

WINNIPEG AND WEST.

Rev. D. M. McIntyre, a graduate of Manitoba College, has resigned from the pastorate of Moorhead, Minn. Presbyterian Church.

Rev. Donald Munroe, of the Point Douglas Church, in this city, has agreed to withdraw his recently tendered resignation at the unanimous request of the congregation.

The resignation of Rev. J. W. McMillan has been accepted and he will leave for Halifax at the end of the month. Rev. Dr. Perry, of Winnipeg, will be interim moderator of the session of St. Andrew's.

At the last meeting of Presbytery Rev. A. W. Maclean suggested a morning sermon so that members might lunch together, giving an opportunity for social intercourse, thus getting better acquainted with each other.

Rev. John Russell, recently of the High School staff, High Bluff, Man., has been inducted as minister at Orbow, Sask. Rev. J. M. Wallace, of Carnduff, presided and preached the sermon; and Rev. Mr. Muir, of Gainsboro, addressed the congregation and gave the charge to the minister. Thereafter those present were entertained by the ladies of the congregation.

BRANDON PRESBYTERY NOTES.

Hartney and Reston have been greatly helped by the services of Evangelist Meikle, Virden and Carberry engaged his services previously and a work of grace resulted that caused joy amongst the angels of God.

The people of Elva are looking forward to having a church. The hall where they now worship is inconvenient and overcrowded. Tenders are advertised for, and the church will likely be ready for occupation in the early autumn.

The Elva and Coatsland congregation had an addition to membership of sixteen persons recently, making twenty-seven new members since the beginning of Rev. J. M. Kellock's pastorate last October. This without special services, in the use of the ordinary means of grace.

The Young Peoples and Sabbath School Committees of the Presbytery are planning to unite in a summer school, which may be held at Souris.

The Evangelistic Committee, under Mr. Kellock, of Elva, convener, has in view a vigorous campaign throughout the bounds, such as was prosecuted so successfully last year in the presbytery of Minnedosa.

MONTREAL AND VICINITY.

Mr. W. K. Thompson, of the Montreal College, has again taken up his duties as assistant to Rev. Thos. A. Mitchell, of Lachute, Que.

The Witness gives particulars of the opening of the new St. Andrew's church, Westmount, (Rev. Dr. W. J. Clark, minister.) Dr. Milligan, of Toronto, was the preacher. The new church is said to be one of the largest and finest in the city, and being in a rapidly growing residential locality, combined with the attractive personality of the minister, it is assured of an increasingly prosperous future.

On the resignation by Mr. C. W. Shelley, of the charge of Fairmount he was presented with a handsome double set of sectional book-cases from the congregation; a case of brushes from the Bible class; and an illuminated address from the Sunday school. Rev. Dr. Johnston, Rev. W. R. Cruikshank, Messrs. Walter Paul, J. McD. Hains, R. C. Holden, Wm. Louttit and C. Patterson took part in the meeting, which was presided over by Mr. John Murphy.

TORONTO.

Toronto Presbytery nominates Rev. Dr. R. P. MacKay for the moderatorship of next Assembly.

West Church Presbyterians have acquired another site at the corner of College and Montrose Avenue, and as soon as the sale of the Denison Avenue property is completed the erection of a new commodious edifice will be commenced.

The Rosedale Church has applied for a permit to erect a new \$30,000 edifice on the corner of South Drive and Huntley street, and the work of building will be pressed forward as quickly as possible. This young and vigorous congregation has a magnificent future before it under the ministry of Rev. D. Strachan, recently of St. John's Church, Brockville.

A report presented at last meeting of Presbytery indicated solid growth. It showed an increase of one congregation over the year 1907, an increase of 734 in number of communicants on the roll, of 29 in the number of elders and of 1,279 in the number enrolled in Sunday school and Bible classes. There was an increase of \$58,672 in payments for all purposes, the increase in mission givings being especially noticeable. The value of church property increased from \$1,730,255 in 1907 to \$2,112,887 in 1908.

The following commissioners to the General Assembly have been appointed by this Presbytery: Rev. Dr. R. P. MacKay, Rev. Dr. J. M. Duncan, Rev. Alex. MacGillivray, Rev. Dr. D. McTavish, Rev. S. T. Martin, Rev. Prof. J. D. Robertson, Rev. J. McP. Scott, Rev. Robert Barbour, Rev. P. M. Macdonald, Rev. R. F. Cameron, Rev. Prof. J. E. McFadyen, Rev. Jas. Murray and Rev. Thos. H. Rogers. Elders: Messrs. Thomas Findley, R. S. Gourlay, J. A. Paterson, K.C., John Lowden, J. K. Macdonald, R. C. Jennings.

