

Pastoral Letter.



DEAR FRIENDS,—On coming to this circuit a year ago it was a pleasant surprise to find the parsonage through your most commendable energy sufficiently near completion to admit of immediate occupancy.

The work of the year was undertaken in dependence upon God and with full realization of the difficulties involved in following one who had been in charge four years and who was familiar with all the affairs of the church and intimately acquainted with all the members of the congregation.

So far as the work of the church during the year can be represented in reports, you will find it set forth in the following pages which I hope you will carefully peruse.

Since returns were made to the District meeting in May 1898, eight of our members have died, viz.—Mrs. T.W. Belot, Mrs. C. Rivett, Mrs. J. K. Ried, Messrs. James Brown, S. Brady, W. Daniels, S. Evans, and J. Smeaton. There has also been an unusually large number of removals to other places, yet a slight increase in the membership of the church is reported.

It has been a peculiar pleasure to welcome to the fellowship of our church so many from other circuits.

I have been greatly encouraged in my public ministry by your regular attendance at the Sunday and mid-week services and I most sincerely hope for its continuance.

The cheerfulness and liberality which you have contributed to the various funds of the church is worthy of great praise and has been duly appreciated by the members of the Quarterly and Trustee Board.

In behalf of the effort now being made to pay the floating debt on the church in connection with the 20th century