

## Ministers and Churches.

THE Rev. Mr. Martin, of Exeter, occupied the Presbyterian pulpit at Regina the other Sunday.

INFORMATION has been received that Mrs. Robertson, wife of the Rev. Hugh Robertson, missionary at Eromanga, is dead.

THE Rev. W. G. Wallace, of Toronto, conducted the sacramental services in the Presbyterian Church, Georgetown, on Sunday week.

FOURTEEN new members were admitted to the Presbyterian Church in the Gravenhurst Presbyterian Church at the communion Sabbath week. Unfermented wine was used for the first time at the sacrament.

THE Rev. James Bryant, formerly of Bradford, is acting as pastor of the Presbyterian Church, Sumach Street. At present he is conducting nightly Gospel services, in which he is assisted by Mr. W. Scrimger, evangelist.

THE Rev. Dr. Warden, Montreal, desires to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of one hundred dollars from a lady (S.R.) on behalf of the Pointe-aux-Trembles schools in response to the appeal, "the ass that the Lord hath need of."

THE Rev. Dr. Laidlaw last week preached the anniversary sermon to the Christian Endeavour Society of St. Paul's Presbyterian Church. There was a large attendance, and the impressive discourse on holding aloof from the appearance of evil was thoughtfully received.

THE Woodstock *Sentinel-Review* says: The Rev. Mr. Goldsmith, formerly of Hamilton, delighted two large congregations at Knox Church yesterday morning and evening with two powerful and eloquent discourses. He also addressed the Bible class in the afternoon.

THE Hon. and Rev. Mr. Moreton preached in Erskine Presbyterian Church, Montreal, Sabbath week morning and evening, and assisted the pastor at the communion service in the morning. He has been giving a series of Bible readings, which have proved very interesting and instructive.

IN connection with the Bible Class of the Presbyterian Church, Collingwood, the Rev. Dr. Campbell announces a series of lectures on the "Pilgrim's Progress." From the ability of the lecturer and the attractiveness of the subject a most successful and profitable course of religious instruction may be confidently expected.

ON the occasion of his marriage, Mr. A. Strachan, son of elder Thos. Strachan and honorary precentor and librarian of Knox Church, Brussels, was presented by the congregation with a clock, crucifix, china set and a purse. Complimentary addresses were delivered by elder G. G. Deadman and the pastor, Rev. G. B. Howie, L. A.

THE Rev. Henry Norris, Presbyterian minister at Glenallen and Hollin, is recovering from a very severe attack of pleurisy. It is not expected that he will be able to take his regular work for two months or more. Several members of the Presbytery are supplying the pulpit, one Sabbath each.

THE Rev. D. J. Macdonnell conducted missionary services in St. Andrew's Church, Chatham, Sabbath week, and was greeted at both services with large congregations. The discourses were able and practical, and thoroughly appreciated. Since the settlement of the present pastor, Dr. Battisby, twelve years ago, 677 have united with the congregation.

THE Manitoba *Free Press* says: The Rev. Mr. Wright's special sermon to young men in Knox Church, Portage la Prairie, last night, was listened to by one of the largest congregations ever assembled in the building. His remarks were full of words of kindly advice, and the sermon throughout was listened to with the deepest attention. It is becoming quite evident that Knox Church will have to be enlarged at an early date.

THE anniversary services in connection with the re-opening of Cooke's Church took place last Sabbath. Dr. Parsons preached at the morning service, taking for his subject "The Building of Houses," and drawing a telling analogy between it and the building up of Christian character. In the evening Rev. Wm. Briggs preached upon the vast possibilities for silent unknown work for God in the Christian life, even for those who have been denied great talents.

THE following is from a late issue of the *Shelburne Economist*: The pulpits of the Presbyterian Church at Horning's Mills and Primrose which now form one pastoral charge have been supplied on the past four Sabbaths by the Rev. W. Anderson, M.A., of Oakville, with very great acceptance to the congregations of both churches. Mr. Anderson's sermons are clear, Scriptural and impressive, they are rich in Gospel truth presented in such a form as cannot fail to instruct and edify.

