

## 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 meeting of St. John's French church was held on Thursday evening last. The statement presented showed an increase of twenty five members during the year, which is the first of the occupation of the new building. This is all the more encouraging since Dr. Amaron, the pastor, was absent from home for several months of that time. The contributions of the people for the maintenance of ordinances amounted to \$594. The debt on the church has been reduced in various ways by the amount of \$5,000. About \$3000 more are needed to meet their floating liabilities. A deputation from the Presbytery met with the congregation to confer with them regarding the amount raised for the stipend of the minister. So soon as the building debt is placed in a more satisfactory position it is expected that this congregation will make a considerable increase in its contributions for salary, and relieve the French Board of the great row paid. The time has come when that Board must make a determined effort to bring a number of the older French congregations up to the point of self support if the future of this evangelization work is to be guaranteed. There are several which are moving hopefully in that direction and there is a reasonable prospect of success within the next few years. It is only fair to say that some of them would have reached this point long ago but for the constant removal of their people to the United States.

The annual meeting of St. Matthew's Church, Point St. Charles was held on Wednesday evening of this week and partook largely of a social character. The reports show that the congregation has raised during the past year a little over four thousand dollars and all the funds are in a satisfactory condition.

The Rev. Daniel Buffa pastor of the Waldensian Church in Mesina, Sicily, occupied the pulpit of Erskine Church last Sunday morning and gave a most interesting account of the evangelistic work being carried on by this old historic Protestant church in Italy. The enterprise of this little body having in its native mountains only fifteen parishes and about twenty five thousand people all told is most admirable. Already they have pushed their work into all parts of the Kingdom. In less than twenty years they have organized over forty new congregations with pastors and forty seven additional preaching stations. There is abundant room for all the agencies at work in the population of 30,000,000, but there is none that has a stronger claim upon the sympathy and support of the evangelical churches of the world than this. Pastor Buffa will visit the leading cities of Canada and the United States and is authorized to receive any contributions that may be sent towards the mission. These may also be forwarded through any of the regular church agencies. One of pastor Buffa's brothers is a minister of our church in Canada, and is at the present time in charge of a combined French and Italian work in Montreal.

The Rev. Dr. D. L. McCrae of Collingwood has been in the city for the past few days. As he is a graduate of the Montreal College and acted for several years as its financial agent he has many old friends here who are pleased to see him once more and looking so well.

The anniversary services in Calvin Church Pembroke were conducted on Sunday the 14th inst by the Rev. Dr. Scrimger of the Presbyterian College. The weather was fine and splendid congregations assembled both morning and evening. The collections amounted to something over a hundred dollars. Dr. Bayne the pastor, took advantage of the opportunity to relieve Dr. Campbell of Kearsarge whose health we regret to learn is not altogether satisfactory at the present time.

St. John's Presbyterian Church, Brockville, has extended a call to Rev. Mr. Abraham, of Burlington.

The anniversary tea-meeting held in the Presbyterian Church, Brigidon, was a success, realizing about \$120.

The Presbyterian congregation at Dougald have extended a call to Rev. A. F. Vert, formerly of Ste. Croix, Nova Scotia.

Rev. W. S. Smith, of Middleville, will preach anniversary sermons in Melville Presbyterian Church, Eganville, on the 28th inst.

It is understood that Rev. L. W. Them, of Arthur, has received a call to Flesherton Presbyterian Church, and that he will accept the invitation.

Rev. A. F. Tully, of Peterboro, formerly pastor of Knox Church, Mitchell, has decided on removing with his family to one of the American cities.

Collections were taken up at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, London, in aid of the India relief fund. The magnificent sum of \$1,260 was subscribed.

The Woman's Guild, of Knox Church, Cannington, held a very successful at home at the residence of Mr. and Mrs. Thos. Woodward, on Feb. 17.

St. Andrew's Church, New Glasgow, N. S., has extended a unanimous call to Rev. Wm. McC. Thompson, formerly pastor of North Bedeque Presbyterian Church.

Galetta Presbyterian Church has been united to Fitzroy Harbor and Torbolton, and Rev. Mr. McGregor has been called to be pastor of the united congregations.

Rev. R. Campbell, Ph.D., Renfrew, is expected to address the Young People's Home Mission Society of Christian Endeavor on Feb. 26th, on behalf of the Augmentation Fund.

A collection was taken up in the Presbyterian Church, Mount Forest, recently for the relief of the famine stricken millions in India, and the handsome sum of \$52.40 was realized.

The congregation of Knox Church, Lockington, will hold their anniversary sermons in the church, on Feb. 28th, when the Rev. Mr. Gilmore, of London, will preach morning and evening.

Principal Grant, of Kingston, has commenced a series of talks to the Y. M. C. A. He discusses the gold mining speculation and the treaty of arbitration with the United States in the first lecture.

Knox Church, Ottawa, has by the death of Mrs. Wm. Porter, come into the sum of \$1,000 for the sustentation fund and \$500 for the jubilee fund. Mrs. Porter had the use of the money while she lived in accordance with her husband's will.

