

istic agencies. Now the barriers seem removed in all lands, and from every side the Macedonian cry, "Come over and help us," reaches our ears from those perishing for lack of knowledge. The Church at large has, in some measure, responded to these appeals, and a goodly band of faithful men and consecrated women, have gone forth to make Christ known to the heathen. And this congregation rejoices that it has representatives witnessing for the Master among the heathen.

5. The connection of this congregation with the work of theological education has been very intimate from the first, and should not be overlooked on this occasion.

The Presbyterian Church has always emphasized the importance of an educated ministry. It has sought for the office not merely pious and earnest exhorters, but men who by their general intelligence and intimate acquaintance with divine truth, are fitted to be teachers of the people and leaders of the Church.

For a time ministers were secured from abroad, chiefly from Scotland and Ireland. But this source of supply was soon found to be inadequate to meet the growing demands of a young country, and in 1842, Queen's College was opened at Kingston, largely to give increased facilities for securing an educated ministry.

When, however, the disruption of 1844 occurred all the theological students of Queen's College, with one exception, cast in their lot with the Free Church. This threw upon the newly organized body the responsibility of providing, at once, for the instruction of candidates for the gospel ministry. Toronto was wisely selected as the location for the new school and Knox College was opened in the autumn of 1844, with fourteen students. The connection between Knox College and this church was for a considerable period necessarily very close. The professors and students all regarded Knox church as their regular place of worship. Dr. Andrew King, who afterwards filled the chair of Systematic Theology at Halifax, for one winter supplied, I think, the pulpit of Knox church, while he discharged professional duties in the College. When Dr. R. Burns came from Scotland to assume the pastorate of this church, he came also by appointment of Synod to hold the position of Principal and Primarius Professor of Theology in Knox College.

This combination of offices did not continue long. No man, however varied his gifts, could discharge successfully the duties of two offices, either of which was sufficient to tax the energies of one man. Dr. Burns was, after a short time, released from his college duties, but he never ceased to take a deep interest in the institution; and its valuable library was largely collected by his untiring zeal and industry. And when he retired ultimately from the pastorate of this church, he discharged for a number of years, the duties of Professor of Church History in the College.

In the early years of this church, the forms of Professors Gale, Eason, Lyall and Principal Willis were familiar to all its members, and their voices were frequently heard in the sacred desk and at the Communion Table. Dr. Topp rendered many valuable services to the College, among them it should be noted that for one session along with Dr. Gregg, he generously took charge of the department of Systematic Theology, until a permanent appointment was made for the chair.

In connection with the management of the College, Knox Church has supplied, I may say, an unbroken succession of able laymen down to the present Chairman of the College Board, who by their liberality and their personal attention to its interests, have done much to promote the prosperity of the institution.

With the rapid growth of Toronto and the Presbyterian Church in it, no congregation can now hold exactly the place which belonged to this Church in the early years. Other strong and liberal congregations have grown up in this city and throughout the land, which are seeking to do their part worthily in sustaining theological education. But I am sure Knox College cannot forget the friends of its early years who are its friends still, and I trust this Church will always look with satisfaction on the aid it has rendered to a school which has already sent forth between five and six hundred ministers, who, with exceptions almost too trifling to notice, have proved faithful ambassadors of Jesus Christ.

Pardon a personal reference, before I close. I feel a deep interest in this celebration. In many respects, I may claim to be one of yourselves. It was in this church that I first made open profession of my faith in Christ, a faith which had, however, been cherished for some time. For six years, during my student days I worshipped with you. And when in later years I returned to the city to fill the office I now hold, I was again a member with you for about nine years. In all, I was linked with you for nearly fifteen years, in the fellowship of the gospel. And when owing to change of residence, I was led, as many more of your members have been led, to form other church connections, I did so reluctantly, and have always looked back with pleasure to those years I spent among you.

No one can wish you and your pastor peace and prosperity more heartily than I. During the years that are past you have done well. You would not believe me, if I said, that in the years to come you cannot do better. But this I will say, "Hold that fast which thou hast that no man take thy crown." Hold fast the heritage of truth you have received from the faithful and the good who have gone before you. Hold fast that unwavering attachment to the gospel of the Grace of God which has distinguished you during your past history. And hold fast with growing energy and strength the interest you have always taken in the work of Christ and the spread of His Kingdom on the earth.

And when the next half century of your history closes, may it find you increasingly loyal to the Master, more steadfast in the faith, and more abundant in all good works.

