

## THE CHURCH ABROAD.

The session at the Edinburgh college was opened by Prof. Laidlaw with an address on the promotion of practical holiness.

Rev. Dr. J. Cameron Lees conducted divine service in Balmoral castle on Sabbath week, and dined with the Queen afterwards.

Manchester Presbytery has disapproved of the synod's remit proposing to ordain probationers that have no pastoral charge.

A mural tablet with medallion portrait has been erected in the vestibule of Dowan hill church, Glasgow, in memory of Rev. Mr. Lawrie.

Rev. A. F. Forroast began the eleventh year of his monthly sermons to young men in Ronfield street church, Glasgow, last Sabbath. The church was crowded.

Rev. William M. White of Echt, Aberdeenshire, gained the first prize for metrical translation from Gaelic poetry into English at the Mod, which was held in Glasgow last week.

Dumfries synod has been addressed by Rev. Dr. J. Hood Wilson on home missions, Rev. Alex. Lee on the Highlands and Islands, and Rev. Wm. Stevenson on women's foreign missions.

A brass tablet is to be erected in the church at Blantyre, Africa, by the members of the guild in Edinburgh in memory of the late Dr. William Mackenzie Scott, medical missionary.

In the guild membership of 25,608 there are 5,250 total abstainers, an increase during the past year of 1,618. Professor Charteris would like to see more athletic, literary and botanical clubs.

Dr. Landsborough was ordained as a medical missionary by Irvine presbytery in his father's church, Kilmarnock, being about to proceed to Formosa in connection with the Presbyterian Church of England.

Among legacies by the late Mrs. Agnes Snodgrass, of Kilmarnock, are £500 each to the aged ministers, augmentation, and foreign mission funds, and £2,000 to King street church, of which she was a member.

Prof. Blaikie was one of the speakers at the meetings in Aberdeen university in connection with the opening of the extension of Marischal college, of which his father, Provost Blaikie, was the chief rebuilder in 1836.

Rev. Andrew Donald of Blackford has been presented with an address and a Bible by Auchterarder presbytery on his jubilee. The congregation has erected a marble font in the church in commemoration of the event.

Rev. Dr. Huntly of Rajputana stated at the missionary meeting in Glasgow that he had once partaken of the opium cup as a seal of brotherhood with a Rajput chief. He denies Sir William Moore's statement that opium takes the same place at the tables of the Rajput chiefs that wine does at our tables.

The Free Presbyterian Church of Scotland has been joined by the congregation of John Knox's Kirk of Scotland tabernacle, Glasgow, formed in 1852 by the late Rev. Jonathan Ranken Anderson who seceded from this church in consequence of innovation. Since his death in 1850 there have been no pastor and no sealing ordinances, services being conducted by the elders.

The annual conference of the Young men's guild was held in Paisley. On Sabbath evening the sermon was preached in the Abbey church by Rev. Prof. Paterson of Aberdeen University. At the public meeting on Tuesday evening Sir Charles Dalrymple presided, and addresses were given by Prof. Charteris, Rev. J. A. Graham, Sir J. Stirling Maxwell, M.P., and Mr. Alexander Moffat, advocate.

Prof. Calderwood, in a lecture recommending reunion of Scottish Presbyterians, remarked that notwithstanding the divisions there had been no damage to unity of faith, government and worship, and there had been a healthy rivalry and a true progress in thought and feeling. The antagonistic convictions as to state relations must live as distinct forces in the Scottish church, but should not perpetuate severance. A new movement would put a strain on a three churches, but it would be a strain they would profit by.

## The Boys' Brigade in Canada.

THIS Christian organization, having for its object the winning of boys to Christ and enlisting them loyally in His service and as members of His church, is making rapid advances throughout the Dominion, having in six months increased from seventy-five companies and 2,639 boys to 120 companies and about 5,000 boys at the present time. The first annual returns from companies are now being received by the secretary, and in almost every case the officers and pastors testify to the good that is being done; reporting a general improvement in the conduct of the boys, and a very gratifying number of additions to the roll of the churches from their ranks. The Boys' Brigade embraces all denominations, each company being wholly controlled and officered by the church or Christian Association with which it is connected; but there is a central office, or headquarters, where the companies are enrolled and whence are issued the printed forms, pamphlets, etc., that are used by the companies; and where all information may be obtained with regard to the objects of the Brigade and the best way to organize and manage a company. From the headquarters also an influence is exerted upon all the officers of companies, by way of encouraging and helping them to maintain a high standard of efficiency in their companies and especially to keep steadily before their minds the true object and high ideal of the Boys' Brigade; where this is done the results, as a rule, are satisfactory, and friends are raised up to help the work; where this is not done, it is not surprising that the results are unsatisfactory, and the Brigade is discredited before the public. Officers should therefore feel, not only their responsibility for their own individual company, but remember that the public will judge the Brigade as a whole, by what they see in the local company. The secretary devotes his whole time to the work, which is rapidly increasing in volume; he is at present visiting all the companies in the Maritime Provinces and Quebec, and holding meetings with a view to interest the public more fully, and to secure subscribers to the headquarters fund. Office and printing expenses have to be met, and the work is hampered for want of money. Subscriptions will be thankfully received and receipts issued for the same by Mr. T. W. Nisbet, Brigade Secretary, Headquarters Office, Sarnia, Ont. All contributions will also be acknowledged in the Boys' Brigade Gazette.

