

Church News

[All communications to this column ought to be sent to the Editor immediately after the occurrence to which they refer have taken place.]

MONTREAL NOTES.

At a special meeting of the executive of the Board of French Evangelization held on Thursday morning, March 4th, it was decided to take steps looking to the transfer of Colligny College from the care of the Board to that of the Synod of Montreal and Ottawa. Some eight years ago this institution was purchased by the Church at the request of its former proprietors and placed under the control of the Board of French Evangelization in the hope that in addition to furnishing a good education to English Protestant girls it might be turned to account in the interest of French work. An honest effort has been made to accomplish this double end. The English part of it has been reasonably successful, but as regards any real service to French mission work it has proved impossible to make it effective. Under these circumstances the Board feel the incongruity of their retaining the administration of the institution any longer. There is danger of constant misapprehension of the true state of the case in the public mind. On the one hand it may injure the proper work of the Board through the erroneous supposition that its ordinary funds are being diverted to a purely English educational work. On the other hand it may injure the College with its natural patrons through the supposition that it is a College for French girls. Delegations have been appointed to explain the matter to the various presbyteries within the bounds of the Synod, so that at the annual session in May, the members may be able to come to a decision after full time for consideration. If the ministers of the district especially are disposed to take a reasonable interest in the institution the Church may be able to retain permanently a College which has done good work in the past and may be of still greater service in the future. In order to give the new movement a fair start, an effort is being made to secure a guarantee fund of two or three thousand dollars for the next three years. Already some progress has been made in this effort. But with the increasing call for the higher education of women, the institution ought easily to be self-supporting in the immediate future.

The annual meeting of the Graduates' Society of Pointe aux Trembles was held at the schools on Friday, March 5th. Owing to the special effort made by so many of the former pupils to be present at the Jubilee Festival of the institution a few weeks ago, the attendance was not so large as in some former years. But some fifty in all assembled. Principal MacVicar and Dr. Cousinal were present from the Presbyterian College as well as all the French students. The reports showed the Society to be in a satisfactory condition, and the outlook encouraging. The schools are now made much more easily accessible by the opening of the belt line of electric railway, and the teachers count on having many more visitors than formerly, not only from residents of Montreal, but from other places as well.

The Junior Christian Endeavor Society of Taylor Church, held an interesting temperance meeting on Sunday afternoon, the 21st ult. A black-board diagram showed the expense of the liquor traffic, and an effective address was given by Mr. McComb. In the evening the pastor, Rev. Thomas Bennett, preached a strong temperance sermon on the text, "Thou shalt not kill." He earnestly advocated total prohibition.

The annual meeting of St. Andrew's Church, Sherbrooke, was held on the 24th ult. The reports showed that the past year had been a successful one in the history of the congregation. In addition to meeting all current expenses and interest charges on their church debt, they have reduced the latter by five hundred dollars. The pastor, Rev. Wm. Shearer, presided at the meeting, which was followed by a social with refreshments provided by the ladies.

The congregation of Beaucharnois and Chateaugay has given a call to the Rev.

J. D. Anderson, B. A. The ordination and induction will probably take place during the present month. Rumor has it that about the same time Mr. Anderson will be married to one of Montreal's fair daughters. He is a graduate of the Presbyterian College, class '96, and is a son of the manse.

The Rev. E. Scott, of the *Record*, preached a missionary sermon in St. Bartholomew's Reformed Episcopal Church on Sunday evening, Feb. 28th. He was listened to with marked attention.

The Rev. Principal MacVicar left for the West on Thursday evening to take part in the Jubilee Services of Melville Church, Fergus, where his eldest son is at the present time minister. He will be absent about a week.

GENERAL.

The Dresden Presbyterian church will forward the sum of \$58 to the Indian Famine Fund.

Rev. Joseph Elliott, of Nairn, has received a unanimous call to the pastorate of Knox church, Dutton.

Rev. Dr. Grant, Orillia, will preach anniversary sermons in the First Presbyterian church, St. Marys, on March 14th.

Rev. J. W. Mitchell is conducting a series of Evangelistic meetings in the Presbyterian church, Morewood, Ont., the attendance is large and the meetings full of promise.

On Feb. 9th, the Harkness Mission Circle gathered at the manse and surprised Rev. Mr. Thom of Arthur, with an address and a handsome travelling case and manicure set combined.

The monthly meeting of the Toronto Auxiliary to the Leper mission will be held (D. V.) in the C. I. M. Home, 632 Church street, Monday next 3 30 p.m.—All are cordially invited.

St. Andrew's Presbyterian church, Renfrew, was badly scorched by fire on Wednesday, March 3rd. One side of the building was badly damaged. The loss was fully covered by insurance.

At a meeting of Picton Presbytery Rev. W. M. Thompson accepted the call to New St. Andrew's congregation, New Glasgow, the induction to take place March 15th. Rev. Mr. Smith, of Eureka, Rev. Mr. Tufts, of Stellarton, and Rev. W. Archibald, of Sunny Brae, will conduct the services.

