

was filled on Monday evening with the members of the congregation and a sprinkling of friends from the other city churches, when the exercises in commemoration of the twenty-fifth anniversary of Rev. Mr. Burson's pastorate were continued. The platform was filled with ministers from the city and vicinity, those present being Rev. George Burson, Rev. R. Ker, Rev. W. J. Armitage, Rev. S. Cleaver, Rev. J. H. Ratchliffe, Rev. E. H. Chestnut, Rev. Jesse Gibson, Rev. Mr. Crawford, Niagara Falls; Rev. Mr. Mitchell, Thorold; Rev. Mr. Murray, Beamsville; and Rev. Dr. Cochrane of Brantford. The chair was ably filled by Mr. R. Lawrie. Mr. Lawrie made an eloquent and feeling address. He said in part: A year ago last May we met in this place under similar circumstances to celebrate the jubilee of the church on the fiftieth anniversary of its organization, and also to congratulate each other on the great success of the jubilee fund by which the debt on the church was extinguished. To-night we meet to celebrate the semi-jubilee of our respected pastor and to congratulate each other on the purchase of a manse, of which we all feel proud. Referring to the many changes that had taken place during Mr. Burson's time, he said there were then 115 names on the communion roll; now there were 230, a fair increase, he thought, in comparison with the general progress of the city. Twenty-five years ago there was no musical instrument in the church. True they had a choir which occupied the front row in the back gallery, and his old friend Mr. Struthers struck the key note on his tuning fork. Some idea of the tendency of the organization might be gathered when it was known that he and Mr. Struthers and Mr. W. B. Allen were the leading male singers. Mr. Struthers' tuning fork had developed into the great organ of the church. Twenty-five years ago the debt on the church was \$3,000, and shortly afterwards it was increased \$3,000 more, and in addition to this there was a floating debt of \$600, which the church managers carried at the bank on their personal responsibility. He quoted from the *Historical Record* the circumstances surrounding the removal of Dr. Burns and the induction of Mr. Burson. Of those who were then present only one of the two ministers, one of the two elders and one of the six managers were left. The church, however, had great reason to be thankful for the progress that had been made, and now he had a pleasant duty to perform. He unfolded a beautiful engrossed address, which he read to Mr. Burson. It congratulated him on his lengthened and successful labours in St. Catharines, alluded to the changes that had taken place during the quarter of a century he had been pastor of Knox Church, and expressed heart-felt well-wishes for his continued prosperity and usefulness among the people to whom he is endeared by his Christian services and personal worth. The address was accompanied with a purse of \$200. Mrs. Burson has been made a life member of the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society. Mr. Burson was so overcome that he could scarcely speak. He said he could not trust his feelings now to say all he would like to, for, after what had been said, so many memories of the past had been called up and awakened that he would not be able to proceed. He recognized that the Great Head of the Church was alone responsible for the position he occupied. He never questioned the firm conviction in his own mind that he was sent to the congregation when he came here. Amid all the toil and confusion he never questioned it, and it was settled in his conscience. He realized that he had done his work imperfectly, and had reproached himself that he had not shown more fidelity in his study and ministering among the congregation. He trusted that his ministry had not been perfunctory. He had tried to make it a matter of soul, conscience and zeal. There was one thing they could all do, and that was do more for Christ, and lead a more consecrated life as a Christian Church. With faltering lips he thanked the ladies for remembering Mrs.

Burson, and could only say in conclusion that it would be his chief delight to be their servant in Christ's name and for His sake so long as it may be His will.

