

a large tent was erected opposite, or out from the door of the chapel. Tables, holding eight each, were provided for 600. Those for the men were set out under the tent; those for the women were set in the chapel. There were over 100 women present, a remarkably large number. The day was spent in singing, speaking, etc.

Mrs. Junor had her sewing machine present with which they were wonderfully interested. The day will long be remembered by the people, and something like the remembrance of the Church at home from some such great fact as the late union of the churches. As the great union meetings of the Church in Canada were a stimulus and a strength, so was this meeting to the hitherto disjointed little communities of Christians here. They now know their unity and something of their strength. Peculiarly auspicious was the day. It had been raining for over a week, but on Tuesday the rain ceased, and on Wednesday the day was all that anyone could wish. We feel very thankful to our Heavenly Father that He thus favoured us. Since the meeting we have had rain nearly all the time. We are now looking forward to two or three months' rain. To-day it is very cold, the thermometer standing at 40.

Our Christmas is somewhat of a sad one to us, our hearts and memories going back to the last one when we were among our dear friends, in our own land, and our family complete. Now our vacant chair is never out of our remembrance.

REMINISCENCES OF SIXTY YEARS ON THE OTTAWA.

In the summer of 1818, a number of emigrants from Perthshire, Scotland, got from the Government a free passage to Canada. Three vessels were chartered, the "Jean" of Greenock, the "Curlew" of London, and the "Sophia." Our family consisted of ten, five boys and three girls. I was the third eldest and in my twelfth year. Although I could read English quite correctly, I could not speak it. Young as I was, I have a distinct recollection of what transpired in our circle from that time to this. I cannot give the precise dates. We arrived in Quebec in seven weeks and three days from Greenock. There were but two steamboats then running between Quebec and Montreal, "The Car of Commerce" and the "Montreal." We got to Montreal in the first named, early in the month of October. The steamers then had to be drawn by oxen and horses past the current at St. Mary to the place of landing. There was no wharf at Montreal then. Long planks were used for a gangway. There was but one ship in the harbour, said to belong to the Hudson's Bay Company. The town then presented a shabby appearance, with narrow, crooked streets and old fashioned houses, many of them having iron shutters to their windows. Where St. Ann's Market now stands, was a reservoir, for the filth and rubbish of the town. What is now Craig street was then a natural swamp, with only a few scattered houses north of it, and none toward the mountain but the McTavish house which was said to be haunted by a ghost. The place presents a different appearance to-day, the whole space being laid out in broad streets at right angles, with shops, churches and magnificent private residences. When the immigrants all arrived we were sent to Lachine by carts. Our passage up the Ottawa was by batteaux rowed by French Canadians. In three days we got to Point Fortune, and our luggage was transported mostly in ox carts past the Long Sault to Hawkesbury. We were there a Sabbath, and the Rev. Mr. McKelligan preached to us. When the boats arrived we reloaded and started. We had to camp in the woods at night. One night we were surprised to see a large canoe putting to shore at our camp, with a numerous crew, all speaking Gaelic. These men were engaged in the trouble between Lord Selkirk and the Hudson's Bay Company. After three days' rowing we arrived at the Chaudiere Falls. As early as the year 1800 there was a settlement commenced by the late Philemon Wright on the north side of the Ottawa, but the south side was a wilderness. That summer the 100th regiment was disbanded and located upon land in the township of Goulburn. The late Colonel Burke was the Government agent. As our location was in the township of Beckwith, with no road to it, and as it was now late in the season the people built huts of poles covered with pine branches. When the men were absent choosing their land some of these huts caught fire and some valuable

articles were burnt. Afterwards, when the Rideau Canal was building, Commissary Fletcher in turning over a flag for worms to fish with, discovered some gold coin. Neither the number nor the value was stated. He advertised his discovery but no claimant appeared. There was an old man of the name of John Gow, a butcher, who was known to have had money, and who died shortly after his arrival. This man was believed to have been the owner of the hidden treasure. Many of the immigrants whose means were exhausted would have suffered, were it not for a few who had means, and assisted their neighbours. One worthy to be named was the late John Stewart, who lived near Ashton. This section of the country is more broken by swamps than the western section, which added greatly to the hardships which the early settlers had to endure, as everything had to be carried on men's backs. When roads were opened across swamps, trees were laid lengthwise to walk upon. The late Duke of Richmond, then Governor-General, was obliged to do the same when passing through to inspect the country. To the great loss of this section, that nobleman died of hydrophobia on the 20th of August, 1820, in Chapman's barn, about three miles from the village of Richmond.