St. Andrew's Church at Thameford will erect a new manse for the pastor, Rev. Geo. H. Smith. At a meeting of the congregation it was decided to purchase two lots, and erect thereon a manse to cost between three and four thousand dollars. The lots cost \$300.

There were very large congregations at the anniversary services held in the Burgoyne Presbyterian Church on Sabbath, Feb. 14th, when appropriate sermons were preached by Rev. John Little, of Dorsetch, Gray Co. The annual tea meeting was held on Tuesday evening, Feb. 16.

Anniversary services were conducted in Knox Church, Perth, on Sunday Feb. 14th. The Rev. W. F. Herridge, B.D., of St. Andrew's church, Ottawa, preached to large congregations. On Monday Mr. Herridge delivered his lecture on "Elizabeth Barrett Browning" to a large and appreciative audience in the Town Hall. The people were delighted with all the services.

The 5th public meeting of the Knox College Students' Missionary Society attracted a large number of people interested in missionary work in Knox College, Feb. 14th. Rev. W. G. Wallace presided, and the programme provided was thoroughly appreciated. Mr. A. W. McIntosh read an

exceedingly interesting essay on "The Jesuit Foreign Missionary to Canada," and Rev. W. J. Clark delivered an address on "A Sound Basis for Missionary Appeal," which was warmly received. Mr. F. D. Roxburgh, who spent the last summer in Field, B.C., engaged in missionary work, told of his experience there, and the balance of the programme comprised musical selections by Miss J. Grant and Messrs. Gorrie, Murray, Wieber and Roxburgh.

The anniversary services in connection with Zion Church, Carlton Place, on Feb. 14th and 15th, passed off very successfully. On Sabbath the Rev. Mr. Hutcheson preached an excellent sermon from Eph. iii. 14, 15. On Monday a musical and literary entertainment was given, presided over by the pastor, the Rev. A. A. Scott. A very pleasant and enjoyable time was spent.

An excellent series of lectures on elocution has been given during the present session at Queen's by Rev. D. G. S. Connery, M.A., of Winchester, formerly lecturer on Elocution in the University. The interest shown in the lectures speaks well for the popularity of Mr. Connery's method of handling his subject, and for the future success of the students who desire to make themselves efficient readers and speakers.

The Peterborough Presbytery met at Havelock, Feb. 11th, for induction of Rev. D. A. Hamilton, Rev. James Sommerville, B.A., of Norwood, presided. Rev. A. J. McMullen, of Springville, preached, Rev. J. G. Potter addressed the minister, and Rev. D. A. Thomson, of Hastings, the people. In the evening a reception was tendered the new pastor, when the different denominations in the village were represented.

The Presbyterian church, Arnprior, was crowded to witness the induction of the Rev. A. McGregor, on Feb. 16th, as pastor of that church. The congregations of Galetta and Torbolton were also well represented. The clergymen who took part in the services were the Rev. Dr. Campbell, of Ottawa; Rev. Mr. Bryan, of Richmond; Rev. John MacLaren, of Kinburn; Rev. Mr. Patterson, of Aylmer; and Rev. Mr. Nelson, of Bristol. The service was very impressive.

Rev. D. R. Drummond, M.A., was inducted on Wednesday, Feb. 17th, into the pastorate of Knox church, St. Thomas. On reaching St. Thomas on Tuesday Mr. Drummond's experience was a unique one, as he had never met a single member or adherent of the church over which he was called to be pastor. In fact he knew only one man in St. Thomas, and he belonged to another denomination. This speaks well for Mr. Drummond's reputation as a preacher and as a pastor.

The pulpit of the First Presbyterian church, Port Hope, was occupied Feb. 14th by the Rev. D. C. Hossack, of Parkdale Presbyterian church. The attendance at both services was very large. The morning subject was taken from 2 Kings V. The story of the healing of Naaman who was captain of the host of the king of Syria, but a leper. Many lessons were derived from the event which led up to the healing of this great man. The evening text was taken from 2 Kings vii. 3.

Last Sabbath after a sermon by the pastor, Rev. J. M. Whitelaw, B.D., on the text "Give ye them to eat," the Leeds congregation placed on the plate the sum of \$111 for the Indian Famine Fund. This congregation is steadily advancing, though the Protestant population in this section of the Province is gradually decreasing. There is now a membership of over 400. Last year, though a hard one, the pastor's salary was advanced and \$254 given to the regular schemes of the church, which is considerably in advance of any previous year.

A large number of the English River and Howick congregations assembled at Riverfield to consider the question of giving a call to a minister. The Moderator Rev. G. Whillans, presided. Rev. J. W. M. Leod, of Finch, was declared elected. The call was unanimously agreed by these people. The secretary of the building committee reported \$2,400 subscribed towards the new manse, and that \$500 more were required. The congregation decided to proceed with the plans unaltered, and to collect the balance at a future date.