PRESBYTERY OF ALGOMA.—This Presbytery held its second meeting at Sault Ste. Marie on the 5th and 6th October. Upon hearing the report of a committee appointed to investigate the matter, the Presbytery decided to divide the Bruce Mines field into two new fields, to be known as the Bruce Mines and Rock Lake fields, and to detach the MacDonald preaching station from the Tarbut field and attach it to the new Rock Lake field. Messrs W. C. Nixon, Robert Stark and R. J. McAlpine were candidates for the standing of catechist. After satisfactory examination these gentlemen were granted this standing and recommended to the Assembly's Home Mission Committee for employment within the bounds of the Presbytery. A petition from the people of Providence Bay asking for the transfer of Mr. J. Steele, catechist, from the St. Josephs Island field back to the field in which he had formerly laboured, was carefully considered, and after hearing the claims and reasons for and against, it was decided not to grant the prayer of the petitioners at present. In consideration of the efficient and faithful services rendered by Mr. James Steele as catechist for the past four and a half years, it was resolved to grant him the standing of approved catechist, upon his passing the required literary examination. The devotional exercises on Wednesday evening were highly profitable and interesting, and included a discussion on the question "How can we best awaken and develop spiritual life in our congregations." The Superintendent of Missions read his half-yearly report, and the necessary action was taken. An election of elders lately held in the Thessalon congregation was declared void on account of certain irregularities in the mode of procedure, and the session was instructed to hold a new election in accordance with the authorized Rules of Procedure. The Presbytery put on record its hearty appreciation of the valuable assistance rendered during the past summer by the Knox College Missionary Society in various fields and by the Ladies Aid Society of St. Andrews Church, Toronto, in the Burpee field. In the latter case, the gratifying progress of the work under the last two missionaries was noted. The Home Mission Committee reported progress in the matter of appointments for fields lately become vacant, and were instructed by Presbytery to secure supply in every case possible. The Convener of the Committee on Superintendence of Students reported on the character of the discourses received from the various students labouring within the bounds of Presbytery. He was instructed to return the manuscript with appropriate comments, and the Clerk was instructed to forward the necessary certificates to the proper college authorities. In order to raise Home Mission and Augmentation Funds, it was decided to divide the Presbytery into districts in which certain designated members of Presbytery shall hold missionary meetings and raise money by means locally expedient; it was also agreed that all moneys thus collected shall pass through the hands of the Superintendent of Missions on their way to the Treasurer of the Church. The matter of having French Evangelization work carried on within the bounds of Presbytery was thoroughly discussed upon the reception of the report of the Presbytery's committee on that subject. It was unanimously resolved to be the finding of Presbytery that this work should be taken up at once, that a missionary should be appointed to give his whole time to the work and that the Board of French Evangelization be memorialized to this effect. In the matter of local supervision of fields without ordained missionaries in charge, a general understanding was arrived at, that, in addition to what the Superintendent of Missions may do, it is the duty as well as the privilege of the nearest neighbouring missionaries to do all that can reasonably be expected of them in supervising, encouraging and assisting in the work to be done in such fields. It was decided to hold the next regular meeting of the Presbytery at Thessalon on Wednesday of the week previous to the meeting of the Assembly's Home Mission Committee March next. — J. K. MACGILLIVRAY, *Pres. Clerk*.

BOARD OF FRENCH EVANGELIZATION.

THANKSGIVING COLLECTION.

At a meeting held on the 18th inst., the Executive resolved to appeal to the congregations of the Church for a special collection on Thanksgiving Day (November 10th). The conditions for the work of Evangelization have never been so favourable. Our missionaries speak of the changed attitude of Roman Catholic people towards them, and of being welcomed to homes where they used to be despised. The spirit of enquiry is being awakened and prejudice removed. Our mission day schools, as well as the schools at Pointe-aux-Trembles, have been attended by an increasing number of pupils from Roman Catholic homes. A growing public opinion on the part of a wronged people has found, at length, fearless expression in speech and press. The Church of Rome herself appears to have changed, for as yet she has not ventured the exercise of pains and penalties. A wonderful movement is on the way. A chief factor in bringing it about has been the leavening influence of the Gospel, in the distribution of which our missionaries have had no small part. Unless the same salutary influences can be brought to bear more and more upon the people, the result must be that many will be landed in practical infidelity. "The fields are white unto the harvest." While we sincerely "pray the Lord of the harvest that He will send forth labourers into His harvest," shall we not thankfully provide for those whom He has sent? The present state of the funds is far from satisfactory. The Executive would suggest that the

thanksgiving collection be in aid of either the mission day schools in connection with the ordinary fund or the Coligny College building fund. This institution has now a larger attendance of French Canadian young ladies than formerly and promises to fully overtake the work for which it was established. It is, however, impossible to meet the interest on the mortgage debt (\$22,000) and the current expenses from board and tuition fees. It is hoped that a collection will be made in every congregation and mission station.

Contributions should be sent direct to the treasurer, addressed Rev. Robt. H. Warden, D.D., Dominion Square, Montreal.

On behalf of the Executive,
D. H. MACVICAR, LL.D., *Chairman*.
S. J. TAYLOR, *Secretary*.

Montreal, October 25, 1892.

ONTARIO SUNDAY SCHOOL CONVENTION.

The twenty seventh annual convention of the Ontario Sabbath School Association was held at Guelph on Tuesday, the 25th Oct., and continued for the ensuing two days. Between seven and eight hundred delegates were present. Mr. James A. McCrae, Superintendent of Knox Church Sabbath School, Guelph, was unanimously elected President. Mr. and Mrs. H. M. Blight, of Toronto, conducted the service of praise and rendered very efficient service. The first address was given by Mr. Wm. Reynolds, the well-known General Superintendent of organization of the International Association. His topic was "Adaptation, an Element of Success in Sabbath-school Teaching," and was full of practical hints. The evening session was taken up with an address on "The Attitude of the Sabbath School to the Moral Questions of the Day," by Rev. Dr. Barbour, Principal of the Congregational College, Montreal. He was followed by Rev. Principal Caven, of Knox College, who delivered an able and brilliant address on the important topic, "The Old Testament Enfolded in the New, and the New Testament Unfolding the Old."

