

Ministers and Churches.

Our Toronto Letter.

The visit of the Rev. Dr. Forrest of Skerries, Scotland, to Toronto, was a great pleasure to those who had not yet known him. It will be remembered that Dr. Forrest was invited to occupy one of the Chairs in Knox College, but could not see his way clear to accept it. In presenting the vote of thanks on Monday evening, after Dr. Forrest had lectured in the College Hall, Principal Caven hinted that Dr. Forrest might yet change his mind, and that when Knox College is ready to add one more Chair to her present list, he may be induced to accept the invitation to fill it. Dr. Forrest would be heartily welcomed to Canada and to Toronto, should he ever elect to make his home here.

His sermons on Sunday delighted the congregations to whom he preached. In the morning he was heard in Bloor St. Church, and in the evening in St. Andrew's, King St. His morning sermon dealt with the subject of the Divine Pity. There were some preliminary statements regarding pity, and a definition, at once clear and brief. There were instances of the exhibition of the Divine Pity in the history of the people of Israel; but the strength of the sermon was given to the dawning consciousness of the Divine Pity upon the mind of the man, and of its effect upon him. All that was best responded, and man sought to become worthy of such love as this that was shewn towards him.

One was conscious of a difference between this preaching and that which dwelt upon the utter helplessness and worthlessness of man. There was an undertone in which we heard the message of the hopelessness of unaided human effort, but there was something for man to do, and he was not utterly repulsive in God's sight. He was worth saving, and that which was best in him responded to the appeal to rise to what was his best possible. We have not been accustomed to hear this side of the Gospel emphasized. Henry Drummond dwelt upon it, till there were those who declared that he taught that nothing more was necessary than that a man should rise to the best that was in him. Of course Drummond never taught that, nor does Forrest, but he does emphasize the great yearning that God has for the best possible for man, and His longing that man shall put forth effort to realize his best.

Special services have been held in the Bloor St. Church during the past week. They will be continued in St. Paul's Church next week. During the week following the College St. Congregation will take them up. These three Sessions have met and held conference and prayer together, and these meetings have been the result. The first week has been most successful. There is no excitement, an outsider who dropped in would imagine that he had come into the usual weeknight prayer-meeting. The tone of the meeting has been deeply spiritual, appealing to those who have entered the Kingdom rather than to those who are yet without. Indeed the purpose of the meetings is to quicken spiritual life, so that there may be united effort and that all members may be induced to become active in Christian work.

The meeting together of the three congregations, and of the three Sessions, for they gathered every evening for a few minutes of prayer just before the opening of the meeting, will do much to develop the desire for united effort, and to pave the way for entering upon it. In the past each congregation has been minding its own affairs, and the idea of reciprocity was as unpopular as it has been in the political world. Each congregation kept its line fence in good repair. Now there are places where the fence is down and there are paths crossing and recrossing. And this is better. We are not many Churches, but one, and the interest of one congregation is the interest of its neighbors. We hope the time may come when the barriers between churches shall be down, and when it will be one of the commonplaces of life for two to worship together, and to work together.

There have been two inductions this week, and there will be one more next week. Woodbridge and Knox Church received the Rev. Malcolm MacKinnon as their minister on Tuesday afternoon; and Lasker and West King received Mr. J. H. Leona. Lentatie, as their minister on Thursday afternoon. Next week the Presbytery will meet at Port Credit to ordain and induct Mr. R. A. Lundy, as minister

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there. This closes up the ranks pretty well in Toronto Presbytery. There are but two vacancies left, the Church of the Covenant and St. Mark's.

We see that Aylmer and Springfield are extending a call to the Rev. James A. Rae of Toronto Junction, but it has not yet come before the Presbytery of Toronto. Mr. Rae is at present the Moderator of the Presbytery. His removal would mean a loss of one of the best of our preachers, but we shall not anticipate such a loss. He has done admirable work in a very difficult field. Such work tries a man's strength, and one less able for hard work would have been obliged to rest before this, but we have come to think of Mr. Rae as able to stand any amount of hard work. The further action of the Aylmer and Springfield people will be awaited with much interest.

Western Ontario.

The Rev. A. McKay, of Lucknow, has been visiting friends at Thamesford.

Rev. Mr. Dobbin and Rev. Mr. Lundy have been preaching at Coldwater.

Hamilton Presbytery is to meet the first Tuesday of the month after the January meeting.

The induction of Rev. J. P. Falconer, B. A., from Nova Scotia, will take place at Delhi on Nov. 25th.

A course of popular musical recitals has been arranged for by the choir of Knox church, Stratford.

The ordination and induction of four additional elders took place in the Central church, Galt, last Sabbath morning.

Rev. Dr. MacKay, of Woodstock, is at present delivering a series of addresses to his Bible class on Sunday afternoon, and these are largely attended.

Mr. D. L. Wright, organist of the Presbyterian Church, Orillia, goes to St. James church, London, much to the regret of friends in the former place.

Rev. Dr. Smith, of Knox church, St. Catharines, gave one of the McGill lectures to his congregation on the lakes, their formation and development.

Dr. Marion Oliver, now at home from India on furlough, is not taking much of a rest just now. She is addressing meetings several times each week, her theme being mission work in India.

Hamilton Presbytery did not consider the call from Burlington to Rev. D. Anderson, of Milverton, sufficiently signed, and so before dealing with it decided on a conference with the congregation.

The recent tea meeting in connection with the Egmondville church was a pronounced success. The addresses were of a high order throughout; and the pastor, Mr. Shaw, made an excellent chairman.

