

CHURCH
WORK

Ministers and Churches

NEWS
LETTERS

OTTAWA.

A very strong closing is marking the last days of Rev. Mr. Meikle's evangelistic services in Ottawa.

Rev. Robert Heribson, late of Stewar-ton Church, Ottawa, has arrived home from Scotland, where he has been taking a post-graduate course at Edinburgh University, and is now at his father's home at Sand Bay. The announcement of his engagement to a Glasgow lady was noted in these columns.

Dr. W. F. King, chief astronomer, and Mr. J. S. Plaskett, assistant astronomer, will head the party of Canadian observers which will go to Hamilton Inlet, Labrador, next August to witness the total eclipse of the sun on the 30th of the month. Observatory time will be given to the party direct from Ottawa to Chateau Bay, the last telegraph station on the North shore.

Mr. Meikle, who closes his series of meetings this week, has not lost any of the earnestness he displayed during his first and memorable visit to Ottawa in 1888. Mr. Meikle is not a sensational preacher; but his unaffected earnestness and attractive simplicity of manner are quite as effective. His addresses are interspersed with anecdotes and pathetic stories drawn from his own experiences or the experience of others. The evangelist aims to appeal more to the reason than to the heart. He argues more than appeals. As a consequence his meetings are not marked by the religious excitement that have characterized other special services, but the power of God is felt just as plainly.

The Glebe Presbyterian congregation held service on Sunday for the last time in their old church building. Rev. J. W. H. Milne preached at both services which were largely attended. The opening services will be conducted next Sunday by Rev. Dr. Herridge, who will preach at 11 a.m. and 7 p.m. In the afternoon the speakers will be Hon. R. T. Sutherland, speaker of the House of Commons, and Rev. A. E. Mitchell. On the Monday evening following a social gathering will be held, tea to be served from 6 till 8 o'clock, followed by addresses from city ministers. On Sunday, May 14, the opening services will be continued, the minister being Rev. John Hay of Renfrew. The afternoon speakers will be Mr. R. L. Borden and Rev. J. H. Turnbull.

The services in Erskine Presbyterian church Sunday afternoon were of an evangelistic nature. Rev. W. Meikle, who has been conducting services in the church during the past week, preached at both services. In the afternoon he spoke to a large gathering of men, and in a plain, outspoken manner told them of the temptations which beset them, and gave as an example the downfall of Sampson and David. As soon as Sampson lost his hair his strength departed, and once a man fails to resist temptation he loses his strength of will and will gradually sink further, unless like Sampson he can regain what he has lost. Mr. Meikle's address made a marked impression upon his audience, and when he called upon those who wished to follow the faith to stand, more than three-quarters of those present arose and signified their intention to do so.

In the Maritime Provinces, according to the Presbyterian Witness, Presbyterians have not been able to get all the men required for their mission fields. One more is needed in each Presbytery, but Inverness which wants two. This is serious, as it means lack of service in at least eleven mission fields.

EASTERN ONTARIO.

Rev. McKnight, of Peterboro, has been appointed to the mission at Bancroft, Ont.

Rev. T. A. Sadler, of Russell, and Rev. Woods, of Metcalfe, have been holding special meetings at Marvelville during the past week.

Rev. M. H. Wilson, of Snake River, has received a call to the pastorate of the congregations of Hallville and Reid's Mills, near Kemptville, Ont.

Rev. Mr. Legie, of Winchester, has been preaching in St. Andrew's church, Arnprior.

Mr. Stuart, a Queen's student, will have charge of the Presbyterian church, Concession, during the summer, commencing Sunday April 30.

At the recent Sacramental service in Melville church, Eganville, there was used for the first time a beautifully carved and polished Communion table, presented by a number of the ladies of the congregation.

The trustees of St. Andrew's church, Summerstown, are taking steps to improve the cemetery and secure an endowment for its maintenance. The cemetery being in connection with the first Presbyterian congregation in Ontario, is of more than local interest and large contributions are expected.

The officers and active members of St. John's church Mission Band, Almonte, entertained the honorary members to a birthday "at home" on Thursday evening of last week. Dr. McGregor was chairman and, after opening with devotional exercises, he spoke of the work of the band, after which an interesting programme was presented. Refreshments were served during the evening.

WESTERN ONTARIO.