WE would call attention to the Prison Sunday Movement inaugurated by the National Prison Association. On this day clergymen of all denominations are requested to call attention to the work of Prisoners' Aid Associations and to the cause of prison reform. Next Sunday, the 20th inst., has been selected as Prison Sunday for this year. We trust this appeal will meet with a hearty response. Literature on the subject can be obtained off the agent of the Toronto society at their office, 150 Simcoe Street, corner of Richmond Street.

THE first regular meeting of the Knox College Missionary Society was held on Tuesday evening week. The president, Mr. P. J. McLaren, B.A., occupied the chair. Reports from two of the fields taken up during the past summer were received. Mr. A. Stevenson told about his work among the lumbermen of the Serpent River, Algoma, and Mr. J. S. Davidson of his labours in Essex. It was decided to conduct services during the college session at the Old Women's Home and the Children's Hospital, and also to send a number of students to teach in the Central Prison.

THE Knox College Literary and Metaphysical Society's first regular meeting on Friday night was attended by an enthusiastic audience. The president, Mr. John Crawford, B.A., was in the chair, and with his opening remarks impressed upon the students the advantages of regular attendance at the society's meeting. Mr. Gauld, B.A., gave a reading, and Mr. F. O. Nichol rendered a song, followed by Mr. A. N. Smith with a reading. The subject of debate was: Resolved, that an itinerant is preferable to a stationary missionary system. The affirmative was led by Mr. A. Stevenson, B.A., and the negative by Mr. W. H. Grant. The decision was in favour of the negative. Mr. D. M. Bachan was appointed treasurer of the *Knox College Monthly* in the place of the late W. C. Ewing. For the curators of the society, also rendered vacant by the same sad cause, Messrs. E. A. Harrison and W. R. Johnson were nominated.

THE Rev. R. D. Fraser, M.A., of St. Paul's Church, Bowmanville, is giving a series of three fortnightly lectures on "Sundays Abroad," confining himself to those spent on the ocean and in Britain during his recent six months' vacation. He began the series by stating that the first object of his long holiday was rest, and that this had been kept constantly in view, and especially on the Lord's Days: so that there were many things of interest that he did not see. He would speak only of what had come under his own observation. The object of his lectures was to point out what might be learned from these Sabbaths abroad, calculated to encourage in Christian services and to lead to the setting of a higher value on the Lord's Day and to the keeping of it more sacredly for the Lord and His work. Mr. Fraser is much improved in health by the rest, which was found indispensable.

THE extensive improvements in Knox Church, Perth, have been completed and the handsome building has been re-opened for divine service. Sabbath week the re-opening services were held when the Rev. A. H. Scott, of St. Andrews, the sister congregation in Perth,

preached an edifying and appropriate sermon from Psalm lxxxvii. 2. Rev. Dr. Laing of the Baptist Church occupied the pulpit in the afternoon, taking for his subject Isaiah xxviii. 16, and 1 Peter ii. 6. The pastor of the Methodist Church preached from Psalm xli. 4. On the following evening a tea meeting was held at which the Rev. Mr. Ross, pastor of the congregation presided, and addresses were delivered by Rev. Messrs. Cooke, Smiths Falls; Stuart, Balderston, D. Laing, A. H. Scott. Mr. McLeod, one of the oldest members, read a summary of the congregation's history from its beginning in 1844 to the opening of the present church building in 1854. The financial results of the re-opening services were highly satisfactory. Under the able and devoted pastorate of Mr. Ross, this historic congregation has enjoyed much spiritual and temporal prosperity. The outlook is most encouraging.

THE Owen Sound *Times* says: The third anniversary of the opening of the new Division Street Presbyterian Church was observed by that congregation on Sabbath week. Services were conducted both morning and evening by the Rev. Dr. Cochrane, of Brantford, to large and interested congregations. The reverend doctor preached two fervid and impressive sermons with all the fervid eloquence for which he is so well known. In the morning service his theme was Psalm xxiv. 7-12, in which he described the appropriateness of this glorious advent hymn to the various stages of Christian progress from earth to heaven. His evening discourse was from John's first epistle iii. 2: "It doth not yet appear what we shall be." For over an hour the preacher held the rapt attention of the congregation while he depicted in glowing language the glories awaiting the "Sons of God," and closed with an earnest appeal to those who are not such. The collection was liberal, amounting to about \$233.

