

And the grave grew joyous with chirp and song,
And the beam that stole within for awhile
Lit up the pallid lips with a smile,
Flitting along.

So there they built their nest with their friend.
That never more might the dreamer be
Left without sign of company

Unto the end.

J. J. P. in *New Dominion Monthly*.

BROCKVILLE.—AN INTERESTING SPEECH.

On Sabbath the 23rd ultimo, October 1870, the 59th anniversary of the ministry of the Rev. William Smart, was held in the Presbyterian Church, Gananoque, with religious services.

In the course of the exercises the following address was delivered by Mr. Smart:—

"On this day fifty-nine years ago I preached my first sermon in the Court House of Elizabethtown (now Brockville.) On looking back on those fifty-nine years, I may well say in wonder and admiration, 'What has God wrought?'

In view of the loving kindness of God to myself and family, and the blessings he has so abundantly bestowed on the country at large, and the church in particular, I am desirous of calling on you to unite with me this day while I raise my Ebenezer to render praise and thanksgiving in the name of Jesus to the God of all our mercies.

Being a feeble and delicate young man of 22 years, and from a deep impression on my mind that my time would be short, and that old age would never be my inheritance, I labored in my Divine Master's cause with cheerfulness from Osnabruck to Gananoque, being at these two extremities once a month, preaching at different places between.

At that period of the country the roads (if roads they might be called) were bad, and the population scattered. Since that time everything is changed. The aspect of the country and its inhabitants, the condition of the people in a moral and religious, in a social and political point of view, all are wonderfully changed. 'A little one has become a thousand, and a small one a strong nation.'

On my arrival in Canada there were but three Presbyterian ministers in Lower Canada, and three in Upper Canada, myself making the fourth.

The war of 1812 greatly interrupted my labours; immediately on its conclusion I opened a correspondence with England, Scotland and Ireland, the result of which was the early arrival of the Revs. Messrs. Bell, of Perth; Buchanan, of Beckwith; Gamell, of Lanark; Boyd, of Prescott; Taylor and Henderson, of St. Andrews; Johnson, of Cornwall; Lyall, of Osnabruck, and others.

Their numbers have greatly increased. Besides our brethren in connection with the Church of Scotland, that form so goodly an army of the Lord of Hosts, our own church from so small a beginning, has swelled into a General Assembly formed last June, with all its means for the extending of the precious Gospel, not only to the settlers, but to the remotest parts of the country, and even to the distant parts of the continent, 'for, lo, the poor Indian,' in the far West hears the voice of our ministers, proclaiming the glad some sound of salvation through the blood of the Lamb of God.

I might here mention that the first Sunday School, the first Missionary, Tract and Bible Societies in Canada, were formed in Brockville, as also the first division of the Sons of Temperance.

These were the days of small things, but the Great Head of the Church did not despise those, but has preserved and watched over the small and tender seed.

The Lord be praised, I see this seed fructifying in the grand schemes of our church, growing into mighty trees, shaking their precious fruit through the wide Dominion of Canada, and even in foreign lands.

In my early days, it was my ardent wish and constant prayer that God would spare me to see ministers of our church so increased in the country as to form a Presbytery. This, my wish, was gratified, and this prayer was heard and answered by the formation of the Presbytery of the Canadas in the year 1819.

My feeble frame was renovated by the climate of Canada, and with it a new desire and prayer. It was, that ministers might so increase as to form a Synod. This, too, was heard and gratified by the formation in my Church in Brockville, of the First Synod in Canada. The United Synod of Upper Canada.

Though by this time advanced in years, a still new desire was excited, accompanied, I hope, with fervent prayer. It was to be present at the first General Assembly of our Church.

I cannot tell you my emotion when I took my seat, as a delegate, in Knox's Church, Toronto, at the first meeting of the General Assembly of the Canada Presbyterian Church.—Recorder.

VI. Educational Intelligence.

—VIRGINIA SCHOOLS.—The public school work of Virginia, under the superintendence of Mr. Ruffner, appointed some time since by the Legislature, is making encouraging progress. In more than one-fourth, perhaps in one-half, of the counties of the State, schools have been opened, or are on the point of opening, by means of private subscription. And a large portion of these schools have heretofore existed as private schools, which, by the concurrence of those concerned, have been adopted into the State system, and been made free for all. In many cases the teacher continues to receive pay from his patrons in addition to what he receives from the State. By this combination of private with public means, schools, in some counties, are likely to be so multiplied as to furnish a full supply for the wants of the people.

—DETROIT SCHOOLS.—From a very long and interesting report of the Schools of Detroit for 1870, we learn that according to the census of last year the population of that city was 79,601; the cash value of the property, real and personal, \$76,077,757, or very nearly \$1000 for every man, woman, and child in the city. The whole of the city taxes for the year amounted to \$710,660, and of this about 24 per cent was for school purposes. Of the population between twenty-five and twenty there were 26,641, and of these 11,252 were enrolled on the school registers. The average number of pupils throughout the year was 7,505. Average number of teachers 135. It is also stated that the introduction of colored children into the common schools has wrought so well that colored schools are being dropped, and the pupils drafted as fast as possible into the public schools, so that in a comparatively short time the last colored school in Detroit will have disappeared. We are very glad to hear that such is the fact. There are some places even in Canada that are not able to give such an account of their progress in this respect.—Globe.

—PENNSYLVANIA.—The thirty-seventh annual report of the Superintendent of Common Schools, shows a growth and strength in the system of public instruction that must be highly gratifying to all friends of popular education. From the report we gather the following statistics: Number of school districts, 2,002, being an increase for the year of 31; number of schools, 14,212, of which 2,892 are graded; number of teachers, 17,612, of whom 8,739 are female; number of pupils, 828,891; average number of pupils in attendance, 555,941; average length of school term, 6.06 months; average salaries of male teachers, per month, \$40.66; of female teachers, \$32.29; cost of tuition for the year, \$3,745,415.81; total expenditures, \$7,771,761.20, value of school property, \$15,837,183.00. Of the 11,913 school houses reported to exist, the number of frame is 7,487; of brick, 2,235; of stone, 1,536; of log, 391. The Bible is read in 11,016 schools. The average age of teachers is 24½ years. The number of private schools is 386; number of academies and seminaries, 215; number of pupils attending private institutions, 24,815, and number of teachers in such schools, 848. There are now five State Normal schools in operation. They had, during the past years, 66 professors and teachers; 2,675 students, of whom 670 were in the model schools. Four more Normal schools will probably be opened during this year. On questions of State school policy, the report advocates an increase in the State appropriation to Common schools, the establishment of Graded schools wherever it is practicable, the election of superintendents in all cities and large towns, an enlargement of the present means of professional instruction for teachers, competitive examinations in the selection of young men to fill the cadetships at the national schools of West Point and Annapolis, and the introduction of more general and more systematic moral instruction into schools of all grades. The superintendent supports his positions on all these questions with facts.

—FEMALE EDUCATION.—A Massachusetts lady has, by her will, left over \$300,000 for the establishment of a college for the higher education of young women, so as to afford privileges equal, in all respects,