

INDUCTION AT LONDON.

The First Presbyterian church has chosen a successor to their late pastor, Rev. W. J. Clarke, in the person of Rev. John Gibson Inkster, B.A., recently of Bristol, England, whose induction took place last Thursday afternoon. Rev. Dr. Macdonald, Moderator of the London Presbytery, presided. Rev. W. L. Nicol, B.A., preached the sermon, and there after the impressive induction ceremony took place. Rev. Dr. Ross then addressed the minister; followed by Rev. Dr. Munro, who charged the people as to their duties. After the service, Mr. Inkster was conducted to the door of the church, where he was introduced to the congregation. In the evening a banquet was tendered Mr. Inkster and the members of the Presbytery in the school-room, at which a large number of the members of the congregation and several invited guests attended. The affair was highly successful from every standpoint. The repast, provided by the ladies, was most attractively spread, and the young men of the congregation waited on the guests.

Mr. H. Bapty was chairman, and after extending a hearty welcome to Mr. Inkster, introduced a programme of speeches and music.

Mayor Staveland, himself a Presbyterian, spoke on behalf of the city, saying he was sure Mr. Inkster would find it a very pleasant spot to live in. London owed a great deal to the Presbyterian Church, and especially to the First Presbyterian church. Dr. Proudfoot, one of the early pastors, was also one of the founders of London. Rev. W. J. Clark, the former pastor, was a man beloved by all classes, irrespective of race, creed or color. He thought Mr. Inkster would be equal to the task of following such a man. The First Presbyterian church had made a wise selection in Rev. Mr. Inkster, who would prove a credit to the congregation and to the city of London.

Rev. Dr. McCrae, Rev. James Rollins, Rev. E. Leslie Pidgeon and Alderman Armstrong spoke on behalf of the Presbytery.

Greetings were conveyed to Mr. Inkster and the First Presbyterian church by Rev. D. E. Martin, representing the Ministerial Alliance; Rev. D. S. Hamilton, of the First Congregational church; Rev. Mr. Garratt, of the Christian Workers' church, and Adj. Howell, of the Salvation Army.

Rev. J. J. Patterson, of Sarnia, conveyed the greetings of the Sarnia Presbytery, and congratulated the congregation of the First Presbyterian church on securing so able a man as Rev. Mr. Inkster.

Rev. David James, who has been supplying the pulpit for some months, also spoke.

Rev. Mr. Inkster followed. He thanked the various speakers for the many kind things said of him. He could not say they were all true, but they were all kind.

"I suppose that I am expected to state my policy," said Mr. Inkster, "both as a citizen and as a minister of this church. I feel that I cannot do so. I do not know your city and its needs. I do not know your people. I know I am following a very good man. Mr. Clark was beloved of his people, and he was worthy to be loved. I do not care to follow an easy man. The people who love one man as this congregation loved Mr. Clark are very apt to love another. Good things are always hard, and while the task may not be easy, it is an inspiring one."

After thanking the representatives of the other churches, Mr. Inkster said: "I am an ardent advocate of union. I believe every great nation, on the whole, had one great religion. England will never know what she owes to the Church of England. Scotland will never know what she owes to the Presbyterian Church. Although there have been schisms and divisions and reformations, yet the nation was welded into great-

ness by one great religion. That must be the case in Canada. But the conditions in Scotland that gave rise to the Presbyterian church are not the conditions of Canada. The conditions that gave rise to the Church of England are not the conditions here. All that is true in the Catholic Church, all that is true in the English Church, the Presbyterian Church, the Methodist Church, the Baptist Church, and all the other churches, will endure, and I am longing for the day when in Canada there will be one great Canadian National Church. We all agree on the essentials, and it is only the non-essentials about which there is any difference."

The speaker wanted to be a citizen, not only of this city, but of Canada. There are tremendous possibilities in this country. It might not be his duty to be a member of Parliament, or a Cabinet minister or mayor, but it was his duty in the pulpit to inspire the congregation with principles for work that he had not time to do. He thanked them again for their very cordial welcome.

A hearty vote of thanks was tendered the congregation of the First Presbyterian church on behalf of the Presbytery by Rev. Dr. Macdonald and Rev. Dr. McCrae, and it was enthusiastically carried.

The gathering broke up by singing the National Anthem.

PRESBYTERY OF ROCK LAKE.

This Presbytery met for its February meeting in Morden. Sederunt: Rev. J. Caldwell, moderator; Wm. Caven, clerk; Rumball, Mackay, Mason, Scott, Clarkson, Hamilton, Faryon, Little, Beattie, Whitling, Hartley, ministers, and Messrs. Harris, Coulter, Fox, Bowman, Wright, McMillan, Robertson, elders.