THE opening services in connection with the dedication of the new Presbyterian Church at Pike Bay, took place on a recent Sabbath. Some disappointment was felt owing to the absence of Mr. Ross. The Rev. Mr. Carson, of the Methodist Church, and Mr. McGregor, missionary at Mar, preached suitable sermons to good congregations, morning, afternoon and evening. The tea-meeting on Monday evening was well attended by friends in the neighbourhood, Lion's Head, Spry and Mar. At the house of Mr. Burgess a well furnished table exhibiting the bounty, skill and taste of the ladies of Pike Bay, received prompt and appreciative attention. Adjourning to the church building Mr. McGregor took the chair. Good music was furnished by an impromptu choir under the leadership of Mrs. Spence, readings and recitations by the lady teachers of Mar and Spry, and by pupils of the Mar school. Appropriate addresses by the Rev. Mr. Parker, of Lion's Head, Mr. Carson, White Church, and Mr. Bolton, of Warton, made up the programme. Before the proceedings closed a sufficient sum was raised to pay off the expense of the building as far as it is completed.

THE Rev. F. M. Dewey, of Stanley Street Presbyterian Church, Montreal, in a recent sermon stated, that it was three years since he was inducted as pastor of the Church, and by the united efforts of the members of the congregation and himself about two hundred names have been added to the roll of membership and a number of families had been added to the congregation. He said that according to his text every member of the Church had Christ's command to work, to go out to the highways, streets and lanes of the city and seek out the poor, the halt, the lame, and the blind, and to compel them to come in and receive the blessings of the Gospel; especially at this season of the year, when so many strangers were coming to our city either for business or to attend our schools and colleges, was it our duty to hunt them up and give them a cordial welcome to our families and social circles, and thereby keep them from the bar-room and other places of questionable amusement. He hoped that during the present year the members of the Church would unite with him in carrying out the commands so plainly set forth in the text.

THE following contributions have been received for the building fund of the North Presbyterian Church, Winnipeg, which the pastor, Rev. John Hogg, gratefully acknowledges: Messrs. John Hallam, G. T. Ferguson, James Gunn, J. S. Playfair, E. H. Bauld, James Brown, \$10 each; John Kay, Son & Co., \$20; Alex. T. Fulton, John Crosby, George T. Alexander, I. T. Kirkland, a friend, Kilgour Bros., J. K. Macdonald, M. Gowan, S. F. McKinnon, John Scott, Hon. Oliver Mowat, Joseph Gibson, A. T. Crombie, R. Donald, R. J. Hunter, Thos. Dunnatt, A. A. Allen, Wm. Mortimer Clark, Hon. Geo. W. Ross, John Kerr, \$10 each. Wm. McLean, \$25; D. McKay, \$10; Robert Crean, \$10; L. M. Livingston, \$25; A. M. Smith, \$10; J. C. Hamilton, \$4; James Knowles, \$5; Hamilton Cassels, \$5; James Thurlburn, \$1; Charles Rogers, \$2; Ino. Young, \$2; Robert Hay, \$5; Rev. Wm. Reid, D.D., \$2; R. Barron, \$5; D. Guon, \$5; J. Leckie, \$5; Fred Mowat, \$5; S. C. Duncan-Clark, \$5; R. Merryfield, \$5; P. Campbell, \$5; George P. Dickson, \$5; W. B. McMurrich, \$5; H. B. Gordon, \$5; H. Graham, \$5; John Wanless, \$5; W. W., \$2; Gordon Crean, \$2; Miss Jessie Brown, \$5.

SOME two years ago an influential committee of the Presbyterian Church was appointed to inquire into and report as to the localities where it might be desirable to establish missions or churches. The result has been so far fairly satisfactory. No committee can, however, do work which belongs to individual members of a religious body, and so it came to pass that the people of Chester have themselves undertaken the work of organizing a Presbyterian Church. Some two years ago a few earnest men met and talked the matter over and waited a few months, but waiting brought them no further aid. Early this spring they set to work, secured several promises of support, and purchased for \$5,000 a plot of land on the west side of the Chester road, about two hundred or three hundred yards from the northern terminus of Broadview Avenue. The site is an excellent one, large enough for a spacious church, schools, and a parsonage, when the congregation feels able to erect these buildings. For the present a pretty looking little church, built entirely of wood, and having somewhat the appearance of a Swiss cottage, has been erected on the site. The inside is beautifully finished in stained pine. The windows are all of coloured glass, which gives to the interior a comfortable and most pleasing appearance. The cost has been about \$3,000. The seating accommodation is about 200, and can easily be increased. The new Church starts with about twenty members, and the Sabbath school and Bible class are likely to be very large. The opening services were held last Sabbath evening, when Rev. G. M. Milligan, M.A., preached an appropriate sermon to a congregation which crowded the church in every available spot. Alderman E. A. Macdonald has taken an active part in the enterprise.

