

trumpet call to individual work and hope, a plain pressing of responsibility and of privilege, an invitation to be up and doing now as though the presence of Christ were upon us. We should have desired from our friends in that distant field some details of work done, assured that thereby we should all receive a stimulus.

WINGHAM.—On 19th ult. (November) the Rev. R. K. Black, late of Granby, was duly installed into the pastorate of this church by council duly called; the churches of London and Guelph being represented. Rev. H. D. Hunter was appointed moderator. An appropriate sermon was preached by Rev. D. McGregor, from Matt. x. 39. The ordination prayer and address to the pastor was given by Rev. H. D. Hunter, and an earnest charge to the people was delivered by Rev. T. Hall. There was a good audience, and a very pleasant and profitable time was experienced. We congratulate pastor and church, and pray for God's richest blessing upon them.

WINNIPEG.—We have before us Winnipeg papers indicating that our friend, Mr. J. B. Silcox, keeps actively at work. There is notice of an earnest address to the Blue Ribbon Society, and a full account of sermons preached to crowded congregations, on the relation of young men to the church. We append the closing part of the report before us, the text being Titus ii. 6: "He found that not a few young men objected to the church services because they were not entertaining enough. He replied that the great business of the church is to instruct, not to entertain. Young men had no right to look to it for amusement. The church existed for serious-minded people, and young men who were not sober-minded or thoughtful would not, he supposed, care for it, and would vote that its services were dry and tedious. The lectures of the professor in the college were often dry, and the student found it wearisome to follow the lecturer; but he did not condemn the professor and the college for this. He did not go to the college for comic opera; it was not the business of the professor to give amusement, but instruction. So with the church and the pulpit. The very themes they had to discuss often required close thought and earnest study, and they need not be surprised that the light and frivolous ones should conclude they were dry and tedious. It would be quite right for Christian men to provide amusement and entertainment for the people. A wide sphere of usefulness was open to the philanthropist in this direction. But the church, as a church, in his judgment, should not go into the show business. The church service should never be converted into a semi-sacred concert or pious theatre. He believed that many of those modern devices for drawing the people to church, and for drawing the money out of them, were devices of the devil. He would never sanction the

turning of the church into a holy circus; or into an ecclesiastical terpsichorean society whose people dance for the glory of God or for the money they can get. What Christ said of certain men, so he would say of these schemes: They are not fit for the Kingdom of God."

WOODSTOCK.—The Rev. W. Cuthbertson, B.A., who occupied the chair of the Congregational Union of England and Wales in 1879, and who recently accepted a call to a church in Chicago, has visited this field, received, and accepted a call to the pastorate! Mr. Cuthbertson is a man of rare attainments and of great experience in the old land, and we do not wonder at the enthusiasm he has called forth at Woodstock. We understand that his induction is fixed for the 15th inst. (Dec.) and we shall endeavour to duly chronicle the same.

EASTERN DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

This Association held its annual meeting in the parsonage of the Congregational Church, Ottawa, on the 21st and 22nd of October last. There were present: Rev. Dr. Jackson, Kingston First; Allan Macfadyen, B.A. Kingston Second; J. Wood, Ottawa; D. Macallum, Maxville; G. A. Jamieson, Brockville; E. C. W. McColl, M.A., Middleville. Rev. E. C. W. McColl was elected chairman and Rev. Allan Macfadyen, re-elected secretary-treasurer. The Association first discussed the work of the Home Missionary Society, and decided to leave the arrangements for holding the annual missionary meetings in the district with the pastors of the churches, each pastor arranging for his own meeting. The following resolution was unanimously agreed upon, "That in view of the depletion of the treasury of the society and the urgency of the claims upon its funds, arising out of the constant extension of its work in new and most hopeful fields, this Association earnestly presses upon the churches in the district the need of more promptness in raising and forwarding to the treasurer their annual contributions and, whenever possible, of placing them in his hand before the next quarterly payment, on the 1st of January." Then the Association considered the best means of extending church work amongst the churches of the district. Two valuable papers, one by the chairman, the Rev. E. C. W. McColl, on the "Desirability of Instructing Young People in the Principles of Congregationalism," the other by the Rev. D. Macallum, on "How to Care for Young Converts," were read and commented upon. The Association recommended that a synopsis of each of them be sent to THE CANADIAN INDEPENDENT for publication.

On Tuesday evening the Ottawa Congregational Church gave a welcome social to the Association. Not-