

Ministers and Churches.

Our Toronto Letter.

It was a happy thought to hold the closing exercises of Knox College in one of the city churches. The number that filled Bloor St. church in every part could not have got near the Convocation Hall. There were at least one thousand present, and the number will be increased next year, when it is learned that the comfort of the people is being considered. On the platform were Principal Caven, with Chancellor Wallace of MacMaster College on his right hand. Around him sat the professors of the College and those who were to take part in the evening's proceedings.

In his introductory remarks Principal Caven touched upon the scarcity of students in some countries, notably in Scotland and in the United States. There was, however, he remarked with pardonable pride, the largest number appearing for diplomas tonight that had appeared for many years. Twenty-five ranged themselves around the platform when the time for presenting the diplomas had been reached.

Principal Caven mentioned another matter that might well engage the attention of some of the wealthy men in Toronto during the interval before next Session. The Travelling Fellowship has come to stay, if the friends of Knox will support it. Its value has been at once recognized. It offers to one of the brightest men in the year the opportunity to pursue further studies abroad. This year the man who has carried it off is not more than twenty-five years of age, and might well spend several years in post-graduate study. Should he do so, and carry such study forward with the avidity with which he has worked during his University and College course, he will be a scholar of whom Canada may well be proud. He is a farmer's son, born on the farm near Ayr, educated first in that town, afterwards at Woodstock Collegiate, Toronto University and Knox College. He bears a good name,—Richard Davidson,—and we shall yet hear more of him.

The usual list of scholarships and prizes was read, but the announcement had been made in the morning papers, and was received now as a matter of course. Why should not these gentlemen be presented with the certificate entitling them to call upon the bursar of the College, at the public meeting when diplomas are granted? Many friends would like to see them on that occasion. A neat parchment certifying the recipient as the holder of a particular scholarship for that year could be put into his hands by the Principal as representing the Senate, and this act though apparently of little significance would have the effect, at least of removing the purely mercenary part of the transaction which is now so prominent.

Twenty-five sturdy young men circled the platform pretty completely when it came time for granting the diplomas. The graduates were introduced by Prof. Ballantyne, who spoke of the unbroken ranks with which the Class of '01 appeared before the Principal. All had passed and passed with credit. Some of them had gained distinction in their classes. In receiving them Dr. Caven spoke of the pleasure it had been to all members of the Faculty to lead them in their studies during all their course, and told them that their further course would be watched with great interest in the coming years. And this is no mere pretty statement. There is no doubt but that Principal Caven can give the history of the men who have passed out from Knox College during the years of his administration with pretty fair accuracy. He is not demonstrative in his intercourse with the men to whom he has given diplomas during all these years, but they have no truer friend, nor one more really interested in their welfare than is Principal Caven.

The names of the graduates are: W. A. Bremner, W. Brokenshire, B. A., J. H. Bruce, B. A., A. H. Carlyle, R. A. Cranston, B. A., R. W. Craw, B. A., R. Davidson, M. A., A. W. Hare, F. C. Harper, B. A., J. J. Hastie, J. H. Lemon, B. A., A. Little, R. J. McAlpine, B. A., M. McArthur, H. Konkle, N. McKenzie, J. L. Mason, W. C. Mercer, H. Munroe, B. A., H. J. Pritchard, B. A., H. J. Robertson, W. G. Russell, B. A., N. R. D. Sinclair, B. A., J. W. Stephens, T. W. Taylor, B. A., P. D. D., M. C. Tait, B. A.

Of these Mr. Richard Davidson M. A. has won the Travelling Fellowship of Three Hundred dollars, which requires him to spend at least one year in some University or College

abroad. Mr. Davidson will probably select a German College, and will start at once for his new field of study. He has also won first place or rather divided the first place with Mr. J. H. Lemon B. A., who also wins the Bryden Prize in Theology.

We append the full list of Scholarships:

Third year scholarship—Fisher (\$800) and Bonar-Burns (\$800), by R. Davidson and J. H. Lemon (equal), R. H. Thornton (\$800), N. R. D. Sinclair, George Sheriff Morris (\$850), and Heron (\$85), F. C. Harper and H. J. Pritchard (equal), Cheyne (\$25), J. H. Bruce.

Second year scholarships—Elizabeth Scott (\$600) and Knox Church, Toronto, I. (\$600), E. G. Robb and A. H. Hunter (equal). Knox Church, Toronto, II. (\$600), and Loghrin (\$850) W. M. Morris and T. O. Miller (equal). James Martimer (\$850), J. J.monds, J. A. Cameron (\$850), A. L. Harvey, Dunbar (\$25), not awarded.

First year scholarships—Central Church, Hamilton (60), and St. James Square Church (\$60), W. G. Wilson and J. D. Cunningham (equal). Eastmar (\$850), K. W. Barton. John King (\$850) R. J. Wilson, Bloor Street Church Toronto (50), and Gillies (\$850), T. R. Peacock and S. T. Martin (equal) Goldie (\$30), and Boyd (25), A. McTaggart, N. McKenzie and J. A. James (equal).

Special scholarships—Bayne scholarship (\$50), W. G. Wilson. Prince of Wales' prize (\$50), Dr. A. J. Hunter-Smith scholarship (\$50), Dr. T. W. Taylor. Bryden prize (\$25), J. H. Lemon. Clark prize, I. (N. T. Greek), J. D. Cunningham. Clark prize, II. (O. T. Hebrew), R. W. Craw. Post-graduate scholarship, R. Davidson.