IT is well known that the east end of the city of Hamilton is growing rapidly, much more so than any other portion of the city, and it is a matter for congratulation to know that the church accommodation is keeping pace with the requirements of the population. St. Matthew's Church was recently enlarged and improved. St. John's Presbyterian Church congregation is building a large and handsome new edifice on the corner of King and Emerald Streets, and now the congregation of Westworth Presbyterian Church, on the corner of Barton Street and Smith Avenue, has found it necessary to build an addition to its already neat and comfortable building. Under the pastoral care and pulpit ministrations of Rev. James Murray, B.A., B.D., the popular and hard-working pastor, the church has been exceptionally prosperous and a large congregation now regularly attends the services of the church. Steps were accordingly taken to have the church building enlarged, and contracts were let the end of last week. The addition will be made to the south end of the building, and its dimensions will be sixty feet by forty feet, the wing projecting ten feet on each side of the present building, which will then be of a cruciform shape. The seating capacity will be increased to about 750. The work will be completed in eight or ten weeks, but ser-

vices will be continued as usual during the alterations, a temporary wall being erected. A commodious basement for Sabbath school uses will be provided. The work is already under way.

THE ladies connected with the Presbyterian Church at Hespeler, held a harvest home festival recently which did them a great deal of credit. A splendid repast was given in the Temperance Hall adjoining the church, and the good things there presented were much enjoyed by all present. Tea being over, everybody adjourned to the church, which was most tastefully decorated with festoons of evergreens, together with sheaves of grain, vegetables and fruits of various kinds—emblems quite in keeping with the name, Harvest Home. The respected pastor, the Rev. Mr. Haigh, called the meeting to order and moved that Mr. D. McDougall, of Berlin, take the chair, which was unanimously agreed to, and the duties of which he discharged in his usual happy manner. An excellent programme of readings, music by the choir and kindergarten songs by the little folks was rendered and appeared to be highly appreciated by the audience. The Rev. Mr. Beattie, of Guelph, gave two readings in excellent style and was warmly received by the audience. Dr. Cornish, of the Methodist Church, delivered a short but appropriate speech, in which he congratulated those who had furnished such an excellent entertainment, and in a praiseworthy Christian spirit closed his speech by wishing the pastor and congregation all spiritual and temporal blessings. The musical talent of the Presbyterian Church at Hespeler is of a high order, and their performances on this occasion added greatly to the evening's enjoyment. Hearty votes of thanks were passed with applause to the speakers, the chairman, the choir, the ladies, and all who aided in getting up the festival. The meeting then closed shortly after ten o'clock by Dr. Cornish pronouncing the benediction.

THE Peel *Banner* says: The Rev. Mr. Gandier, the newly-inducted pastor of the Presbyterian Church, preached his first sermon to his new congregation recently. At the morning service he took for his text Acts x. 29, "Therefore came I unto you without gainsaying as soon as I was sent for; I ask, therefore, for what intent ye have sent for me?" Latter part of verse 33, "Now, therefore, are we all here present before God to hear all things that are commanded thee of God." Also 2 Cor. v. 20, "Now then are we ambassadors for Christ, as though God did beseech you by us; we pray you in Christ's stead, be ye reconciled to God." The preacher in commencing showed that his call to Brampton resembled the coming of Peter to Cornelius and his friends—the call was made by faith in both cases; it was expected, yet, as in the case of Peter, it came at the particular moment when he was best prepared to receive it favourably. Some of the false conceptions that are abroad concerning the duties of a minister were then dealt with, and it was shown that a minister is not a priest to stand between God and man, and to look after the people's religious interests; he is not one who is paid to please those who have engaged him; he should not waste his time during the week and expect his sermon to come to him on Sunday. The real duties of a minister are to make known to the people the will of God; to deal with the besetting sins of those under his charge; and although he should be interested in all that has to do with the people's welfare, yet, in order to the proper discharge of these, he should be much alone with God; and Mr. Gandier therefore asked that he be allowed to have his mornings for the duties of the study, and that he should not be disturbed early in the day unless it was absolutely necessary.