MISSION FIELD.

W.F.M.S.—Annual Meeting.

KNOXES.

The annual meeting of this Society was held on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, 17th, 18th and 19th inst. in the Central Presbyterian Church, Toronto. The weather was all that could be desired and the very large attendance of over 500 lady delegates from every part of the Dominion, is the best indication of the general interest in the occasion. It is understood that the ladies' went back to their homes with yet greater enthusiasm. The meetings were full of interest and inspiration throughout, and will give a mighty impulse to the work of the coming year.

We give below extracts from the Report, every line of which is packed with something worth saying.

RETROSPECTIVE.

Ten days succeed one another so rapidly in the flight of time that life seems but a dream, a shadow, and truly our years pass "as a tale that is told." So, to those of our number who were privileged to aid in the formation of the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society, as we look back, it appears but as yesterday since we assembled, comparatively few in number, in Knox church, nineteen years ago, to celebrate our first anniversary. Then we stood upon the threshold of the "open door" into the hearts and homes of heathen women, which the God of Missions has in these days set before the women of the churches. Now we look back, acknowledging God's goodness, and rejoicing in all that He has aided us to accomplish, and yet we know that we have barely "touched the fringe" of women's work in the lands where the representatives of our Society have been laboring.

PROSPECTIVE.

In speaking of this subject, the magnitude of the field yet untouched, Mrs. Isabella Bishop, in her address at Exeter Hall, November, 1893, remarks, that naturally among the workers at Home there is a disposition to look at the work done. This may or may not always be true; but, guarded by this thought, while we do think to-day, gladly and thankfully, and rightly so, of the steady development of our Society, of the growth of its work, both at Home and Abroad, of the aid it has been our privilege to render the Foreign Mission Committee in the plans and operations of the Church for the salvation of heathen women and children; with humility may we remember that our work is only beginning, that we are still but standing on the threshold of the "open door," and may we think more, much more, of what we might have done, of what we ought to have done, if each individual member of our Society had been faithful even in that which is least.

TRINIDAD.

As usual, for a considerable period now, we have this year contributed to the educational mission work of the Church, under the care of the Foreign Mission Committee, of the Eastern Division, in those islands. In Trinidad there are four principal Mission Stations—Tupa Tupa, San Fernando, Princetown and Couva—in charge of five ordained missionaries, assisted by four Canadian ladies, who have the care of the schools at these points and in the districts adjoining. At various distances from these centres there are fifty-two native schools under the direction of as many native workers with about a total of 5,600 pupils in all districts.

NEW HEBRIDES.

Through the guiding hand of God the Synod of Nova Scotia was led in 1844 to embark in Foreign Mission enterprise. The field selected was the New Hebrides and the first missionary sent was Dr. Geddies. In the group comprising about thirty islands, with over 150,000 inhabitants speaking twenty different languages, the Canadian Church has three missionaries laboring in Erromanga, Elato Santo. There are fifteen other ordained missionaries in other islands.

FORMOSA.

This Society contributes about \$1,200 towards the support of twenty-five Bible women, and the Girl's school, in which about forty women and girls receive training.

HONAN.

More than one home has been visited by sickness this year, and the Angel of Death has passed by, not without striking hero and there a deadly blow, as the newly made graves in "God's Acre" at Kobe (Japan) and Tien Tsin will testify.

Rev. Dr. J. F. Smith was ill for many weeks, and had only partially recovered when at Arima, Japan, where he and Mrs. Smith with others of the staff had gone for change of air, their little daughter May, "the sunbeam" of the household, and much beloved by all the missionaries for her winning ways, suddenly sickened and was gathered to the household above. Mr. and Mrs. Smith are in Canada now on furlough. On account of "little Paul's" health, Rev. J. and Mrs. Goforth, with the children, returned home in the early autumn accompanied by Dr. and Mrs. McClure. There were other instances of sickness, but the heaviest trial came to this faithful band of Workers in October, when Dr. Lucinda Graham and Mrs. Malcolm (the former very suddenly, Mrs. Malcolm after a short illness) were called at Chefoo, from mission service in China, to heavenly service, in the Eternal glory. It was trying to part with the little flowers that made "the cornfield" so bright with their presence, but it was harder still to see these two stricken down in their fresh, young womanhood, and at the beginning of what seemed to be an honored and useful career. They were lovely and pleasant in their lives, and all unite in saying they