

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.

A good many prominent ministers, both clerical and lay are spending their holiday on the other side of the Atlantic. Among the best known of the latter, is Sir William Dawson, so long the honored principal of McGill. His visit to the old world at this time is partly due to an interesting social event in his own family—the marriage of his youngest son, Dr. Rankin Dawson, to Miss Coates of Paisley, daughter of the late John Coates and niece of Sir Peter Coates, by whom she has been brought up. The marriage was celebrated quietly at St. Nicholas Church, Chester Square, London, by the Rev. Canon Fleming, vicar and chaplain-in-ordinary to the Queen. The reception held subsequent to the wedding was attended among others by Sir Donald Smith.

A day or two previously Sir William Dawson presided at a meeting of the members of the Victoria Institute, and was accorded a warm welcome. The proceedings were commenced by the Rev. Dr. Walker, reading a brief introductory paper on 'Geology and Recent Egyptian Research,' after which Sir William described the extensive use made by the ancient Egyptians of the stones found in the various geological formations, the evidence of the artistic talent of the nation and their marvelous perseverance in carrying out great works, giving instances of the patient painstaking of a people which found the valley of the Nile a waste and left it for all time, an evidence of the industry of one of the most remarkable races the world has ever known.

Not many congregations in Canada can yet boast of a history extending over three quarters of a century. It was natural therefore that St. Andrew's Church, Lanark, should decide to note the seventy-fifth anniversary of its existence which occurred on the 8th of June last. The early settlers of Lanark were chiefly from Lanarkshire and Renfrewshire, Scotland. Many of them were Paisley weavers. The first to settle on the site of the present village was a ship load of immigrants from Scotland, who arrived in the summer of 1820, and spent the first year in Canada encamped on a hillside overlooking the site of the village. The Rev. William Bell, Perth, sent out from Scotland in the year 1817 to administer to the spiritual wants of the settlers at Perth, took a deep interest in the new arrivals, and on June 24, 1821, organized the Lanark Presbyterian Church. With the exception of one or two, all the original worshippers have passed away. Those yet living were in infancy when the new congregation was formed. In March, 1822, the sacrament of the Lord's Supper was first commemorated by the congregation, forty communicants partaking. About this time the Rev. Dr. John Gemmel, Dalry, Scotland, a member of the associate Synod of Scotland, took up his residence at Lanark, and on the second Sabbath in August, 1822, conducted divine service for the new congregation, which assembled in a log schoolhouse. In the following month he was formally tendered the pastorate. During the second year of his ministry the first church in Lanark was erected, it being a stone building, 23 x 36 feet, with eight windows and a gallery across one end. The seating capacity was about three hundred. Over the entrance was a tin-clad steeple. Financial assistance for the erection of the church was obtained in Scotland, through the efforts of Colonel Marshall. This money arrived in March, 1823. The building was completed in 1824. The caretaker was paid a yearly salary of two bushels of wheat. In 1828 Dr. Gemmel ceased to minister to the people of Lanark, and some time elapsed before another minister was secured. In 1830 the Rev. William McMaster was sent out from Scotland, arriving at Lanark in January, 1831. During the first year of his ministry he baptized forty children. For over eleven years he had a large and sparsely settled tract of country under his care. The congregation in-

creased to ninety, with three stations. In 1861 Dalhousie withdrew and supported a minister separately. The Rev. Thomas Fraser was inducted pastor in June, 1843, two years after Mr. McAlister left to go to Sarnia. Mr. Fraser continued as pastor until 1861. When Mr. Fraser held first communion service there were 170 in attendance. People often drove thirty miles to attend the Lord's Supper. In 1851 a church bell was purchased, and in 1852 it was rung for the first time by Mr. Robert James. Mr. William C. Clark was engaged to assist Mr. Fraser in 1858. When the last named retired in 1861, Mr. Clark was ordained and became pastor. In 1860 steps were taken towards building a new church, and in 1862 it was completed, costing £1,200. On May 6, 1862, the Rev. James Wilson, M. A., began his ministry, the membership being 106. An organ was introduced into the service in 1872, and in 1874 a Sunday-school building was erected. In 1882, after a pastorate of over thirty years, the Rev. Mr. Wilson retired. After the pastorate had remained vacant for six months, the Rev. D. M. Buchanan, B. A., was called being inducted on July 20, 1893. A new manse has been built, costing \$1,825. Nearly three years have elapsed under the present pastorate, during which time the congregation has made rapid progress.

General.

Rev. W. C. Calder has been called, and is shortly to be settled in the newly organized congregation of Loggieville, near Chatham, N.B.

At a largely attended meeting of Knox church congregation, Quebec, July 9, a unanimous call was extended to the Rev. W. A. J. Martin, of Toronto, at a salary of \$1,500 per annum, and one month's holidays. The Rev. Dr. Torrance presided.

A unanimous call from St. Andrew's church, Peterborough, has been extended to Rev. J. G. Potter, of Southside, Presbyterian church, Parliament street, this city. The matter will come up at the next meeting of the Toronto Presbytery, when Mr. Potter will make known his decision.

Rev. E. P. McKay, secretary of foreign missions, Presbyterian Church, accompanied by Rev. Dr. McLaren, left the city on Tuesday for a tour of British Columbia, and the North-West Territories. They will visit the Chinese, Indian, and other missions stations.