The settlers who had no teams exchanged work in logging; and it was not unusual to see the wife, with a handspike, helping her husband. For the first two years Indian corn and potatoes were the staple articles of food. As there were no mills, some procured pepper mills, and those who had not even a pepper mill carried their grist upon their backs to the house of the nearest neighbour who had one, and ground it by hand. With the exception of three or four far advanced in years, all the first pioneers have passed away, leaving their successors comfortably settled on clear farms and many with good stone houses and other comforts, living under the freest, and if honestly worked, the purest Government under the sun. Among the settlers were some pious men and women from the parish of Comrie, and meetings were got up for worship on the Sabbath, men taking turns in reading the Word and prayer. One Sabbath a couple of strangers made their appearance at the meeting, one middle-aged, the other a rather good looking young man. A hint was given that the elder of the two was a preacher. He was invited to engage in worship, but declined until all was over, when he took the Bible and read the third chapter of Paul's Epistle to the Galatians, in Gaelic, with strong Breadalbane twang, "O, a Ghalatanaich amadeach, co a chuir druidd-eachd oirbh?" "O foolish Galatians, who hath bewitched you?" on which he laid strong emphasis. It turned out that he was a Baptist preacher from Glen-garry, who having found out that a handsome young woman had arrived in Beckwith, had accompanied the young man to aid him in his efforts to get himself a wife. The next day they got Kate Maclaren persuaded to accompany them and become Mrs. John Fisher. The preacher's text amused the youngsters for many a day afterwards. In the year 1821 the Rev. Mr. Bell, who ministered to the Perth settlers, came to Beckwith and dispensed the Lord's Supper at Franktown, in Wickham's tavern, in a room over the bar-room, and the late David Maclaren, Esq., the father of Professor Maclaren of Knox College, Toronto, acted as elder. The preacher took for his text Rev. iii. 2. "Be watchful and strengthen the things which remain that are ready to die," and his after address was founded on the words, "Fear not, little flock; it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom." The people got up a subscription in kind; Mr. Bell applied to the Secession Synod for a minister; and in 1822 the Rev. George Buchanan arrived. He was an aged man, with a large family of eight daughters and two sons. All went well until some men, with more conceit than religion, discovered that he was not a minister of the Church of Scotland, and created trouble in the congregation. The first Presbytery met in the township of Beckwith in a log shanty covered with basswood scoops. Mr. Buchanan was Moderator. The other ministers present were Mr. Bell of Perth, Mr. Glen of Richmond, and Dr. Gemmel of Lanark, who was received, and preached an excellent sermon founded upon the Apostle Paul's charge to Timothy, "Be watchful in all things," etc. In the year 1825 I was living in Perth. Apostolic succession was not so rampant then as now. The Rev. Mr. Harris, the Episcopal minister, and Mr. Bell, Presbyterian, established a union Sabbath school. Each in his turn attended and opened the school—

Christian-like. In 1823 the settlement was in a very distracted state. The late Hon. Peter Robinson brought out a large number of Roman Catholic emigrants from Ireland called Ballagiblans. They got land in the townships of Ramsay and Huntly. They were supplied with shanties and rations, and when that failed they helped themselves to other people's gear. The first militia muster took place at Carleton Place. The officers met for refreshment in the only tavern in the place. A large number of the Roman Catholics surrounded the house, and none could get out until one John Fummerton fired a shot from an upper window. The officers then got out and a general fight ensued, and ended in the overthrow of the ruffians. After that they marched like a regiment, took guns from the settlers, and threatened to drive them out of the country. They were determined to take the life of one Captain Glendenning. Upon seeing a number of them coming to his house he jumped into the cellar. They entered the house, and though they could not find him, he could hear their murderous threats. As soon as it was safe for him he started through the woods for Perth and informed Colonel Powell of the state of matters. The militia was called out under Captain Matheson, and Colonel Marshal called out the Lanark militia, and scoured the settlement. Some of the ruffians were shot, the most of them cleared out, and those that remained got so tame that they gave no more trouble. In the fall of 1826 the Rideau Canal was commenced. The late Hon. Thomas McKay and Mr. John Redpath had the building of the first eight locks. At first the canal was to be the same size as the Grenville Canal, but that being considered too small, a stop was put to the work until Colonel By got powers to make the canal upon a larger scale. During this time Mr. McKay built St. Andrew's Church, Ottawa. The first minister was the Rev. John Cruikshank, whose pastorate continued from 1829 until 1843. He was succeeded by Rev. Mr. McKid, who did not remain long. The next minister was the Rev. Wm. Dunie, a man greatly beloved by his congregation. He died in 1847. In 1844 a small portion of the congregation were not satisfied with the course pursued by Mr. McKid and resolved to secede from the Scotch Church and join the protesting party in sympathy with the Free Church. In the fall, the Rev. Henry Gordon of Gananoque paid us a visit, and a meeting being held, a congregation was formed. We rented a small chapel belonging to the English Methodists, and Mr. Thos. Wardrope, who had finished his studies for the ministry and was then Grammar School teacher, preached to us all winter with much acceptance. In 1845, the first Synod being held in Cobourg, we deputed one of our number to represent our cause, with the prayer that Mr. Wardrope would be ordained and inducted as our pastor, which took place shortly after. We purchased two lots and built a substantial frame church, 60 x 40 feet, now known as Daly street Church. In a few years it was deemed necessary to erect a gallery, and in a short time it was found necessary to enlarge the building by adding twenty feet to it in length. The congregation still increasing, it was deemed advisable to start a mission in the western part of the town. The Presbytery appointed commissioners to ascertain if any were willing to volunteer to form another congregation. A meeting was held for that purpose, and a few volunteered, who made arrangements to meet for worship in the Mechanics' Hall in Mr. G. Hay's block. Preaching was supplied by missionaries and others, and the meetings progressed most favourably. One of the members met with Professor Young, who stated that our success depended upon the choice of a pastor, and recommended a young man, Rev. William Moore, then assistant to Dr. Topp, Toronto. This was communicated to the managers, who applied for a hearing which was granted, and a unanimous call was given to Mr. Moore to be our pastor. The call was accepted, and in 1866 he was inducted in charge of the new congregation. A temporary building was at once erected on a lot purchased on Bank street. It was comfortably finished and seated for about 200. It was soon found necessary to provide more accommodation, and steps were taken which resulted in the erection of the elegant church known as Bank street Presbyterian Church, the Rev. Wm. Moore, pastor. About this time the Rev. Mr. Wardrope received a call from Guelph which he accepted, and the Rev. Wm. McLaren of Belleville succeeded him. It was thought

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