PROFESSOR CAMPBELL presided at the opening of the Presbyterian College, Montreal, and there was a large attendance of students and the general public. After devotional exercises, Principal MacVicar delivered the inaugural address, the subject of which was "How to Meet Unbelief." In commencing his remarks the speaker referred to the iconoclastic tendency in the present age, and maintained that, notwithstanding this, nothing essentially belonging to Christianity had ever been shown to be false. All attempts in this direction had proved completely abortive, and had only served to illustrate the unfairness of those by whom they were made. Having instanced some of the forms of unbelief, he said it was essential that the sceptic should be required definitely to declare his position as a pantheist, materialist, idealist, or anything else he liked, so that he might be fairly met on his own ground. It was the duty of the Church to confront the unbelief of the present age by earnest, unceasing belief in prayer. He then went on to speak of some of the causes of unbelief, and particularly mentioned in this connection that persons were classified in the very pews of the sanctuary according to their social position and disposition as determined chiefly by the possession of money. This cultivation of caste was driving thousands of young men into pure secularism and away from Christ. The remedy was plain. Let the persons of high degree come down from their lofty pedestal in the manner of the late Lord Shaftesbury and show something of the kindness, humility and willingness to serve manifested by the Son of God. In conclusion he said that much of the scepticism which existed in the church and the world was due to the parsimony of Christendom in the prosecution of missionary enterprise. Let there be a full manifestation of true Christian liberality, and let multitudes run to and fro proclaiming the message of mercy and love to both Jew and Gentile, and soon the discordant voice of unbelief would be lost in the shout of victory from the lips of the servant of the Lord of Hosts. A collection was then taken in aid of the library, after which the benediction was pronounced and the meeting separated.

TWENTY-FIVE years ago, on the 28th of this month, says the Montreal *Gazette*, the first Presbyterian Church, Sherbrooke, was established here by the induction of Rev. Joseph Evans, in St. Andrew's Church. The silver wedding of the denomination was celebrated by the dedication of a substantial new brick church on the corner of Peel and Factory Streets. The new church is the greatest contrast possible to the building which was the cradle of Presbyterianism here. That was a wooden structure, originally used as a Congregational church, then as an immigration shed, next as a concert hall and theatre, until it was finally secured by the Presbyterians as a place of worship, and improved by them from time to time. The new church is a substantial brick building of considerable architectural beauty, with a capacity for seating 600 people, thus illustrating in itself the wonderful growth of the congregation in the last quarter of a century. During that time the church has been presided over and guided on to success by Revs. Joseph Evans, C. A. Tanner, Peter Lindsay, A. F. Tully, J. C. Cattanaach and the present incumbent, Rev. A. Lee. The work of preparation for the new church only began two years ago, although its need had been felt for ten years back, yet the church was opened to-day with a large share of its cost already defrayed. Twenty thousand dollars will be the total cost of the building, site and furnishings, and the collections for the day, at the three services, which amounted to \$344, of which \$714 was taken up at the morning service will form a substantial nucleus for a fund to defray the balance remaining to be paid. The dedication services were three in number, and were all attended by large congregations. In the morning Rev. Principal Grant, D.D., of Kingston, Moderator of the General Assembly, preached an eloquent sermon from Philippians iii. 8, then followed the solemn dedication ceremony conducted by Rev. Principal Grant, assisted by Rev. Prof. Scrimger, of the Montreal Presbyterian College, Rev. Archibald Lee, and Rev. Mr. Eldridge, the Methodist pastor, whose church was closed that morning in order that his congregation might attend the dedication of the Presbyterian Church. In the afternoon Rev. Professor Scrimger preached, taking his text from Romans xiii. 8-10, and in the evening Principal Grant again occupied the pulpit, rivetting the attention of the large congregation present by a discourse on his text from Mark vi. 14. Appropriate hymns and anthems were rendered by the choir. At both the morning and evening services the church was crowded.