OBITUARY.

The death of Mr. G. M. Robertson, of Bell's Corners, which took place after a brief illness of three days, on Monday, the 22nd February, at his son's residence in Ottawa, has removed from our midst one of the early sturdy pioneers of the Ottawa Valley.

Born in 1827, it is commonly reported that he was the first white male child born in Ottawa—then called Bytown—and having reached the patriarchal age of 82 years, died full of hope and assurance.

Possessing the fibre and temper of his Scottish parentage, he owned one of the most fertile farms in the community, and always proved himself a worthy pillar in the Presbyterian church at Bell's Corners, where he resided until a few years ago.

His wife was Jean Bayne, by whom there was a family of one daughter and three sons; one of whom, Ebenezer, was also an elder for a few years, who died greatly regretted by the whole community three years ago.

Rarely was Mr. Robertson, Sr., absent from his pew, and for over forty years officiated as an esteemed elder in a humble and exemplary manner on Sacrament occasions. Being an intelligent Christian and a liberal supporter of his church and all benevolent purposes, his presence and activities are greatly missed by the congregation and community.

There remain to cherish bright memories of his noble Christian character, not only an indebted congregation, but an only daughter and one son, both residing in Ottawa.

That may be right which is not pleasant, and that pleasant which is not right; but Christ's religion is both. There is not only peace in the end of religion, but peace in the way.—M. Henry.

QUEBEC.

At a meeting of the Lingwick congregation, held at Gould on the 31st ult., the pastor, Rev. E. McQueen gave a summary of congregational work during the past twelve years, indicating progress in every department. An address voicing the sympathy and loyalty of the people to their minister was then read by Mr. Wm. McKay, elder, and presented to Mr. McQueen, with an intimation of an increase of \$100 per year to his salary. Mr. McQueen briefly thanked the congregation for this renewed testimony of their loyalty and goodwill. Rev. Mr. Mackenzie of Scotstown closed a pleasant meeting by pronouncing the benediction.

At the annual meeting of the First Presbyterian church, Boston, Mass., the sum of \$11,000 was reported as contributed for all purposes; and an addition of \$500 per year was unanimously voted to the pastor, Rev. A. K. McLennan, formerly of Dalhousie Mills in Glangary Presbytery. Mr. McLennan is doing excellent work in the First church, and this substantial addition to his salary is well deserved.

Rev. Dr. MacVicar, formerly of Fergus, Ont., now minister of the United Church, New Glasgow, N.S., has been presented with a congratulatory address along with a handsome gown, by the members of his congregation on his receiving the degree of D.D. from Montreal College.

Compassion dwells in the heart of Christ, as inexhaustible as the sunlight. Our tears hang heavier on that heart than the planets which His divine hand holds in their orbits; our sighs are more audible to His ear than the blasts of wintry wind are to us. When we pray aright, we are reaching up and taking hold on that compassion. The penitent publican was laying hold of it when he cried out of that broken heart, "Be merciful to me, a sinner!" It is His sublime pity that listens to our prayers and hears our cries and grants us what we want. Therefore let us come boldly to the throne of grace and make our weaknesses, our guiltiness and our griefs to be their own pleas to Him.

A CONTENTED LIFE.

It is a common complaint that the farm and farm life are not appreciated by our people. We long for the more elegant pursuits, or the ways and fashions of the town. But the farmer has the most sane and natural occupation, and ought to find life sweeter, if less highly seasoned, than any other. He alone, strictly speaking, has a home. How can a man take root and thrive without land? He writes his history upon his field. How many ties, how many resources he has: his friendships with his cattle, his team, his dog, his trees, the satisfaction in his growing crops, in his improved fields; his intimacy with Nature, with bird and beast, and with the quickening elemental forces; his co-operations with the cloud, the seasons, heat, wind, rain, frost. Nothing will take the various social distempers which the city and artificial life breed, out of a man like farming, like direct and loving contact with the soil. It draws out the poison. It humbles him, teaches him patience and reverence, and restores the proper tone to his system.

Cling to the farm, make much of it, put yourself into it, bestow your heart and your brain upon it, so that it shall savor of you and radiate your virtue after your day's work is done!

God mingles the bitter with the sweet in this life, to set us seeking another life where there shall be sweet alone.