

Church News

[All communications to this column ought to be sent to the Editor immediately after the occurrences to which they refer have taken place.]

MONTREAL NOTES.

At a congregational meeting held in Norwood church on Monday evening, Dec. 20th, a unanimous call was extended to the Rev. W. I. Morrison, of Ste. Therese. The congregation has subscribed the sum of six hundred dollars towards his stipend, but it is hoped that from other sources the amount may be made up to eight hundred. This congregation was formerly part of the charge of Cote des Neiges, but was separated from it on the resignation of the Rev. Mr. Crombie some ten months ago. The resident membership is not large, but the place has become a favorite summer resort. Being easily accessible to the city, many families spend at least a month of the year there and these have interested themselves in getting a settled pastor, some of them having subscribed liberally towards his salary. During the summer months two services will be held each Sunday. During the winter when one service only will be held it is expected that the minister will preach at Petite Cote in the evening. In the event of Mr. Morrison accepting the call his settlement will take place at an early date.

On Thursday, the 23rd inst, the Sunday school teachers and scholars of Erskine church gave a Christmas Tree entertainment to some thirty needy families, who had been invited to tea in the basement of the church. There was a short programme of vocal and instrumental music after tea and then the distribution took place. There was a turkey for each family and abundance of toys for the children as well as articles of more permanent value that had been donated for the purpose.

Dr. Chiquay now in his eighty-eighth year recently made a lecturing tour through Massachusetts addressing meetings in Boston, New Bedford, and a number of other places. He spoke twice in Tremont Temple, Boston, to audiences of between two and three thousand and held their close attention for over an hour. Unfortunately he took rather too many engagements and somewhat overtaxed his strength so that he has been laid up since returning, but is now convalescent and in good spirits. Prof. Moore, of Boston, who is well-known as a popular lecturer on scientific and historical subjects, is his guest for a few days at the present time, and speaks enthusiastically of the interest created by his appearances in New England.

Another successful concert was given by the choir of St. Matthew's Presbyterian Church, assisted by Mrs. Belle Foss Emsie, vocalist; Miss Kenmore, soprano, and Messrs. J. R. Bain, tenor, Mr. Donald Robertson, a well known Scotch humorist, and Mr. Cathcart Wallace, violinist. The various vocal recitals by Mrs. Emsie were loudly applauded, as were also the violin selections by Mr. Cathcart Wallace, and vocal selections by Miss Kenmore and Mr. Bain and Mr. Robertson. The anthems "Hail to the Chief" and "Draw the Sword, Scotland," by the choir, were received with favor, also the quartettes by Mrs. Peacock, Miss Stoba and Messrs. Anderson and McNeillage, and the Misses Forrester and Sheppard, Messrs Peacock and Reid. Solos were also rendered by the Misses Gray and Hodgson, which gave much pleasure. The success of the concert reflects credit upon the organist and choir leader, Mr. J. Scott Peacock. Miss Mabel Koffo presided at the piano. The choir was occupied by the Rev. W. R. Crutcher. The proceeds of the concert are in aid of the church Building Fund.

A very successful musical and social entertainment was held Thursday in St. Giles Presbyterian Church, corner of Carriere and St. Denis streets. Mr Cairns, who acted as chairman, in a few well chosen words, welcomed all present in the name of the board of managers, who intended this meeting to be the means of making the members of the steadily growing congregation become better acquainted with one another. The programme was a very good one. The choir, under the direction of Mr. Rice, rendered in good style. "Hosanna in

the Highest" and "O'Mana." The recitations of Miss Bennett were especially well received, so also were the solos of Miss McIntosh, Mastr M. J. Rice, and Messrs. Hyams and Roberts. The "Young Brigade," by Mr. G. E. Hardie, deserved the greatest praise, and was repeatedly honored. The Rev. J. R. Dobson, B. D., in his address, dwelt upon the importance of sociability among the members of the congregation. Wine refreshments were served and Messrs Stobie and Blair, Dr. Fraser and Mr. J. Rice gave some beautiful selections on the pianoforte.

The classes in the Presbyterian College closed on Friday last and most of the students are now dispersed to their homes or to various mission fields in the country where their visits are often a welcome break in the monotony of silent Sabbaths.

BRITISH COLUMBIA NOTES

A Thanksgiving social was recently held under the auspices of the Ladies' Aid of St. Andrew's Church, Victoria, when the chair was occupied by His Honor Lieut. Governor McInnes. While under heavy financial obligations this congregation over a year ago decided to raise all its revenue by free will offerings. Experience has abundantly proved the wisdom of the course.

Steps are being taken to hold a series of union evangelistic meetings, early in the new year, both in Vancouver and Victoria. The Ministerial Associations in both cities are heartily lending in these preparations and Dr. L. W. Munnall has been invited to lead the campaign. May he come to us in the fulness of the blessing of the Gospel of Christ and may many occupied with the search of this world's gold find, through this instrumentality, the true riches.

Mr. J. G. Brown the well known Scotch vocalist and leader of the choir of the First Church, Victoria, was tendered a benefit concert in the A.O.U.W. Hall, on the 20th inst. The leading entertainers of the city contributed the programme while a crowded house testified to the esteem in which Mr. Brown is held. On the following evening being his eightieth birthday the Venerable Bishop Cridge of the Reformed Episcopal Church, upon whom the Senate of the Presbyterian College, Montreal, in 1895 conferred the honorary degree of Doctor of Divinity, was given a public reception when a well filled purse and several addresses were presented by his numerous admirers throughout the province.

