presbyterian church, Westminster, Rev. D. L. McCrae, Ph.D., pastor, has suffered great losses recently, in common with many of our rural congregations, in numbers and revenue, through removals of some of the most useful families to other parts of the country. Still, the recent annual meeting was of a most encouraging character, and the reports submitted highly creditable. They contributed nearly \$1,600 for ordinary congregational purposes, while they gave almost as much—\$1,350, for missions and benevolent objects.

On Sabbath, 10th instant, the last sermon in connection with the public worship of the congregation of Chalmers' church, London, was preached in the old building, which the congregation has used since its organization, by the pastor, Rev. Walter Moffat. The handsome new building, which the congregation have erected at a cost of \$12,000, was formally opened on Thursday evening following, in the presence of a large congregation. Revs. Dr. Ross and Mr. J. G. Stuart took part in the service, but the sermon was delivered by the Rev. Wm. J. Clark, under the wing of whose congregation of First Presbyterian church, the Chalmers' congregation has been fostered from its beginning, nearly ten years ago.

EASTERN ONTARIO.

We regret to notice that Rev. T. G. and Mrs. Thompson, of Vankeek Hill, have been seriously ill from la grippe.

In giving the additions to the membership of Woodville Church, as the result of the revival services conducted by Rev. James Murray, of Toronto, the number was given as three instead of thirty.

At a meeting of the managers of Knox Church, Beaverton, it was decided to build a new manse. The building will be erected on the lot immediately south of the church, a very good location, as well as very convenient for all parties.

St. Andrew's Huntsville, is making substantial progress under the ministry of Rev. G. B. McLennan. The reports presented to the annual meeting were in every respect satisfactory. The membership now stands at 170; and the total receipts for the year were \$2,300.

At a special meeting of the Lanark and Renfrew Presbytery, Rev. G. A. Woodside accepted the call to Division Street Church, Owen Sound. He preached his farewell sermon in St. Andrew's Church, Carleton Place, last Sunday; and his induction at Owen Sound will take place on 5th March.

At the annual meeting of St. Andrew's Church, Appleton, the treasurer, Mr. James Syms, reported receipts as \$837.68. The Home Mission Society gave \$37.32 and the W.F.M.S. \$87.75. The Mission Band gave \$10.18. Mr. Syme was re-elected for 1907, as was the secretary, Mr. Frank Paul and Mr. John Stewart were elected to the Board of Management. The pastor, Rev. G. T. Bayne, presided.

Rev. William Meikle has been requested by the Evangelistic Committee of the Presbytery Synod of Toronto and Kingston to become Synod Evangelist. Mr. Meikle has devoted much of his ministerial life to evangelistic work, for which his experience and his natural talents both fit him well, and in which he has had remarkable success. He is a graduate of Queen's University in arts, and of Princeton in theology.

The annual meeting of the Victoria Harbor church was held last week. The various reports were encouraging. The financial report showed that \$1,800 had been raised during the year, for various purposes. The following are the managers for the ensuing year: Capt. Hill, Messrs. J. Youngston, A. Jones, N. McMillan, R. Henderson, A. Hutson, I. Wardell, R. Martinson, P. Schissler, F. Waldie, and J. Duckworth.

The anniversary services of Hastings Presbyterian Church were ably conducted by the Rev. J. G. Potter, B.A., of St. Andrew's, Peterboro, to the delight and profit of large congregations both morning and evening. Mr. Potter's discourses were earnest, practical and eloquent appeals for the betterment of every-day life. A song service, enjoyed by a crowded church, was a pleasing feature of the first part of the evening service. This is the third anniversary Mr. Potter has conducted at Hastings. No preacher is more welcome.

Last Sunday week the 62nd anniversary of Knox Church, Perth, was held, when the preacher was Rev. E. A. Mitchell, of Erskine Church, Ottawa, who preached vigorous and timely sermons morning and evening. On Monday evening a social gathering was held which was well attended. The programme consisted of selections of music by the choir and organist and short addresses by the Revs. A. H. Scott and Dr. Benson. The Rev. Mr. Mitchell, the speaker of the evening, made a very happy address, in which were mingled humor, pathos and inspiring appeals. It was found that the offerings on Sunday and Monday amounted to \$1,005, and this, with several sums promised, will be sufficient to wipe out the indebtedness on the church.

A very interesting lecture on the life and influence of the poet Burns was given in Immanuel Church, Aultsville, by Rev. N. A. McLeod, of the First Presbyterian Church, Brockville. The lecturer referred in eloquent terms to the beauty and truthfulness of Burns' poetry, and gave a vivid word picture of the great results that have been achieved by the Scottish race. The musical part of the programme was presented by the choir of the First Presbyterian Church, Brockville, and was in keeping with the lecture, most of the selections being Scotch songs. The proceeds of the lecture were \$27.

The people of Leaskdale were delighted to have the Hon. Senator Douglass officiate in the morning and evening at the opening of their new church. Forty years ago he was the pastor of the congregation. Rev. James Fraser, of Cambridge, preached in the afternoon, and at all the services the church was filled to its utmost capacity. On Monday evening such a large audience assembled that an overflow meeting was held in the Sunday School room. The Lindsay Presbytery was represented by several members, who gave congratulatory addresses. The church is a substantial brick structure, with basement fitted for Sunday School work. The people have enthusiastically entered into the work that a debt of only \$150 remains. This debt, it is expected, will be wiped out by the first of April. A new organ has been ordered and will be in place in a few weeks.

Says The Packet: The reports presented at the annual meeting of the Orillia congregation (Rev. R. N. Grant, D.D., pastor) showed that the year 1906 had been a most successful one from every standpoint. The finances of the congregation were never in a more flourishing condition. The receipts of the general fund amounted to \$4,870, made up as follows: Envelope collections, \$3,301; loose collections, \$1,027; Thanksgiving Day, \$159; other receipts, \$63; balance from 1905, \$317. After paying all running expenses, including \$279 for painting the church and manse, the balance had been increased to \$764. Of this \$350 was voted to missions, and \$350 towards reducing the mortgage indebtedness. This indebtedness had already been reduced by \$600 during the year, which brought it down to \$6,400. The receipts for Mission Schemes were \$573, and it is expected to increase this considerably before the end of this month, when the books close. The reports of the various organizations showed that they had also made considerable contributions to missions, both in cash and in goods.

Rev. D. Anderson of Burlington, was the speaker at last Monday's meeting of the Hamilton Ministrial Association. His paper was on "The Theology of Tennyson's 'In Memoriam.'"

In some Hindoo temples the collection is made by an elephant, who goes round with a basket. No one, it is said, has ever ventured to feign unconsciousness when the basket came in his vicinity.

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