Rev. Dr. Lyle's subject in Central Presbyterian Church on Sunday evening was, "Did Jesus Preach to the Lost, and With What Result?" First Peter 3, xviii., and 4, vi., showed that Christ preached to the lost, but the result of the preaching was not revealed. Dr. Lyle thought there was an element for the larger hope, but he urged his hearers not to suspend their eternal salvation on a perhaps, and not to go down to death on a chance.

On leaving Bradford, Rev. Dr. Smith was presented with a purse of \$128 and an address expressive of the kindly feelings of the people of his late charge.

Rev. Angus McKay of Lucknow, will leave for Scotland shortly, where he has accepted a call to a church. Before leaving Lucknow his congregation gave him many presents, including a purse containing \$333. Mr. McKay is a preacher of more than average ability, and will do good work wherever he may be settled.

Rev. J. M. Aull, Palmerston, conducted pre-communion services for the Rev. John Gray Reid at Bethel and East Normanby on Good Friday.

We cordially endorse every word in the following, taken from the Fergus News Record:—The many friends of Rev. J. B. Mullan, the popular pastor of St. Andrew's Church, were delighted to know that the Senate of Knox College had unanimously agreed to confer the degree of Doctor of Divinity upon him. Mr. Mullan has, however, decided not to accept the degree, as he felt it was an honor he did not deserve and one that would not suit a plain man like him. He thinks 'Mr.' is good enough for him. We, along with everybody else, do not think so, and feel that it is only right all should have the pleasure of addressing our esteemed friend as Dr. Mullan.

Perhaps the most interesting service on Easter Sunday, undoubtedly from a historic point of view, so far as Guelph is concerned, was that in St. Andrew's church. A brass tablet was contributed by the St.

Andrew's Circle of the King's Daughters, commemorating the institution of the first Sunday school and first church in Guelph, which was in connection with the Church of Scotland, John Galt being a member of that communion. The tablet has been placed to the left of the pulpit, on the opposite side to that of the late Dr. John Hogg, one of the early missionaries to Canada, and for many years the highly respected pastor of St. Andrew's. The inscription reads:—Guelph, founded 23rd April, 1827, by John Galt; St. Andrew's Sabbath school, organized 1828, by James Buchanan; St. Andrew's Church, first built on Market square, 1831, first session, 1832; Rev. Jas. Smith, Moderator; John Inglis, Hugh Wilson, Charles Julius Meikle, Thomas Sandilands, William Elliott, elders.

TORONTO.

It is almost certain that the new Minister of St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, wherever he may be, will not reside in the historic manse of Simcoe street, just south of the church. The surroundings of the church and manse have greatly changed during the past few years, and the managers of the church favor a change of location for the minister's residence. The present manse may be leased by a Women's Emigration Society in Britain; but before anything can be done in this direction the Presbytery must give its consent.

The trustees of Knox Church have decided in favor of placing their new edifice on the west side of Spadina avenue, just a short distance south of Harbord street. The size of the lot is 151 x 188 feet, and the price to be paid is \$24,130. The decision of the trustees is practically final, for the congregation voted to leave the matter in their hands.

Rev. R. C. McDermott, for the past six years pastor of the Fingal Church, came to the city on Saturday and was admitted to the General Hospital, where he will undergo an operation.

The Hamilton Times makes pleasant references to a well known Presbyterian elder, Mr. Robert Lawrie, St. Catharines' octogenarian postmaster, who celebrated his 57th birthday on Wednesday last, in the best of health and strength, considering his years. He has been postmaster there for almost 29 years. For forty years he has been the representative of Knox Church congregation at the Hamilton Presbytery and as a mark of esteem he was made moderator for six months in 1895, and is one of only three laymen who have enjoyed that distinction in the history of the Presbyterian Church in Canada.

Principal Rainy, at an indignation meeting in Glasgow, said the Frees were adopting the tactics of the wolf who complained against the sheep disturbing the water when it wanted to devour them. He denied the allegations of boycotting against the U. F. Church, declaring that it had been all on the other side.

There is a movement in Great Britain for the formation of a guild for the better keeping of Sunday. Less work in the household on the Rest Day is one of the commendable objects. There has been too much tendency on both sides of the Atlantic in recent years to encourage the turning of Sunday into a day of toil. Some people seem to forget that the day cannot be turned into a time of amusement or indulgence for themselves without making it a day of work for their neighbors.