

## Church News

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

### MONTREAL NOTES.

The Provincial Sunday School Union recently concluded a most successful Summer School for Teachers at Georgeville. The venture was a new one in the Province, and though the schools at Chataqua and elsewhere in the United States have had such a brilliant record, no very high expectations had been formed as to attendance or otherwise here. It was thought that an average of twenty-five might be counted on, and the arrangements were made by the active secretary, Mr. G. H. Archibald, with that number in view. They were more than surprised to find a roll of seventy-seven names, the greater proportion of whom attended all, or mostly all, of the sessions extending over two weeks. The teaching occupied three hours daily and embraced the subjects of Old Testament History, the Life of Paul, the Principles of Teaching and Child Nature. In addition to these, practical illustrations of methods of teaching were given, accompanied by criticism, and a number of public lectures given in the evenings on subjects cognate to Sabbath School work by the members of the staff. On Sunday afternoons a joint school made up by the different schools in Georgeville, was held under the auspices of the Union, and on the following Wednesday a mass picnic, representing some thirty schools in the surrounding district. The whole country was thus brought into touch with the institution, which it is hoped may be made an annual affair. Accommodation for the classes was afforded by the Public School building and the Methodist Church. The members of the staff were, Prof. Waller, Prof. St. John, Dr. Williams, Dr. Masten, Dr. Kelly and Mr. Archibald.

The interest seems to be increasing in the open air meetings held by the congregation of St. Matthew's Church, Point St. Charles. There were present nearly three hundred persons at last Sunday evening's meeting. The service was opened with the singing of several familiar hymns after which there were a number of short addresses given, among those who spoke being Mr. James Rodger of Erskine Church. The meeting then closed with a short prayer by Mr. Cruikshank.

The Rev. W. T. McTavish, of Deseronto, is supplying the pulpit of Crescent St. Church at present, during the absence of Dr. Mackay, and the Rev. W. A. J. Martin, of Guelph, is taking the place of the Rev. A. J. Mowat in Erskine Church. Both are able preachers.

The Rev. D. L. Dewar, of Ailsa Craig, supplied the pulpit of Melville Church, Westmount, on the 1st inst. Mr. Dewar, who was already a B. A. from Queen's, and a B. D. from Montreal, has just received the degree of M. A. in course, from the University of Trinity College, Toronto.

The Rev. G. C. Heine, of Chalmers Church, is spending his holidays at Bic. Prin. MacVicar and his family are occupying a cottage at the same place.

### GENERAL.

Meaford congregation has unanimously and enthusiastically called Rev. S. N. Eastman, B. A., of Oshawa.

The Rev. D. L. Dewar, B. D., B. A., of Ailsa Craig, Ont., has received the degree of M. A. in course, from the University of Trinity College, Toronto.

Rev. A. W. K. Herdman of New Brunswick has received a unanimous call to the pastorate of the Presbyterian church at Georgetown, P. E. I.

Rev. Adam F. Forbes, Presbyterian clergyman, of North Dakota, died in the General Hospital, Winnipeg, Aug. 5, while undergoing an operation.

The congregation of the Presbyterian church at Douglas has given a unanimous call to Rev. W. A. MacKenzie B. D., of Tielborne, Ont. The call

will be considered at the meeting of the Presbytery of Lanark and Renfrew.

At a meeting of the Pictou Presbytery, held in New Glasgow, Rev. Mr. McDonald was settled over the united congregation of Barney's River for one year.

The Presbyterian congregation of Sawyerville, Que., has extended a call to the Rev. John Miller, a graduate of Queen's. If Mr. Miller, accepts he will be the first settled pastor, as until the present year this was only a mission station. The stipend promised is \$700 and a manse.

Mr. F. D. Roxburgh, M. A., of Norwood, Ont., who recently graduated with high honors and received license from Knox College to preach has received and accepted a call to the pastorate of the Presbyterian church at Fort Erie, Ont. His ordination and induction will take place in September.

The death occurred on August 5th, of Rev. Dr. Waters, a well-known Presbyterian clergyman, in the 70th year of his age. He was a native of Carlisle, Scotland. He was educated in Toronto and ordained in 1861 at Southampton, Ont. He has resided with his son, Mr. D. Waters, of the Bank of Nova Scotia, Halifax, N. S., for the past six months.

A congregational meeting of the Presbyterian Church, Wetaskiwin, Alta., was held on July 9th, with Mr. S. A. Wood, the student missionary, in the chair. A board of managers was elected and other business transacted. The Board at once began faithful work which resulted in an ice-cream social on the 23rd inst. This social was a splendid success, both socially and financially.

The Presbyterian Congregation of Deer Park held a meeting August 2, and extended an unanimous call to Rev. John Kay, M. A., of Milverton. Rev. J. A. Morrison of the East Presbyterian Church, the interim Moderator, preached at the meeting. A special meeting of Presbytery will be asked for to sustain the call through, as a speedy settlement is wished for on the acceptance of Mr. Kay.

