

# Ministers and Churches.

## Our Toronto Letter.

A week ago it was "really too hot to go to church," and last Sunday it was so cold and windy in the evening that "one couldn't be expected to venture out of doors." And the guileless lady member will tell this to the pastor as he makes his pastoral call. It is a means of grace to him, for whatever he may say when he reaches a vacant spot on the street, he must smile and murmur some "nothing" to his amiable parishoner.

Few men have the opportunities afforded to the Christian physician for speaking a word in season. Most physicians would say they have all they can do to look after the body, and must leave the cure of souls to the minister. We met one this week who is a very distinguished and very busy physician, yet who is never too busy to pause and speak a word for Christ. His name is Dr. H. A. Kelly, and he is at the head of the great sanitarium at Baltimore. He stands first in his profession in his specialty, and always puts service to Christ above everything else. Such men are needed to-day.

The Toronto Bible Training School began its session very quietly on Tuesday. Classes assembled as usual in the morning and began work. There was no formal opening, but that will come later. The attendance promises to be large, in spite of the fact that some have been deterred by the terrible scenes through which the missionaries have passed in China. There are others whom such experiences will attract, but the men and women who will do the best work are those to whom that bit of mission experience will make no difference.

One Sabbath more and the students who have been at work in the home mission fields will turn their face towards their respective colleges again. Most of them will come back with richer lives and stronger characters. They have been face to face with what will be their life work, and it has sobered most of them. Some have been rendered impatient because a year or two must still pass ere they can enter upon the work. The better class have come back with a resolve to make the most of the preliminary training and study, for the responsibility of the after work demands a strong, well-developed man.

The three important congregations at present without a minister are still making time. Indeed one of them is looking about for an acceptable "stated supply" who will work for love and about one-quarter of the salary they paid their former minister. Does this pay? We have heard of thrifty managers, usually some distance from an intellectual centre, who thought it good policy to pay off an old debt in this way; but that is not the policy of this urban congregation. Still—does it pay?

Various secular organizations, taking advantage of the general migration of all men Toronto-wards about Fair time, hold their annual business meetings at that time. The church organizations are adopting the same thrifty policy, and killing two birds with a half-price stone, meet to transact the autumn business. The Sabbath School Committee and the Young People's Societies' Committee held meetings recently. The former agreed upon a plan of work; the latter agreed upon a plan of study, of which both have made commencement.

Another of the veterans in the Canadian ministry passed away on Friday morning. Rev. Wm. Inglis was in his eightieth year, and had given of his life to the pastorate in Canada. In 1867 he entered upon a wider ministry, preaching to thousands every week by means of his pen, which he wielded almost till the day of his death. In this way he has exercised an influence far wider than might be supposed, for he is not widely known personally. He did not court publicity, but sought to do work quietly. And his work was always well done.

## Mission Contributions.

In the beginning of October the half yearly annuities to Aged and Infirm ministers and ministers' widows, the grants to all home missionaries for the past half year, and to ministers in augmented charges, French Evangelization, salaries, etc., have all to be paid. The amount required for this purpose is \$86,000. To reduce the sum required to be borrowed from the banks, it is earnestly hoped that all congregations and missionary societies having funds on hand, will kindly forward these within the next ten days.

ROBT. H. WARDEN.

Toronto, 18th Sept., 1900.

## Ottawa.

Rev. John Hay, B. D., Renfrew, was in Ottawa on Tuesday, the guest of Mrs. Gallup, James Street.

Inspector Gashan reports the attendance at the public schools extremely good at this time of the year, the various classes having filled up after the holidays exceedingly well.

In Bank Street church Rev. Dr. Moore discoursed on the "Divine Helpfulness" in the morning and on "The Unpardonable Sin" in the evening. The attendance was good at both services.

The autumn session of the Presbyterian Ladies' College, Ottawa, has opened most auspiciously. A full staff of efficient teachers is met by a full attendance of students, with several yet to arrive.

There was a full attendance at communion service in St. Paul's church last Sabbath morning, the whole service being orderly and impressive. Rev. Dr. Armstrong preached, taking for his theme "Christ refusing to drink the wine and myrrh." In the evening Rev. Mr. McFarlane concluded his series of addresses on the Life of Christ.

At the meeting of Presbytery on Monday, the question of another site for Erskine church was dealt with and decided. The congregation is granted permission to remove to Congression Street and take over the Bank street property on equitable terms. The settlement was a harmonious one, and was, we understand, unanimously reached.

Rev. Dr. Campbell, the active agent of the Century Fund, appeared before the Ottawa Presbytery on Tuesday. He gave an interesting address, in which he stated that \$800,000 of the million dollars required were already subscribed, and urged the thorough organization of the various congregations in the city and country for the effective completion of the canvass on behalf of the fund. Immediate steps will be taken to this end.

Rev. D. M. Ramsay preached at both services in Knox church last Sabbath. In the evening he took for his text 1 Thess. 2:7. Paul herein repudiates flattery, avarice and ambition. We are all open, he said, to the wiles of flattery, and of avarice. We strive for riches and are anxious to have it thought our desire is for a noble purpose, but it is always so. Gentleness is a quality that should mark every Christian life. Christ was the most gentle and at the same time strongest character ever known. We have societies for the prevention of cruelty to animals which force men to be gentle to the brute. Lives of women are often made miserable by coarse husbands, and the lives of the mother and father by children who lack the quality of gentleness.