Hamilton Presbytery will overture the General Assembly, asking that body to reduce the number of its delegates, and to have a meeting of the Assembly only once in three years instead of every year.

The Stratford Presbytery, at its last meeting, arranged for a series of special services within the bounds. The Rev. E. W. Pantou, M. A., of Stratford, is Convener of the Committee having the matter in charge.

Dr. Mungo Fraser, of Knox Church, Hamilton, has been granted a brief addition to his usual vacation, on account of ill-health. He goes to a sanatorium in the south. Dr. James, a former pastor, will occupy the pulpit.

Last Sabbath the fifth anniversary of the settlement of Rev. R. F. Cameron, in North East Hope, was celebrated, the Rev. John Ross, of Brussels, conducting the services. On Monday evening Mrs. Ross lectured to a large audience on "John Bunyan."

The departure of Rev. Mr. and Mrs. MacKinnon from Hillsburgh for Woodbridge is greatly regretted. A few evenings ago a number of friends invaded the manse and presented the pastor and his wife with an address and a beautiful silver tea service. On examination the tea pot was found to be well lined with many crisp bank notes. Mr. and Mrs. MacKinnon both feelingly replied to their many friends for their kindness. The presentation was made by Mr. Archibald MacLachlan, reeve of the township, in behalf of the donors.

A new church, costing \$5,000 and seated for 500 persons, has been opened at Waterford. Rev. A. MacWilliam, of Wentworth church, Hamilton, conducted the dedicatory services in the presence of large congregations.

At the last meeting of Hamilton Presbytery appreciation of the services of Rev. Dr. Abraham, formerly of Burlington, and Mr. Robert Laurie, an elder in Knox Church, St. Catharines, for forty years, was noted in the minutes.

Rev. Alexander McMillan, of St. Enoch's church, Toronto, has been lecturing in the Macnab street church on "The Scottish Highlands of Sir Walter Scott." Rev. Dr. Fletcher was in the chair. The audience was large, and the interesting subject was skillfully handled.

The call from Balfour Street church, Brantford, to Rev. P. W. Currie, has been sustained, and his induction was fixed for the 25th inst. Moderator Rev. D. Y. Ross will preside; Rev. Mr. Brown, of Tilsonburg, will preach; Rev. Mr. Scott, of Brantford, will give the charge, and Rev. Mr. Martin will address the congregation.

The Guelph Mercury makes mention of a remarkably searching sermon preached in Knox church there by Rev. Dr. MacTavish, of Toronto, on the "Rich Young Man." Dr. MacTavish conducted services all last week in the same place, which had for their object the deepening of the spiritual life of the congregation.

Rev. Dr. Lyle, for so many years the respected minister of the Central church, Hamilton, is asking his congregation to give him an assistant. The pastoral work of so large a church had, he said, got practically beyond the ability of one man to accomplish it. The proposal is looked upon with favour by his people.

A literary Society has been organized in St. Andrew's Church, Guelph, with the following officers: Hon. pres., Mr. W. A. McLean; pres., Mr. John Strachan; 1st vice-pres., Miss Alice Higginbotham; 2nd vice-pres., Mr. W. A. Wright, B. A.; secretary, Mr. A. M. Fisher; treasurer, Miss Lizzie Grant; critic, Prof. Lochead.

Rev. A. H. Kippen, of Stratford Presbytery, has been unanimously called to Argyle, Aldborough and West Lorne. The stipend promised is \$800 with manse and four weeks holidays. His induction is fixed to take place at West Lorne, Nov. 26 at 2 p. m.; Mr. Lawrence to preach; Mr. Courtenay to address the minister and Mr. Stevens the people.

The sixteenth anniversary of Erskine church, Hamilton, was recently celebrated with no little enthusiasm. At the Monday evening meeting Mr. T. H. Kellar took the chair, and interesting speeches were delivered by Rev. Dr. Dickson, of Galt, and the pastor, Rev. R. Martin. The musical part of the programme was particularly good. Mrs. Thomas Scouler, wife of the first pastor of the congregation, was present, and received a hearty welcome.

The eighteenth annual meeting of the W. F. M. S., London Presbytery, was held at Glencoe. The society was well represented from every district, and the meetings were of a very instructive and helpful nature. In the course of the meetings a happy event transpired in the shape of a presentation of a life membership to Mrs. A. Thompson, of South London, who has been a member for eighteen years. Mrs. Little read the address. Mrs. Thompson replied briefly. The following officers were elected: President, Mrs. McMillan, London; first vice-president, Miss Fraser, London; second vice-president, Mrs. Johnston, London; third vice-president, Mrs. Corrie, Belmont; fourth vice-president, Mrs. Wilson, Glencoe; treasurer, Mrs. Thompson, London; corresponding secretary, Mrs. Clark, South London. The next annual meeting will be held at St. Thomas.

TO CONSUMPTIVES.

The undersigned having been restored to health by simple means, after suffering for several years with a severe lung affection, and that dread disease consumption, is anxious to make known to his fellow sufferers the means of cure. To those who desire it, he will cheerfully send free of charge a copy of the prescription used, which they will find a rare cure for Consumption, Asthma, Catarrh, Bronchitis and all throat and lung troubles. He hopes all sufferers will try his remedy, as it is invaluable. Those desiring the prescription, which will cost them nothing, and may prove a blessing, will please address:

Rev. EDWARD A. WILSON, Brooklyn, New York