

## 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.

The annual business meeting of Erskine church was held on the evening of the 12th inst. The reports were of the most encouraging character. The Treasurer's statement showed total revenue for the year, \$11,322.17, and disbursements, \$11,251.81, and a balance of \$94.00, in the treasury after paying all accounts. The remarks of the pastor, the Rev. A. J. Mowatt, were gratifying and hopeful, particularly his reference to the comparatively large increase in the membership during the year. The following officers and members of the Board of Management were elected; Dr. Charles Ault, President; Thomas Brown, Vice-President; R. Cunningham, Treasurer; J. N. Lising and C. B. Gordon, joint Financial Secretaries, J. D. Paterson, Recording Secretary, and Messrs. T. E. Hodgson, D. H. McLennan, J. Y. Roy, W. Chipchase, A. M. Ewing and R. A. Duntun, Managers. After the business had been disposed of an hour was spent in social intercourse. Refreshments were served by the ladies and an opportunity afforded to such of the new members as were present to make the personal acquaintance of their fellow-worshippers.

The Rev. Prin. MacVicar conducted the anniversary services last Sunday in St. Andrew's church, Carleton Place, of which the Rev. G. A. Woodside is pastor. Large congregations were present, especially in the evening when the service in Zion church was dismissed in order that all might have an opportunity of attending. Such courtesies between neighboring congregations do much to maintain the goodwill that ought to prevail everywhere, and facilitates co-operation in other matters as well.

On Sunday, the 9th inst., the Rev. D. M. Ramsay, of Knox church, Ottawa, officiated at the re-opening of the church at Richmond, Ont. His pulpit in Ottawa, was filled by the Rev. Prof. Scrimger of the Presbyterian College, Montreal.

Dr. J. T. Reid, who for a number of years past has been practising medicine in Montreal, has determined to resume his studies for the ministry and has entered the classes in the Presbyterian College. For some time back Dr. Reid has been active in Christian work, and when he has completed his theological course his double professional qualification would eminently fit him for the Foreign field or for a mission in the Klondike to any of which he expresses himself willing to go.

On Sunday evening last the Rev. Dr. Robert Campbell, of St. Gabriel church, preached a most interesting sermon in reply to a series of discourses recently delivered in the Jesuit church for the special benefit of Protestants, by the Rev. Father Pardow. He expressed himself as cordially welcoming such discussion when courteously conducted, as it had been in this case, but pointed out that the Jesuit Father in appealing to reason and especially in declaring that he could not renounce his reason even at the demand of the Church, was actually planting himself on the Protestant position and asserting the right of private judgment. He then proceeded to prove the soundness of this principle and enforced upon all the necessity of making religion a personal matter based upon individual conviction and dealing directly with God without the intervention of Church or priest.

The Rev. Thomas Bennett, late of Taylor church, has entered upon his new work as District Secretary of the Montreal Bible Society. His former charge of Taylor church does not propose to be long vacant. The Session is asking for a moderation at an early date. There are several names under consideration, any one of whom would make an excellent pastor, and whoever obtains the majority of votes will probably receive a unanimous call.

### GENERAL.

Rev. J. W. Mitchell of Thorold is holding successful Evangelistic services in Harrison, Ont.

Owing to the decline in the lumber business, Uptergrove and Longford Mills

congregations have been reduced to mission stations.

Rev. D. Guthrie and Mrs. Guthrie of Walkerton, have gone to Richmond Va., to spend the winter.

Rev. Dr. McTavish of Central church, Toronto, will conduct the anniversary services in Chalmers' church, Woodstock next Sabbath.

The ordination and induction of the Rev. F. W. Gilmour to the pastorate of the Presbyterian church, Sawyerville, Que., took place on Jan. 11th.

St. Andrew's church, Toronto, of which Rev. W. J. McCaughan is pastor, has had a most successful year. For the first time in seven years the church books have been closed with a credit balance. The balance amounts to over \$300.

The Rev. G. T. Bayne, of Ashton, and Appleton, preached two excellent sermons in Erskine church, Ottawa, on the 9th inst., to well attended congregations. At the morning service the Rev. Mr. Bayne preached 2nd Hebrew, verse 3. In the evening the discourse was from Romans 5, 5-10.

A number of the members of the Presbyterian congregation of Bath and Ernestown called at the residence of their pastor, the Rev. P. W. Currie, Kingston, on Jan. 5th, and presented him with a beautiful fur coat and mitts, as a light token of their esteem. Mr. Currie has for some time been stationed as missionary over the above congregations.

The leading thought suggested by Rev. W. J. McCaughan at St. Andrew's, Toronto, last Sabbath was that the death of self is the secret of success. Selfishness brings forth its own punishment in all departments of life. As our bodies are nourished by vegetable and animal death, so is our better nature developed by the death of the baser nature.

Rev. W. G. Wallace, of Bloor street Presbyterian church, Toronto, last Sabbath gave an excellent exposition of what constitutes happiness in life. Different men in different ages had given about 280 opinions as to the components of happiness, but none were perfect according to Christ, whose first and last work in His public ministry was "blessed."