The Presbyterian church at Central Park, B.C., which was only built a short while ago, was totally destroyed by fire, June 30. The building caught fire from sparks from a clearing, and before discovered the flames had got a good hold. There was no insurance on the building.

On Wednesday evening, July 1st, at the close of the meeting of the Christian Endeavor Society, Miss Lily Heron, in behalf of the members and adherents of the congregation of Burn's church, (Presbyterian) Aabburn, presented their late pastor, R. B. Smith, who is on the eve of taking his departure to some other sphere of labor, with a well-filled purse as expressive of their good feeling and well-wishes for his future usefulness and prosperity in the Master's work. A short time previous to this the Ladies' Aid Society of same congregation presented Mrs. Smith with a purse and an address bearing testimony to her deep interest in the work of the Society. Together the purses made quite a handsome sum to the pastor and his partner as a token of the respect and esteem in which they and their work is viewed by friends in the congregation.

Presbytery of Inverness.

The Presbytery of Inverness met at Strathlorne on the 1st inst. Rev. Alex. Ross was appointed moderator, and the clerk re-elected. Rev. K. McKenzie was appointed to supply Middle River, his services to begin there after the 5th inst.

Attention was called to the failure of some of our vacant congregations to contribute toward the schemes of the Church last year. It was agreed to ask ministers and others supplying those fields to see that the matter be not neglected this year. East Lake, An-

slie, was not prepared for moderation in a call, but may apply soon for an ordained missionary. The Presbytery will meet at Whycomoh, Sept. 15th. D. McDonald, clk.

Presbytery of Toronto.

The Presbytery of Toronto held its regular monthly meeting on Tuesday, the 7th July, the Rev. Robert Thynne, Markham, Moderator. The Standing Committees for the year were struck, and to those of former years was added a Committee on Church Property, to whom all matters relating to the transference of property, granting permission to secure loans, etc., shall be referred. The congregations of Unionville, etc., extended a call to the Rev. Thos. N. Mitchell, B. A., a licentiate of the church, and provisional arrangements were made for his induction at Unionville, on the 28th day of July, instant, in the event of his acceptance. The congregations at Union and Norval extended a call to the Rev. W. A. MacKay, a licentiate of the church, and on Mr. MacKay signifying his acceptance it was agreed to meet for his ordination and induction at Union church, on Tuesday, the 4th day of August, next, Presbytery meeting for the ordination trials at 10.30 a. m., and for the public ordination and induction at 2.30 p. m., on the same day. The Moderator of Presbytery was appointed to preside, Mr. Rae to preach, Mr. W. C. Clark to address the people, and Mr. J. C. Tibb to address the minister. Arrangements were also made for the induction of Professors G. L. Robinson, Ph. D., and J. Ballantyne, B. D., recently appointed to the chairs of Old Testament Literature and Exegesis, and of Apologetics and Church History in Knox College. It was agreed to meet in Bloor St. Church, Toronto, on Wednesday, the 7th day of October, at 3 o'clock in the afternoon for their induction, the Moderator of Presbytery presiding. Rev. Dr. Wardrop was invited to address the newly inducted professors. The congregation of Knox church, Milton, received permission to negotiate a new loan, reducing and consolidating their present debt. After lengthened consideration it was agreed to place Morningside Mission altogether under the control of the Presbytery; Home Mission Committee for supply of ordinances, and James Mitchell, James Turnbull and George Keith were appointed Assessors with the Session. The congregation of St. Paul's City, presented a memorial against the action of Presbytery in refusing to grant the request of the congregation to secure a more favorable site. It was stated that this refusal would affect most seriously the progress of the congregation. After hearing Commissioners, a motion was passed assuring the congregation of the sympathy and interest of the Presbytery, and the desire to do all in its power to promote the interests of the work there. Rev. R. S. Hutcheon, of the Presbyterian church in the United States was, by permission of the General Assembly, received as minister of the Presbyterian church in Canada.

R. C. TIBB, Clerk.

Standing Committees of Presbytery for the next twelve months:—

1. Home Missions—Messrs. Gilray, Potter, Brown, Hossack, White, and the Representative Elders for Am. Church and Central Church Sessions, City, and the Moderators of Sessions for the various Mission Stations.
2. Augmentation—Messrs. MacDonal, Dr. Parsons, Thynne, Wallace J. C. Tibb, Frizzell, Dr. Hunter, H. E. Reid, Amos and the Representative Elders for College St., and Weston and Woodbridge Sessions.
3. Foreign Missions—Messrs. MacKay, Dr. Milligan, Dr. McTavish, Milne and the Representatives for St. Andrew's (City) and Knox church Sessions.
4. French Evangelization—Messrs. McCaul, Jordan and John Brown, Elder.
5. Colleges—Messrs. Wallace, Dr. Carmichael and A. Coulter, Elder.
6. Assembly Fund—Messrs. Morison, McHaffy and McCall, Elders.
7. Widows' and Orphans' Fund—Messrs. Mutch, Campbell, C. A., and Harton, Elder.
8. Aged and Infirm Ministers' Fund—Messrs. Burns, Dr. Parsons, W. C.