

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.

One by one the Commissioners to the General Assembly, both lay and clerical, are returning home after the meeting in Winnipeg. Those still in the West are the Rev. James Patterson who is visiting relatives in Brandon, the Rev. Dr. R. Campbell who has gone to the Pacific Coast, and Prof. Springer who remains to give assistance in the summer session of Manitoba College during the absence of Dr. King in Britain. Out of the thirty commissioners appointed only eleven were in attendance, but these seem to have taken their full share of the work to be done, both in the house and on committee. The absence of the others will be compensated by the full representation next year when the Assembly meets in Montreal. We regret to say that the Rev. Mr. Scott of the Record returns to find his eldest son suffering from typhoid fever. The source of the infection is still unknown, but it is hoped that the attack may prove to be a light one.

On Sunday the 13th inst. the services in Erskine church were conducted by Principal MacVicar. The Rev. Mr. Nowat was unable to preach owing to a severe cold and sore throat.

On the 20th inst. Jubilee services were of course the order of the day and each participated with his neighbor in giving expression to the people's loyalty and to the universal appreciation of the character of Her Majesty. The common feeling of gratitude and joy in the churches has however not been alone with this expression in the ordinary services. The Sunday schools and other organizations have been observing it on their own account as well, by special gatherings religious and social. Instead of the usual Sunday school at St. Paul's on Sunday afternoon there was a jubilee service. At this there were present not merely the ordinary scholars, but seventy from Point St. Charles mission Sabbath school. These were driven up in conveyances and gratified those interested in this thriving mission, by turning out in so great numbers in spite of the somewhat threatening appearance of the weather. The church was decorated with evergreens and flowers. Speeches were delivered by Mr. Morris, who is superintendent of the Sabbath school, and by others. The choir was occupied by the Rev. Dr. Barclay, who with the other speakers, made the afternoon not less instructive than the usual Sabbath afternoon, if it was a little different from it. Sunday school work will be continued all the summer, and will likely be helped on materially by this gathering together of both schools for united service.

In a similar way the Sunday school of Calvin church held a special Jubilee session at which were present also the teachers and scholars of the St. Henri school. An address was given by the Rev. J. Lyall George, the pastor elect of the church.

On the Friday evening preceding the lecture hall of St. Matthew's Presbyterian church was the scene of a pleasant gathering of members and friends of the Woman's Auxiliary Board, the occasion being a jubilee concert and social. The programme was an interesting one.

An open air meeting—the first of the series this season—was held by St. Matthew's Presbyterian church at the tail-race bridge, Wellington street west, on Sunday. There were about two hundred present. Addresses were delivered by the Rev. W. H. Cruikshank and Mr. Thompson. Speakers have been arranged for each meeting every Sunday evening. The choir of St. Matthew's church assisted in Sunday evening's meeting.

GENERAL.

A congregational meeting of St. Andrew's Church London was held June 25th to discuss the alterations to church office proposed by the Board of Managers. After some discussion the meeting was adjourned till October.

Rev. W. S. Ball, formerly in charge of the Vancouker Presbyterian congregation, London township, and well known through-

out Ontario, but for some time retired, died June 19th at his residence 224 Bedford road, Toronto. Deceased was 75 years of age and was a brother-in-law of the late Hon. George Brown.

At the recent Sacramental Services in Alvinston and Euphemis, twenty-seven were united with the church; fifteen at the former, and eleven at the latter. At Alvinston, eleven, and Euphemis, eight, came into full communion on profession of faith.

On Friday evening, June 11th, under the auspices of the Auxiliary of the W.F.M.S., Mrs. J. H. Harvie, of Toronto, addressed a public meeting in the Presbyterian church, Alvinston on "Foreign Missions." Mrs. Harvie's remarks were listened to with rapt attention, by a very appreciative audience.

Rev. Mr. McIntosh, whose first field of labor will be Grand Bay, Jamaica and Nevis missions, was ordained in the Presbyterian church at Moncton, N. B., on June 4th. Rev. Mr. Robinson presided and ordained the candidate, while Rev. Mr. Reinnie, of St. John, preached the sermon, and Rev. Mr. Ross spoke on missions.

On Thursday evening June 21st at the Missionary Presbyterian Church, the ordination took place of the Rev. W. M. MacKeracher, B.A. The Rev. A. J. Mowatt presided at the ordination and preached the sermon. Addresses were made by the Rev. Principal MacVicar and the Rev. Thos. Bennett, the former addressing the minister and the latter the congregation. The Rev. W. M. MacKeracher, B.A., is a son of the late Rev. C. M. MacKeracher, for thirty years minister at English River and Howick.

Tuesday June 15th was a red-letter occasion with the Presbyterians of Pakenham, for on that day the corner stone of the new church was laid with appropriate ceremonies by Mrs. Francis, one of the oldest members of the congregation. A preliminary service was held in the old church at eleven o'clock a.m., at which a fine sermon was preached by an old and highly esteemed pastor—Rev. Jas. Smart, of Prescott. The rev. gentleman had as the basis of his remarks, Ephesians ii. 20, 21-22. At half-past two in the afternoon the most interesting part of the proceedings took place—the laying of the corner stone and the ceremonies in connection therewith. After which a collection in aid of the building fund was taken amounting to \$430.