The laying of the corner stone of the new Presbyterian Church in Windham Centre, recently, was a grand success. A large crowd was in attendance. The stone was laid by Mr. J. McKnight, Sr., assisted by Revs. Dr. Cochrane, Brantford, W. J. Dey, Suncoo; F. A. MacLennan, Jarvis; J. G. Hurdy, Ayri; T. B. Trimble, Teeterville, E. C. Currie, Delhi, and Mr. F. Reid, Simcoe. Tea was served by the ladies from 5 to 8 o'clock in the evening after which a grand concert of quartettes, duets and solos, was excellently rendered.

The ceremony in connection with the laying of the corner stone of the Church of the Covenant at the corner of Avenue road and Roxborough street, Toronto, which took place July 29th, was well attended. The proceedings were conducted by Rev. James McCaul, the pastor. The ceremony was begun with devotional exercises, and at their conclusion the following historic statement of the church was read:—

Some 30 years ago a mission work was begun on Davenport road by Mrs. Edmund Gunther of Bellevue, and Mrs. Arthurs of Ravenswood. For over twenty years it was carried on with unflagging zeal and increasing interest by those ladies with such other helpers as they induced to come to their aid. Of those who cheerfully gave their sympathy and help the following deserve honorable mention in addition to those ladies named and the members of their families:—The late Rev. Dr. Reid, who aided at the first formal opening of the school; the late Mr. Joseph Gibson of Deer Park, who acted as Superintendent of the school for twelve years, the Rev. Dr. Hamilton, who superintended the Sunday School and conducted an evening service for three years after Mr. Gibson retired, Mr. Wm. McCullough, of the Y.M.C.A., who conducted an evening service for a year. At various times also students of Knox College, many of whom hold honored positions now in the church, gave valued assistance.

Ultimately the Session of Charles Street, Church, now Westminster, took

the mission under its fostering care. For two summers the attempt was made to conduct services both morning and evening with most encouraging results. In 1892 it was resolved to continue the services also during the winter months. As a result of these services application was made to Presbytery that the mission be organized as a congregation with a view to calling a settled pastor. The Presbytery granted the application. An interim session composed of the Rev. John Neil, minister of Westminster, as Moderator; W. J. Hendry, and Henry Graham of Westminster, Andrew Jeffrey of Central and Joseph Gibson of Deer Park Church, elders.

The interim session held its first meeting on the 8th of October, 1892. The first meeting of the congregation was held on the second Tuesday of January, 1893, and on March 1st of the same year the congregation resolved subject to the approval of the Presbytery, to designate the congregation "the Church of the Covenant." The Presbytery approved of the name, and granted permission to the congregation to moderate in a call to a minister when they were in a position to do so.

The congregation met on the 13th of April, 1893, and unanimously called the present pastor, the Rev. James McCaul, who was duly inducted to the pastoral charge on the 16th of May following. Steps were immediately taken to raise funds for church building purposes and to secure a suitable site for a new church. Owing, however, to the long continued financial depression and the resolute purpose of the congregation not to incur debt, nothing definite was done till near the close of 1896, when the very eligible site on the northeast corner of Avenue road and Roxborough street was bought and paid for. The first sod was turned on the new lot on the fourth anniversary of the pastor's settlement, the 17th of May of the present year. The contracts were soon afterwards let for the erection of a school house on the rear of the lot, which has a frontage of 104 feet on Avenue road and 150 feet on Roxborough street. The cost of the structure is not to exceed \$10,000, including cost of land, and the building is to be paid for as the work progresses.

At the conclusion of the reading of this sketch the corner-stone was laid by Mrs. Gunther and Mrs. Arthur, and the ceremony was concluded with appropriate exercises.

### SARNIA PRESBYTERY.

The Presbytery of Sarnia met in St. Andrew's church there on Tuesday, the 13th inst., and was constituted.

Mr. Daly, Moderator, in the chair. The minutes of former meeting were read and sustained.

The following commissions in favor of the respective elders were received, viz.:—Wyoming and Plympton, John Dewar; Ft. Edward, J. C. McMillan; St. Andrew's, Sarnia, John Brobner; Thedford and Lake Road, John Taylor; Brigidon and Bear-Creek, Mr. Ratnay; Strathroy, Geo. Thompson; Watford and Main Road, John Ross; Burns' church and Moore Line, Samuel Cole; Albert St., Sarnia, Hon. Alex. Vidal; Oil Springs and Oil City, Geo. R. Cameron; Calmachie, Robert Davidson; Mandaumin, David Mann; Napier and Brooke, D. McGugan; Petrolia, G. B. Robson. These commissions were received and such of the gentlemen as were present took their seats as members of the court.

Rev. Dr. Thompson gave a detailed and interesting report of his attendance at the General Assembly in Winnipeg, for which he received the thanks of the Presbytery.

The next ordinary meeting was appointed to be held in St. Andrew's church Sarnia, on the 3rd Tuesday of September next at 11 a.m., when session records will be called for for examination. The records of the Kirk session of Strathroy were laid on the table for examination and Mr. Livingstone and Mr. Budge were appointed a committee to examine the same and report.

Presbytery adjourned to meet at 1.30, and was closed with the benediction.

At 1.30 the Presbytery again met