"There is an intense need amongst boys of Christian help and guidance," in the Brigade boys are brought into very close touch with their officers, who are thus able to understand their need and to supply the want. Will not all fathers and mothers, and all Christian Endeavorers help on this great and hopeful work for the boys of our land!

## Obituary.

It is with feelings of deep regret that we record the sudden death upon October 19th of the Rev. J. A. McConnell, of Watson's Corners. The reverend gentleman had decided to retire from the active ministry, and was about leaving that district, everything being packed for removal. On the afternoon of the day in question, Mr. McConnell drove about seven miles to visit a friend, returning about tea time in apparently excellent health and spirits. He took his accustomed place at the table and conversed cheerfully with his wife who was engaged in preparing tea. She observed him bending his head forward as though to ask a blessing, but noticing that his head continued sinking slowly towards the table, he stepped forward and discovered that he was in, what for the moment seemed a deep faint. The doctor who arrived shortly afterwards gave as his opinion that death had been instantaneous, and thus a happy, useful life was brought to a peaceful ending, and the contemplated removal of an earthly abode changed to an unexpected yet welcome resting-place in his Father's house above. The late Rev. James Anderson McConnell was born May 25th, 1836, in the county of Armagh, Ireland. He came to Canada in 1854, and was educated at Jefferson College, Pa., and Columbia College, Ia., and was ordained on September 10th, 1861. Before his induction to his late charge, Watson's Corners, on December 1st, 1880, he occupied charges in the Presbyteries of Mississippi and New Orleans. He was married in 1871, and leaves a wife, three sons

and two daughters. Deceased was a brother of Rev. Wm. McConnell, Craigvale, Ont.

## Correspondence.

EDITOR PRESBYTERIAN REVIEW:

SIR,—The letter under the heading "Financial Agency" in your columns of last week calls for a few remarks in the interest of the Church at large. That it was written in Toronto as the use of the words "here" and "there" are made to imply, no one will for a moment suppose; as we cannot conceive of any business elder in Ontario, least of all in or near Toronto, comparing Montreal with Toronto either as a place for investment of funds, or securing them for investment.

The experience of one branch of the Church before union may be given as to the feeling on this subject. It is well-known that the greatest losses the Temporalities Fund sustained, were in Montreal, and the clamour was strong then with a section, to have at least a portion of the funds invested in Ontario. Then look at the amount of investments of Montreal College as reported in the last minutes of Assembly—add up the interest reported and it will be found that the rate received is about 4-5/8%.

Again if we refer to the American Church which is cited as an example of an eastern city being a financial headquarters for church management, does not "Elder" know that a vigorous effort has been made to have more of their church investments in the west? and if reports in some of their papers be correct, the concession has been made that this shall be done.

But who would compare New York from a Presbyterian standpoint with a city three-quarters French Roman Catholic in the middle of a French Province where if you can believe the reports of the French Evangelization Committee, the Presbyterian element is fast weakening and in many counties dying out. Does Montreal begin to compare relatively for a moment with New York and Brooklyn in proportion to the strength of its Presbyterianism?

Now, if it is easier and better to invest our funds in Ontario, why send the administrator down to a province with entirely different methods of conveyancing and increase the cost of administration immensely?

Our needs are west and growing westerly every day; our funds in large measure come from west of Montreal, and it would be folly and not "statesmanship" to disregard the oft repeated complaint of the Committee on French Evangelization that Quebec was being depopulated so far as Presbyterians were concerned, and in the face of this fact send the management to Montreal.

It is far from a "statesmanlike policy" to locate investments from regard to any official's convenience or domicile, however excellent that official may be. "Statesmanlike" is what is best for the State, or in this case what is best for the Church.

The Assembly when appointing Dr. Warden also appointed an Advisory Board consisting of five gentlemen from Toronto and one from Hamilton, who, with the new agent, were to have "oversight of any change in the manner of keeping the books, and in connection with which investments be made, and by whom matters of finance generally would be supervised and authorized." Surely this indicates the mind of the General Assembly as to the location of the head financial office of the western section of the Church. Or was it intended that these six gentlemen should arrange with the new agent when it would be convenient for him to meet them, and that they should then leave their business and proceed to Montreal to advise the new agent?

Your correspondent, "Elder," has surely not been sufficiently informed as to the subject matter on which he strives to give your readers information. I am quite convinced that Dr. Warden will not agree with him.

Let the business be managed in Toronto says

ANOTHER ELDER.  
Toronto Nov. 6th, 1895.