Upon three distinguished ministers the Senate has this year bestowed the degree of Doctor of Divinity. Two of these are Canadian ministers, though neither of them were educated in Canada; Rev. D. D. McLeod of Barrie, and Rev. J. C. Herdman M. A., B. D., of Calgary. The services of both to the Church have fully merited this recognition. The third is the present Moderator of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland. The action of the Senate is at once a tribute to the well-known scholarship of the Rev. J. McCurdy Hamilton A. M., who is the recipient, and also a recognition of the valuable assistance the Irish Presbyterian Church has given in the mission work of our own Dominion.

The address of the evening was delivered by the Rev. A. B. Winchester of Knox Church, Toronto. He spoke eloquently on the need for intellectual culture, but over and above this for the presence and power of the living Spirit before the student who passes from the College Halls can hope to be successful in his great work. He pleaded for fidelity to truth and to Him who is the Truth in the future work of those who had that evening received their diplomas at the hands of the Senate of their Alma Mater.

One remark of the beginning of a better spirit among the graduates of Knox College. There has always been a keenly intellectual air in the College classrooms, but there has sometimes been a lack of warmth towards the College herself. She has been treated as a foster-mother. That is passing, and men are shewing a real love for her, and interest in her. Deep down most of the Alumni of Knox have a strong attachment for their *alma mater*, but the fear of wearing their heart on their sleeve has kept them silent when speech would have been golden. We are glad this is passing and that sons of Knox are learning to become more demonstrative. It will do them no harm, it will do the College they love much good. She has ever been in the van, yet the sons of Knox keep her there, and make her place secure. With her vantage ground she should give color to the theological thinking of this whole Dominion. That carries responsibility with it, for upon her will depend in a large measure whether that thought will remain pure or not.

Says the Acton Free Press: "In a stirring sermon on Sunday evening Rev. Mr. McPherson spoke with unqualified condemnation of the evils of gambling. He also referred to the fact that it was hinted that Acton was not free from this evil, but he hoped it would be speedily annihilated here."

At the meeting of the Toronto Presbytery on Tuesday the resignation of Rev. John Kay of Deer Park, was accepted to take effect immediately. Rev. W. G. Wallace, of Bloor street Church, was appointed moderator of the session, and the pulpit will be declared vacant.

Montreal.

Montreal Presbytery has sustained a unanimous call to Rev. W. R. Crinckshank to Montreal West.

Rev. A. King's resignation of St. Mark's has been accepted, and the pulpit will be declared vacant next Sabbath.

The following additional elders have been elected in St. Paul's church: Mr. Justice Archibald, Rev. Prof. Ross, and Messrs. Charles Holt, Thomas Tate, Robert Barrow, Wellington Dixon, W. A. Doig and A. A. Brown. At the ordination service, which was held after the regular service, Dr. Barclay paid a tribute to the memory of the late Mr. Wm. Ross, who died recently having been for fifty-six years an elder of the church.

For some time past the congregation of Taylor Presbyterian church have been greatly exercised over reports that Cooke's Church, Toronto, was giving a call to their pastor. The Rev. W. D. Reid has announced to his people that he had been asked several times to go to Toronto and preach in Cooke's church but he had not seen his way clear to do so. He said he had been requested to make this statement so as to reassure the congregation and put an end to the rumors in circulation. It is needless to say that the people are jubilant.

A high tribute is deservedly paid Mr. James Douglas Campbell for his useful work in building up a united congregation at Mount Royal Vale. Before Mr. Campbell took charge the congregation had dropped off to such an extent that the Presbytery had almost decided to discontinue the services. But now the church debt has been paid off and the finances are in a satisfactory condition. They have a well attended, united church, and great interest shown both in church and Sunday school work. Mr. Campbell having accepted a call to a congregation in New Brunswick it is with extreme regret that the people of the Vale have to part with him, but they wish him the success which he so well deserves.

The Rev. J. Goforth addressed Knox Chinese Sunday school and the teachers' prayer meeting following on a recent evening. Beginning with Honanese he found that unintelligible to the scholars, and resorted to English, which, he says, is the coming language in China also as the medium of communication. In the Viceroys' College, Tientsin, students from a dozen provinces require English to converse with each other. Mr. Goforth spoke of having met a company of Chinese in Winnipeg recently, who wished to help evangelize their native villages. Another, a Christian, who has greatly helped the work in Toronto, has desired to return to his native district as a Christian worker. He stated that great encouragement had been afforded the teachers in China, who are so commendably doing foreign mission work under home advantages. The Cantonese, in the south, though devoid of the physical development of the northern Chinese, is much superior in enterprise and business capacity, invading other parts of China and the world generally in search of 'cash,' though he is also the determined reformer, even to the overturning of the present dynasty, or having a China of his own in the two Kwang provinces, if it comes to the worst.

Western Ontario.

Chalmers Church, London, was crowded to the doors on Friday evening when the cantata, "The Pilgrim's Vision," was given in a most acceptable manner. It was repeated again on Monday evening to an appreciative audience.

The following were ordained and inducted as elders of Knox Church, Stratford: William Donaldson, John A. Bothwell, J. J. Forbes, Fred. Buckingham and W. H. Fletcher. At the close of this service Rev. Mr. Leitch asked his congregation to be fair with their elders, and not to expect too much of them, as they were but human like others. In this connection too, he asked the congregation to be fair with their minister. Only the day before he had learned that a member of Knox church had been ill for six weeks, and he had heard of it only after the lapse of that long time. In a large congregation such as that of Knox church, it was impossible for the minister to know when every person was unwell. He could not intuitively turn up at the house of a sick person just when he was needed. In this respect, particularly, the speaker hoped that they would not judge harshly, but rather would notify him when there was sickness in a home.