

CHURCH NOTES.

OUR OWN CHURCH.

REV. W. D. ARMSTRONG, M.A., goes to Britain to further the interests of the French evangelization scheme.

At a recent meeting of Kingston Presbytery a committee was appointed to mature a scheme for aiding weak congregations to build churches.

THE Presbytery of London meets in future on the second Tuesdays of March, June, September and December. Formerly its meetings were held every second month.

FATHER CHINIQUI, of Kankakee, Illinois, has accepted an invitation given by the Protestant Educational Institute of London, England, to lecture throughout Britain on Protestantism and temperance.

ST. ANDREW'S CHURCH, Toronto, has sustained a severe loss in the death of Mr. James Michie. It seemed to be Mr. Michie's greatest delight to help every benevolent institution, and to all the schemes of the Church he was a most liberal giver.

ST. JAMES' SQUARE congregation will miss Mr. T. W. Taylor, Q.C., who has been appointed to the Bench of Manitoba. It is to be remembered that he is not lost to the Church but transferred to a sphere of even greater usefulness.

At the meeting of Hamilton Presbytery held at Dundas on the 16th ult., Rev. S. Lyle, of Hamilton, submitted an overture which contemplated a change in the eldership from life-service to term-service. After some discussion it was withdrawn with the understanding that it might be brought up at next meeting in another form. The life-tenure of the office is certainly not essential to Presbyterianism, for in the days of Knox the elders were elected annually.

On Thursday evening last at the College missionary meeting, reported

elsewhere, Prof. McLaren incidentally spoke of a most important subject. Under our system there seems to be a tendency on the part of ministers to make their own charge their whole world, and to forget even struggling congregations in their own neighborhood. We have no bishop to encourage, by a visit or by substantial aid, the weak members of the body; we have no triennial changes to awaken the interest of ministers in various fields, therefore there is the greater need to use the means that we have in the shape of Presbytery meetings, etc. The professor also hinted at the only true cure for this evil, viz., a more plentiful baptism of the Holy Spirit.

THE number of vacant congregations in Ontario is a cause for great anxiety. One could easily name forty or fifty charges west of Toronto which are suffering from the scarcity of ministers. In the east the state of matters is no better. Hence, speaking roughly, the west must look to Knox College for its supply. We do not forget the probationers, but their number is small. Manitoba also is calling loudly for men and would be glad to get the whole graduating class. The Northwest *must* be attended to, if the error made in the early days of this province is not to be repeated. If so, whence are to come the men who will minister to the needs of Western Ontario? Truly there is need for a far larger number of young men to devote themselves to the work.

OTHER CHURCHES.

THE Presbyterian churches of Australia were, at the latest accounts, negotiating with a view to union. We have seen the typical Australian of the future described as a true-blue Presbyterian. May a happy union hasten the coming of such a future!