Rev. Dr. Wardrop, the first pastor of St. Paul's church, Ottawa, preached a fine sermon in St. Paul's Sunday 5th inst. Dr. Wardrop spoke from the text "Death is swallowed up in victory," and gave an able exposition of the meaning of this most important text. The sermon was one of hope, and the doctor was listened to with the closest attention.

St. Paul's Presbyterian church, which was situated on Euclid avenue, Toronto, has been moved to the corner of Barton avenue and Bathurst street. It has been three weeks on the way, and was opened for service for the first time on Sunday, Jan. 9th, in its new location. Regular services will be held in future. The Rev. G. R. Fasken, is the pastor of the Church.

The "Helping Hands" Mission Band, (composed of girls and boys) of Knox church, Cornwall, gave a most interesting and profitable missionary concert in the school-room, on New Year's night. The reports for the year were very satisfactory showing an average attendance of thirty four members, and a contribution of \$36 for missions.—Ethel Glasco Sec.; Mrs. J. Hastie Pres.

On Monday evening, the 3rd inst., the members of the Christian Endeavor of the Presbyterian congregation of Burnside Man., assembled at the manse and presented Rev. Mr. and Mrs. McRae with a framed photograph of the society, and an address signed on behalf of the society. Mr. and Mrs. McRae replied in suitable terms, thanking them for their kindness, a pleasant and social time was spent.

Rev. Dr. Milligan pastor of Old St. Andrew's church, Toronto preached last Sabbath morning from 1 Tim. iii. 16, "Great is the mystery of godliness." He spoke of the Eleusinian mysteries performed at the city of Eleusis in Greece, and of other religious rites of the olden time. In no such way were the mysteries of Christianity shown forth, but rather in God being made manifest in the flesh. Christ Himself by the spirituality of His life unfolded to men the mysteries of the

faith, and every Christian, the main-spring of whose conduct was the purpose to live after God's own heart, also helped to unveil to his neighbor the "mysteries of godliness."

At Knox church Toronto, last Sabbath the pastor, Rev. Dr. Parsons, delivered a missionary discourse, taking his text from Acts. x. 44-45. The necessity of at all times assisting missionary work throughout the world was clearly brought before the congregation and reference was made to the fact that the receipts of the Foreign Missionary Society up to the present were \$5,000 less than for the same period last year.

The anniversary services in connection with St. Andrew's church, Appleton, were held on Sunday, the 9th inst., morning and evening, and were largely attended. Dr. Campbell, of Erskine church, Ottawa, preached two excellent sermons, appropriate for the occasion, and was greatly appreciated by those present. On Monday evening the service was held in Mr. Teskey's hall, after which a rare programme was given in the Church. Dr. Campbell gave one of his fine lectures, entitled "Hold Up," which was very interesting and instructive. The pastor, Rev. G. T. Bayne, occupied the chair.

A very successful meeting of The Young People's Institute of St. James Square church, Toronto was held on Thursday evening last when Prof. Alexander of Toronto University lectured on Browning. The attendance was very large.

Miss Margaret McKellar, M.D., of Central India, who is suffering from a severe cold was unable to be present at the meeting of the city mission Bands held in Erskine church, Toronto, last Friday evening. Mrs. Norman Russell kindly took her place and gave a short address, showing some of the encouragements and discouragements of mission work in India.

The anniversary services held in St. Andrew's church Carleton Place on Jan. 9th were conducted by Principal MacVicar of Montreal. The church was crowded at both services. In the morning the text was chosen from Col. ii. 6, 7. During the discourse the Principal established that the receiving of Christ was the first essential in commencing the true life. Afterwards the doctor showed the necessity of making progress in the new life and above all becoming steadfast in the truths taught from God's Word. The church at night was crowded to the doors. The sermon was based on the following text: "There shall be a resurrection of the dead, both of the just and the unjust." The doctor brought forth abundant proof from both the Old and New Testaments to convince the most skeptical of the reality of the resurrection of the dead, and also explaining fully the resurrection body of our Lord. The regular anniversary tea-meeting was held on Monday evening and was largely attended. Tea was served from six to eight, after which Rev. Mr. Woodside took the chair and presented a good programme which was thoroughly enjoyed. Proceeds from all services amounted to about one hundred dollars.

## Annual Meetings.

### ALMONTE.

The annual congregational meeting of St. Andrew's church was held on Jan. 10th. The various reports brought down showed the congregation to be in a flourishing condition. An assistant will be got for the pastor during the summer months and a vacation of one month granted him.

### ALEXANDRIA.

The annual meeting of the Presbyterian church was held on Jan. 12. Rev. D. McLaren, chairman. The financial report was read by the treasurer, and on motion adopted. The following managers were elected:—Messrs. J. L. Wilson, Isaac Wilson, J. F. McKee, J. Smith, G. McIntosh and David Watson. It was decided to adopt weekly giving by envelope as the most satisfactory mode of collection.

### SWANSEA.

The annual congregational meeting of the Morningside Presbyterian church, was held Jan. 18th. Rev. J. W. Rae, of Toronto