Anniversary services were preached in the New Edinburgh church last Sabbath by Rev. Principal MacVicar, D. D., of Montreal. Notwithstanding the inclemency of the weather, the attendance was good. It is needless to say that Dr. MacVicar's sermons were earnest, vigorous and appropriate to the occasion. In the afternoon the children of the Sunday School were addressed by Rev. Messrs. McFarlane and White. On Monday evening a social was held, when an attractive programme was provided. The pastor, Rev. N. H. McLeod, B. D., made a popular chairman; and addresses were given by Revs. McFarlane, Timberlake and the pastor. The music furnished during the evening by Messrs. Stark and Sharpe, and the Misses Reid, Monk and Askwild as well as the recitations by Messrs. Barry and Barnes, contributed much to the enjoyment of those present. The special thanksgiving offering amounted to a goodly sum. Altogether, pastor and people have reason for encouragement in going forward to the work that lies before them.

## Montreal and Quebec.

The congregation of Kingsbury and Flodden, in the Presbytery of Quebec, has extended a hearty call to Rev. Jas. Sutherland, of Inverness, in the same Presbytery.

Rev. J. R. MacLeod, Three Rivers, has been canvassing steadily for the last five weeks in Quebec and Ontario in behalf of the century fund, and reports fair success.

Lord and Lady Mount-Stephen intend to pass the early part of the coming winter in India. They will start in October on a long direct to Bombay on a visit to Lord and Lady Northcote, the latter Lord Mount-Stephen's adopted daughter.

The Rev. Jas. Sutherland, who for fourteen years has served faithfully at Inverness, has accepted a call to Kingsbury. Induction on the 20th September. Rev. A. Stevenson, Danville, P. Q., is the moderator of the session of Inverness.

## Western Ontario.

Rev. W. M. Martin, of Exeter, has resumed work after a month's vacation.

Rev. Mr. Cowan, of Shakespere, conducted anniversary services in Linwood last Sabbath.

The next meeting of Stratford Presbytery has been fixed for the second Tuesday in November. Rev. W. E. Knowles, brother of Rev. R. E. Knowles, of Galt, has declined a call to Higginsville, Mo.

Thamesford has unanimously called the Rev. T. A. Watson, and his induction is fixed for 2nd October.

Rev. H. A. Macpherson, of Acton, occupied the pulpit at Ballinadon on Sunday, owing to Rev. Mr. Milne's illness.

The Rev. W. J. Clark, of London, will preach anniversary sermons in the Central Presbyterian Church on Sunday, Oct. 28th.

Rev. James Hamilton, B. A., Goderich, has returned home after spending a brief vacation with friends at Motherwell.

Rev. Dr. Dickson continues his discourses on "Our Lord's Life in Heaven," the last dealing with the Kingdom of Christ.

Rev. H. R. Hora, B. A., Elora, occupied the pulpit of the Presbyterian church, Drayton, a week ago last Sunday afternoon.

Rev. M. L. Leitch, Stratford, has been appointed by his Presbytery to attend the annual meeting of the Presbyterial W. F. M. S. at Listowel in October.

Sacrament was dispensed in Chalmers' church, Elora, on Sabbath, Rev. H. R. Horne officiating. The pre-communion service was conducted by the Rev. J. A. Dow, of Gravenhurst.

Rev. Alex. Hamilton, B. A., of Boissevain, Man., who has been in Toronto attending a meeting of the S. S. executive, is spending a few days at Motherwell before returning to Manitoba.

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper was celebrated at Carmel church, Hensall last Sabbath. The preparatory sermon on Friday afternoon was preached by Rev. F. H. Larkin, B. D., Chatham.

Rev. Dr. Campbell addressed the Stratford Presbytery last week in the interest of the Century Fund, and the canvass within the bounds is to be diligently prosecuted until the work is completed.

Rev. W. E. Knowles took the preparatory services in Chalmers' church, Guelph, Friday evening, and the pastor, Rev. J. M. Glassford, preached at communion service on Sabbath. There was a large attendance.

Rev. J. R. Harcourt, who was ordained as a minister of the Presbyterian church and designated as a missionary to India, by the Hamilton Presbytery at Blackheath last week, will leave for his future field on September 23rd.

The ladies of St. Andrew's church, Fergus, presented to Mrs. Mullin an address along with a purse containing about \$140. The address, which was read by Miss Wilson, bore testimony to the love and esteem felt for Mrs. Mullin by the donors.

Standing committees were appointed by Stratford Presbytery as follows: A. I. M. Fund, Convener, Mr. R. F. Cameron; Church Life and Work, Mr. Anderson; Home Missions, Dr. Hamilton; W. and O. Fund, Dr. Craw; S. S., J. H. Graham; Y. P. S. C. E., T. A. Cosgrove; Augmentation, E. W. Pantou; Foreign Missions, A. Grant; Statistics, J. D. Ferguson.

Well attended anniversary services were held at Glenmorris last Sunday, Rev. R. D. Fraser officiating. The tea meeting on Monday evening was a very pleasant affair. Among those who took part were Rev. R. M. Hamilton, Brantford, and Revs. Thomson and Nixon, of Ayr. Rev. Mr. Pettigrew has been a long time the faithful pastor of this charge, and the swiftly passing years have only served to deepen the attachment of his people and to increase his own usefulness.

## Eastern Ontario.

Rev. J. A. Leitch and family, of Watson's Corners, have returned from Dalhousie Lake.

The infant son of Rev. and Mrs. Shaw, of Vars, who was so very ill, has improved somewhat.

Rev. G. A. Woodslee, Carleton Place, has been conducting anniversary services at Clayton. Rev. Jas. Binnie, of McDonald's Corners, conducted the services in the town hall, Lanark, on Sunday.

Rev. J. Matheson, Summerstown, is taking his vacation. Rev. J. S. Burnet has been preaching at Salem.

As we go to press the second convention of the Kingston Presbyterial Union is being held in St. Andrew's church, Kingston.