At the close of the Prayer Meeting in Geneva Church, Cheshire, last Wednesday evening Rev. E. A. MacKenzie B. A. B. D. pastor, was presented with a valuable Persian Lamb overcoat, and an address signed by the Clerk of Session and the Chairman of the Board of Managers in behalf of the congregation.

Rev. John Hogg, pastor of St. Giles' church, Winnipeg, whose health last fall occasioned such alarm to his friends that he was granted a lengthened leave of absence to recuperate his strength, has spent the intervening months on an extended European tour, and has returned home fully restored in health and enjoying his wonted vigor.

On Thursday the Rev. Alex McNabb was inducted into the pastoral charge of the Newmarket Congregation. The services were most interesting and the settlement seems a most promising one, a pleasant feature of the occasion was the presentation of a substantial cheque to Rev. Walter Amos who has acted as Moderator of Session during the vacancy.

Rev. J. C. Herdman, R.D., Calgary, has received the unanimous nomination of the Calgary Presbytery for the Moderatorship of the General Assembly, to be held in Winnipeg in June of this year. Messrs. McKillop, Herdman and Hamilton, with a member from each of the sessions of Calgary, Medicine Hat and Macleod, were chosen as Commissioners to the Assembly.

The congregation of St. Paul's Presbyterian Church Hamilton, March 1st tendered a reception to its new pastor, Rev. Neil McPherson. Rev. J. Gourley occupied the chair. Matthew Leggett, on behalf of the managers, presented a cheque for \$250 to Rev. J. G. Shearer, who had acted as Moderator in the call. Jas. Hutchison, the senior member of the Session, delivered an address of welcome to the new minister,

and Mrs. Logie, sen., and Mrs. John Morton presented Mr. McPherson with a minister's gown, cassock, and bands. Mr. McPherson made a suitable reply. After refreshments had been served speeches of congratulation were made by Revs. Dr. Fraser, W. H. Wade, J. L. Gilmour, and Dr. Lyle.

The Rev. Henry Knox, pastor of St. Andrew's church, Hawkesville, died very suddenly on Sabbath Feb. 28th. He had been ailing with heart trouble for considerable time, but was able to keep up his appointments most of the time until that date. Deceased was about 70 years of age and had been pastor there for about two years and a half, and was very highly respected.

Cooke's church Sabbath school, Toronto, held its annual social Friday evening, March 5th. During the evening Mr. Casswell, who has been Superintendent for over eight years and been connected with the school for about 29 years, was presented with an address expressing sentiments of sincere regard for the valuable services he had rendered to the school during his connection with it. The address was signed by Misses M. B. Close, L. Kerr and A. J. Hooley, a committee on behalf of the Teachers' Association, and was accompanied by a beautiful and chaste silver inkstand. The address was read and the presentation made by Mr. Thos. Kinnear on behalf of the Association.

The Presbyterian pastors and college professors met on Tuesday Feb. 16th in Manitoba college Winnipeg to commence arrangements for the General Assembly, which is to meet in St. Andrew's church here in June next. A general committee on arrangements was formed consisting of the college professors, the pastors of the Presbyterian churches of the city with a representative from each congregation. Of this committee Rev. Joseph Hogg, pastor of St. Andrew's, is chairman, and Rev. R. G. MacBeth, secretary. The chairman and secretary, with Professor Baird, J. B. Mitchell, and R. M. Thompson, will form an executive. Steps will be taken to secure the names of commissioners as soon as they are appointed by the several presbyteries and thereafter the work of billeting will be taken in hand. When the Assembly met here in 1887 many members of churches other than Presbyterian made requests for delegates, who were personal friends and as the names are received from Presbyteries they will likely be published, so that any who desire to entertain friends whose names appear may notify the secretary, Mr. MacBeth. The number of commissioners will likely be large enough to fully tax the hospitality of the city, which, however, when much smaller than it now is entertained most royally the assembly of 1887.

To-day, Mar. 17th, Melville Presbyterian Church, Fergus, celebrated its 50th anniversary by appropriate services.

In the morning at 11 o'clock Rev. Dr. McMullen preached an able and appropriate sermon. Dr. McMullen having connected himself with the church here nearly 50 years ago under the pastorate of the late Rev. Dr. Smellie, who for nearly half a century was pastor of Melville Church.

He recalled many pleasant reminiscences of the past, but few of the older ones were spared and present to enjoy the services to-day. At 3 p.m. Rev. Dr. Wardrop addressed the children and young people in connection with the Sabbath school.

At 7 p.m. Rev. Principal MacVicar of Montreal occupied the pulpit and preached to a united congregation of Melville and St. Andrew's. The church was filled to overflowing, numbers having to be turned away, unable to get in.

At all the services subscriptions and contributions are voluntary taken for the purpose of a building fund towards the erection of a new church, now in contemplation. A letter was read to the congregation from their former pastor, Rev. R. M. Craig of Santa Fe, New Mexico.

PRESBYTERY OF TORONTO.

The Presbytery of Toronto at its last meeting disapproved of the Remit to form a Union Mission Board. It approved almost unanimously of the Remit recommending the appointment of a permanent