The Clayton Presbyterians had a red-letter day on Thursday, June 17th, when the corner stone of their new church was well and truly laid. The ceremony was performed by Rev. R. Knowles, the former pastor. Rev. Dr. Smith, of Kingston, delivering the dedicatory address. After this important part was concluded, the audience adjourned to the grove for dinner, and after dinner the programme was resumed, when addresses were delivered by Rev. O. Horro and Hannah (Clayton), M. Hill and Hutchison (Almonte), Smith (Middleville), McLean (Arnprior), and Mr. W. C. Caldwell. The pastor, Rev. Mr. McLean, occupied the chair, and the choir of the Methodist Church, Almonte, rendered an excellent programme of music. The day was an ideal one for an outing, and the large assembly seemed to thoroughly enjoy the proceedings.

The Presbytery of St. John, New Brunswick, met on Thursday evening, June 3rd, in the Presbyterian church, St. John, for the purpose of ordaining Rev. H. H. Smith, B.A., to the office of the holy ministry and inducing him into the pastoral charge of the congregation of St. John's South settlement—a order not necessary. Public services were conducted by Rev. J. A. McLean and J. D. McKay, the former preaching an interesting and instructive sermon from Prov. viii. 4, "Unto you, O men I call; and my voice is to the sons of men." The Moderator, Rev. J. S. Sutherland, then narrated the steps leading to the settlement of the congregation, and called upon Mr. Smith to answer the usual questions, after which he was by prayer and laying on of hands of Presbytery solemnly set apart to the office of the Holy Ministry. The Moderator then welcomed Mr. Smith to the Presbytery of St. John and inducted him into the pastoral care of the congregation of St. John.

Rev. W. G. Wallace provided at the closing exercises of the Toronto Presbyterian Ladies' College Friday evening last. The Church of the Redeemer Assembly Hall was placed at the disposal of the college for the occasion. Mr. W. B. McMurrich, M.A., Q.C., read the annual statement and report, and brief addresses were made by Rev. Principal Cavin, Hon. Geo. W. Ross, Rev. John Potts and Principal Macdonald. The report alluded to the fact that the past year has witnessed the largest attendance of both resident and day students in the school's history, a result which, Mr. McMurrich said, was due alike to the efficiency of the present faculty and to the splendid undation work done by the late Dr. McIntyre. Especial attention had been devoted to the departments of art, education and music. In the latter especially the place taken by the college has been very gratifying to its friends. Reference was also made to the religious exercises of the college, and the social training of the students.

The death occurred at his father's residence, Fort Belcher, Onslow, N.S., on June 15th, of Rev. Homer Putnam, M.A., who until his resignation of a few weeks ago, owing to ill health, was the pastor of Columbia Presbyterian Church, Hopewell. Mr. Putnam was ordained to the ministry only four years ago and is called to rest from his labors at the early age of thirty-two years. He was an exceptionally fine preacher and while health would permit he manifested an exemplary zeal in the work of his sacred profession. The attachment of his congregation and their appreciation of his work is testified by the fact that during several furloughs which were enforced by failing health they continued to pay his salary in full. He had been a graduate in arts of Dalhousie University where he held a Munroe exhibition during every year of his course. He took his theological course partly at Princeton College, N.J., and partly at the Princeton Theological Seminary, New Jersey. He married Miss Bertha Forbes, of Little Harbor, Pictou Co., who with one child is left to mourn her irreparable loss.

A large number of the graduates, theological students, and friends of Manitoba College Winnipeg attended Dr. King's "at home" on Saturday June 5th. Many old acquaintances were renewed, reminiscences indulged in, and a very pleasant time spent generally. After the tastefully served refreshments, Mr. F. J. Harley, B.A., read an address, and Mr. R. M. Dickey presented Dr. King with a handsome umbrella on behalf of the students. Dr. King replied in felicitous terms, thanking the students for one more token of their appreciation. He never sought popularity, but tried to do his duty in training the intellectual and spiritual part of those under his care. Dr. Spurling and Dean O'Meara spoke in earnest and eloquent terms of their appreciation of Dr. King's worth, not only to Manitoba College, but to Manitoba University, and to educational and religious interests throughout the entire west. Rev. Mr. P. J. in a pointed and humorous speech, conveyed the hearty good wishes of himself and the other denominations. After singing the National Anthem the friends dispersed. Dr. King leaves for Scotland about the middle of June, to enjoy a much needed and more than earned rest.

For about ten months the congregation of Knox Church, Barton had been without a pastor and on Friday June 4th the vacancy was filled by the induction of Rev. James Steven, late of Tiverton, into the pastoral charge. Many large congregations have assembled in Knox church, but the gathering to witness and to take part in the solemn services which marked the beginning of the pastorate of Rev. Mr. Steven was fully equal to any previous Assembly. Amongst the Ministers present were: Revs. L. K. K. K., D. P. Drummond, J. H. Courtney, J. McNeil, T. W. Wilson, Alex. Wilson, J. F. K. K. and Dr. Sutherland. Rev. D. R. Drummond, of St. Thomas opened the services. After prayer, the reading of a portion of the 6th chapter of St. John and singing of the 43rd Psalm the rev. gentleman took as his text Gal. i. 4, and delivered an earnest and eloquent discourse. Rev. Dr. Sutherland addressed