The reports of the various committees were read and received and adopted: Church Life and Work, by Rev. Chas. Mackay; Sunday School Report, by Rev. E. Mason; Manitoba College, by Rev. F. J. Hartley; Presbytery Home Mission Report and Augmentation Report, by Rev. M. C. Rumball; Young People's Societies, by Rev. R. A. Clarkson; Statistical Report, Rev. Wm. Caven; Systematic Giving, by Rev. J. A. Beattie; Presbytery Fund Report, by Rev. A. Hamilton. In the evening, at 8 o'clock, the public were invited to listen to the reports of Sessions, on the "Basis of Union." Only one session, that of Thornhill, had a report ready. They made some criticism of the basis and a number took part in the discussion. After 9 o'clock the Presbytery continued its work.

As the Assembly is to be held in Winnipeg this year a ballot was taken for the election of commissioners. The following were elected: Messrs. Rumball, Hamilton, Mason and Hartley, ministers; and Messrs. Fox, Bowman, Wright and Robertson, elders.

The overture of the Synod to the Assembly re the erecting of a new Presbytery was discussed and left over to the May meeting.

It was decided to meet at Roland in May, and to hold a conference on Young People's Societies.

A committee was appointed to consider a matter of a Presbyterian Sunday School Convention, with a conference on young people's work. The committee consisted of Messrs. Mason, Scott and Caldwell, ministers, and their representative elders.

It is a pleasure to find that the indebtedness to the church and Manse Building Fund is being decreased.

The good people of Morden entertained the Presbytery in a very hospitable manner.

There are now several lady gondoliers in Venice, and the men of the trade are organizing an agitation against them.

BRITISH AND FOREIGN.

It is announced that the Prince of Wales contemplates giving up York Cottage and taking a larger residence at Sandringham.

In the forthcoming London Pageant Mr. W. T. Stead is to appear as Oliver Cromwell, for which purpose he will have to shave his flowing beard.

The Rev. T. J. Morgan, minister, Yatalyera, Swansea, has received and accepted a unanimous invitation to the pastorate of Kingsland Church, Bristol, and intends entering upon the duties of his new pastorate early in April.

Prince Eitel Fritz, second son of the Kaiser, stayed in Paris on his way home from Lieben, where he attended the Royal funeral. This is the first time since the war that a Prussian prince has set foot (otherwise than incognito) in the French capital.

Dr. Maclaren, who is just now staying with his daughter at Colwyn Bay, celebrated his eighty-second birthday on Tuesday. "The Prince of Preachers," as he has long been known, is able to do a little work daily, and he keeps up the habit of a midday "constitutional."

Sir Harry Maclean has reached Tangier safely. It is interesting to recall that Sir Harry's father is still living. The Maclean of Loch Buie is upwards of ninety years of age. He owns considerable property, including some fine shooting, in the Isle of Mull.

Two of the ministers who a few years since severed their connection with Calvinistic Methodism and joined the Presbyterian Church of England have returned to Calvinistic Methodism, viz: the Rev. Ellis W. Evans, of Pensarn, Aberclee, and the Rev. Richard Hughes, of Bournemouth, formerly assistant professor at Bala Theological College.

The anniversary of Dickens' birthday was chosen as a fitting occasion by the donors of the National Dickens Library to present their splendid collection to be housed in the Guildhall Library. The Lord Mayor, in a speech accepting the custody of the library, mentioned that he and his wife heard Dickens give his last reading in public nearly forty years ago.

The total Foreign Missionary contributions received by the English Presbyterian Church in 1907 amount to the goodly sum of £30,602. This includes donations and legacies; the income of the Women's Missionary Association (£6,623); the contributions from the Scottish Auxiliary (£2,155), from the Christian Endeavor Societies (£698), and from the Sunday-school children (£2,308). The largest contributions came from the following congregations:—Westbourne-grove, £507; Regent-square, £552; St. Paul, £908; and Trinity, Birkenhead, £1,087.

"The Unrest in India and what it means," was the subject of a paper by Rev. C. H. Hoeken, read before the Liverpool Ministers' Meeting recently. The speaker pointed out that of the population of 300 millions only 16 millions were educated. There are in the country no fewer than 147 languages, and the social distinctions could hardly be counted. The awakening in India he considered to be a desire for a better and a larger life. It was the beginning of a day when the life was awakening to its possibilities, and instead of passivity there would be activity and a taking part in the real life of the nation by the people. Mr. Hoeken has spent some years in India, as has Rev. Arminius Burgess, who, when speaking, said that the unrest there was to him a happy sign.

A Greek prisoner who is sentenced to death has to wait two years before the sentence is carried out.