Success still follows the step of the Klondyke missionary. The latest word from him was an order for Christmas presents for the pupils of his Sunday school at Skagway which already has an enrolment of thirty.

The Presbytery of Victoria met in St. Paul's Church Victoria on the 7th inst. New mission work was projected and every effort made to bring Gospel ordinances within the reach of all our settlers. Deputations were appointed to visit all congregations and mission fields within the bounds. Rev. Prof. Bryce LL.D., of Manitoba College was nominated for the moderatorship of the next General Assembly. A conference preceded the business sessions of the Presbytery when several questions of a practical nature were discussed.

GENERAL.

The proposal to divide the Presbytery of Quebec so as to form two Presbyteries, has been abandoned by its promoters.

Rev. Mr. Wilson, of Vernon, was on Wednesday evening, Dec. 15th, called to the congregation of Mount Pleasant, Vancouver.

Rev. Adam McQueen has tendered his resignation of the congregation of Hampden, to the Presbytery of Quebec, owing to infirmity and ill health.

Mr. M. H. McIntosh has accepted a call to the congregation of Sapperton and West Westminster. His ordination and induction will take place Dec. 25th.

Rev. And. Halson formerly of Brantford, lately of Maxwell, Ont., has been appointed to Onondaga Presbyterian church, and is in charge of that station.

Rev. Mr. Dawson of the Lakeside Mission, Swansoo, who preached his farewell sermon

on Sunday last, was presented with a well-filled purse at a social held in connection with the mission last week.

Mr. Fred. W. Gilmour, M.A., licentiate, a graduate of the Presbyterian College, Montreal, has accepted a call to the congregation of Savyerville, etc., Presbytery of Quebec. Ordination and induction Jan. 11th.

Rev. J. A. Black has resigned charge of the Presbyterian church at Roslin, and his resignation has been accepted by the Presbytery. The petition of Roslin, Thurlow and Sidney to be united in one congregation was also granted by the Presbytery.

The third anniversary of the opening of the Presbyterian church, at Bridgeport, C. B., was observed on the 19th inst. The pastor, Rev. J. A. McMillan, was assisted by Rev. Anderson Rogers, B.A., of New Glasgow, who preached the dedicatory sermon three years ago. The collection netted \$100.

Rev. Mr. Nichol, pastor of Albert St. church, Sarnia, has not enjoyed good health for some time past, and on Sabbath, Dec. 19th, was seized with a fainting spell and fell to the floor a few minutes after he had commenced his sermon. Mr. Nichol has the sincere sympathy of a large number of friends, who hope for his speedy recovery to health and strength.

In the congregation of Blue Mountain and Garden of Eden, Presbytery of Pictou, N.S., not only every family, but with one exception every communicant and almost every adherent, together with many of the boys and girls contributed, according to the local press, "a something" to the Schemes of the Church during the current year. This is approaching the ideal church. Rev. D. Henderson, a Pine Hill graduate of five or six years standing, is pastor.

A very largely-attended meeting of the elders and board of management of Zion church, Brantford, was held on Wednesday evening, Dec. 15th, to consider the question of appointing an assistant minister to Rev. Dr. Cochrane. Those present favored the proposed step and the matter will probably come up again at the annual meeting of the congregation, in February. The membership of Zion church is now about \$80. At the last communion services fifty new members were received.

A public meeting will be held in St. James Square church, Toronto, this (Thursday) evening to designate Rev. A. S. Grant who has been appointed by the Assembly's Home Mission Committee to the Klondyke. Rev. Drs. Cochrane, Robertson and Warden and Rev. A. S. Grant are expected to address the meeting. It is estimated that from \$8,000 to \$10,000 will be required to initiate the work in the Klondyke. Mr. Grant will leave for his new field of labor about the first of the year.

The anniversary services in connection with Bethel church, Farewell, were observed on Sabbath, Dec. 19th. The Rev. D. M. Ramsay, B.D., Ottawa, (their old pastor) preached excellent sermons both morning and evening, and the Rev. A. H. Kippam, of Tara, in the afternoon, to large and appreciative congregations. On Monday afternoon and evening a very successful entertainment was given which was largely attended, and a very good time spent. The programme was highly appreciated. The proceeds amounted to over \$130.

The anniversary of the Presbyterian church in Nauyasoo, Man., was held on Sabbath, the 12th inst., when the Rev. Mr. Pitblado, of Winnipeg, conducted the services, preaching two excellent and appropriate discourses to large and appreciative audiences, especially in the evening. Mr. Baskie, pastor of the congregation, supplied Mr. Pitblado's pulpit in Winnipeg. On Monday evening the ladies of the congregation held their annual social which was very successful in every respect, after which Mr. Pitblado delivered his celebrated lecture on "Baron and Ian McLaren" which gave great satisfaction.

PRESBYTERY OF SAUGEEN.

The Presbytery of Saugeen met in Mount Forest, on Dec. 14th. Honor certificates were granted Sarah Hunter, Amy Ross, and Edith Isabella Ross, from Woodland congregation, and Maggie Ruth Brown, Mabel Mattie Brown, Janet Paterson, Dun-