During the second day the weather was somewhat unfavourable, but the attendance and interest did not in the slightest degree diminish, on the contrary, the crowd was so great that it was found necessary to hold an overflow meeting in another church. The first business of the second day was receiving the annual reports of the General Secretary, Mr. Alfred Day, and the Treasurer, Mr. J. J. Woodhouse. Both reports were highly interesting and satisfactory. The Rev. Joseph Pailp, B.D., of London, then gave an excellent normal exercise on "The Great Apostle and his Relation to the Early Christian Church." An interesting and profitable half hour was then spent in hearing Mr. William Reynolds reply to the queries of the question drawer. The afternoon was taken up in hearing reports from those whom the Association had sent out during the past summer on a tour of supervision. The following responded, viz.: Rev. R. B. Rowe, Muskoka; Rev. A. P. Brace, Manitoulin Island; Rev. W. G. Hanna, Algoma; Rev. T. A. Moore, Georgian; and Rev. W. A. Hunter, Haliburton. The places opposite these names designate the districts visited. The afternoon session closed with a paper by Mr. George Anderson, of Toronto, entitled "The Superintendent, his Work and Equipment, Punctuality, Tact, Executive Ability and Visitation of Absent Teachers," were urged as of great importance. The evening session was occupied with addresses by Rev. John McCarthy, of the China Inland Mission, on "The Early Dedication of Childhood to the Work of Christian Missions," Rev. A. F. Schaffler, D.D., of New York, on "A Bird's Eye View of the Bible," and Rev. Mungo Fraser, D.D., of Hamilton, on "The Divine Authority of Scripture, its Significance to the Sabbath School." These addresses were practical, and contained many useful hints for the Sabbath school teacher.

On Thursday, the last day of the Convention, the interest and enthusiasm was manifested to the utmost degree. The first hour was occupied by conferences of Primary, Intermediate and Normal



Mr. Chas. N. Hauer

Of Frederick, Md., suffered terribly for over ten years with abscesses and running sores on his left leg. He wasted away, grew weak and thin, and was obliged to use a cane and crutch. Everything which could be thought of was done without good result, until he began taking

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class work. These were presided over by Mrs. W. Meldrum, of Toronto, Mrs. W. Keynolds, of Peoria, Ill., and Rev. John McEwan, of Lakefield. Then followed an hour hearing reports from the various counties by delegates. The morning session was closed with answers to the question drawer by Mr. William Reynolds, whose answers were invariably useful, terse and pointed. In the afternoon, Rev. A. F. Schaffler gave an excellent address on "Christ and the Tabernacle," followed by Hon. S. H. Blake, Q.C., who spoke on "Some of the Difficulties of the International Lesson Committee." In the evening the church was greatly over-crowded, probably owing to its being the closing meeting. After the usual devotional exercises the Rev. J. V. Smith, B.D., of Toronto, gave an address on "The Sabbath School the Harvest Field of the Church's Membership." Hon. S. H. Blake followed, on the subject "The Relation of the Sabbath School to the Coming of Christ's Kingdom," after which the closing address was given by Rev. Dr. Schaffler, entitled "The Four Best Things which the Sunday School Work has." This was a powerful and inspiring address, and greatly edified the vast audience. A hearty vote of thanks was tendered to the various speakers for their efficient service, and to the good people of Guelph for their kind attention and liberal hospitality. The proceedings of the Convention were brought to a close by the Rev. Dr. Wardrope, ex-Moderator of the General Assembly, who pronounced the benediction.

OBITUARY.

JOHN RICHARDSON.

We have to record the death of Mr. John Richardson, Innerkip, on October 14, aged seventy years. He was a native of Dumfriesshire, Scotland. He lived for a number of years near Galt where he attended the ministry of the late Dr. Bayne. About twenty six years ago he came to East Zorra, Oxford. For about twenty four years he was an elder in the Innerkip congregation, and for twenty-five years he was superintendent of the Sabbath school. He was all these years a very active member of the congregation. He was possessed in an eminent degree of the graces of the Christian character, and was known in the community as a peace-maker. No one took a deeper interest in the cause of Christ among the young. He was a welcome visitor at the sick bed. He was a trusted counsellor in the congregation. He will be long remembered as one of the best men and one of the most active Christian workers. He leaves a widow, sadly afflicted, four sons, viz.: Joseph Richardson, Tavistock; John and Robert Richardson, Wyoming; William Richardson, Innerkip, and two daughters, Mrs. John Emerson and Martha Richardson, Innerkip. They have the deepest sympathy of the community in their bereavement.

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