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## Ministers and Churches.

The Rev. Dr. McKay, of Woodstock, has been lecturing on Prohibition at Paisley.

At French River, Mr. Ellison, from Knox College, preached his first sermon on the 5th inst.

Robt. Anderson has purchased the old Presbyterian church, at Oilsprings, for the sum of \$50.

The subject of Dr. King's lecture to the ladies of his class in Winnipeg lately was "Altruism, or Altruistic Utilitarianism."

On Sunday, 12th inst., at the Presbyterian Church, Tilbury, the elders elect, Dr. Ferguson and Messrs. James and Reynolds, were inducted by the pastor, Rev. J. Hodges.

The Rev. A. F. Tully, M.A., for fourteen years minister at Mitchell, has resigned. The Rev. M. L. Leitch, of Stratford, will be Moderator of session during the vacancy.

Intimation has been given that the Presbytery of Minnesota will apply to next General Assembly to receive and ordain Mr. John Wray, licentiate of the Presbytery of Philadelphia.

Rev. W. G. Wallace, of Toronto, addressed the meeting held in Georgetown church on Thursday evening, preparatory to the communion. His earnest words were very much appreciated.

Special services held at St. John Presbyterian Church, Hamilton, in celebration of its twenty-second anniversary, on Sabbath, 12th inst., attracted large congregations. The pulpit was occupied by Rev. W. J. Clark, of London.

The Rev. Wm. Patterson, of Cooke's Church, delivered his lecture on "Ireland" in the Y.W.C.A. building, Elm St., on Monday evening last, Dr. Richardson in the chair. There was a large attendance. The receipts were in aid of the building fund.

On Sunday, June 2nd, the Presbyterians of Burlington will hold a Jubilee, that date being their 50th anniversary. Arrangements will be completed in a few days when full particulars will be made public. Over 200 volumes were recently added to the Sunday school library.

The anniversary services of Knox Church, Teeswater, were held on last Sunday week, Rev. Dr. Caven conducting the services both morning and evening. On Monday evening the learned Principal lectured on his travels in Palestine. Sermons and lecture were greatly appreciated by all who heard them.

The Willing Worker's Society gave the building lot for the new church at Winchester which cost one thousand dollars. The same society purchased the seats which are of polished oak and the best quality made by the Globe Company. In addition to this they also carpeted the church throughout. The Young Ladies' Diligent Band presented a bell to the congregation, very large and of fine tone.

Rev. A. King, recently from Perthshire, Scotland, has occupied the pulpit of Huron Church during April. He was accompanied by Mrs. King, a most estimable lady. Both were actively interested in anything concerning the church and, though in Ripley for only a few weeks, won the esteem of all who had the pleasure of meeting them. Rev. Mr. King and his wife returned to Toronto on Friday morning.

A letter was read at the Presbytery meeting of P. E. I. from the secretary of the Grand Orange Lodge, P. E. Island, asking that the Presbytery would cause to be circulated among the Presbyterians of the Island petitions requesting the Parliament of Canada not to interfere with the Manitoba School Law. On motion the clerk was instructed to acknowledge the receipt of the letter, and to inform the writer that the entire question of the Manitoba School Law is under the consideration of the Presbytery.

On Sunday the 5th inst., Knox Church, Embro, celebrated the third anniversary of the settlement of their pastor, Rev. G. C. Patterson, M.A. The Rev. John Mutch, M.A., of Chalmers' Church, Toronto, officiated and preached excellent sermons to large and appreciative congregations. On Monday evening the meeting was under the auspices of the W.F.M. Society of the congregation, and was an unqualified success. The pastor presided. The addresses of Rev. Mr. Mutch and Rev. Wm. Patterson of Cooke's Church were exceptionally able presentations of the claims of missions. The attendance was very large and the collection liberal.

The Island of Formosa is to-day in the eye of the world, and Albanians will be glad to know that Rev. G. L. Mackay, who has lived 23 years in this part of the Chinese empire, will spend the coming Sunday in our city. Dr. Mackay, with Mrs. Mackay, who is a native of China, will be the guests of our esteemed townsman, Mr. Henry W. Darling, 304 State Street. Dr. Mackay was sent as a missionary to Formosa in 1870, by the Canadian Presbyterian Church. Tamsui has been the centre of his missionary work among the aborigines of the island. All the chivalry and romance of missions surround this man, who joined himself to the herders of native buffaloes that he might learn the language of the common people, vanquished the prejudices of a suspicious race, and cast his lot willingly among the tribes of a benighted land. Both in Formosa and in Canada, Dr. Mackay has been recognized by every honor within the gift of his church. He will speak on Sunday morning in the Second Presbyterian Church.—*Union Times, Albany, N. Y.*

## SYNOD OF TORONTO AND KINGSTON.

This Synod met for conference previous to its regular business at Orangeville on Monday the 13th inst. The first session was held at 2 o'clock and many ministers were present to hear the addresses and take part in the conference. "The Administration of the Holy Spirit in the Work of the Church Through the Officers and Members," was introduced by Revs. D. McKenzie, Orangeville, and Wm. Patterson, Toronto. The discussion was animated and interesting, and lasted till 5 o'clock. Rev. J. J. Elliott, Hillsburg, presided.

The evening session began at 8 o'clock. Mr. Alex. Steele, B.A., of the local High School, presided. After appropriate opening exercises, Mr. Steele assured the members of Conference that the people of Orangeville wished them to feel heartily welcome. There were many more of the ministers at this session. It consisted of addresses on mission work by Revs. M. N. Bethune, Beaverton, and J. H. Turnbull, LL.D., Toronto. The great question was: "Shall we send all approved persons who offer to the mission field?" The discussion, in which Rev. R. P. McKay led, lasted till 10.30.

Some interesting features regarding funds were given. Before the adjournment the following resolution was carried unanimously: "That this conference recommend to the executive of the Synod to request Rev. R. P. McKay to allow his address to be printed for liberal distribution throughout the church, to enlighten the people on this subject."

During the morning of the 14th Sabbath Observance occupied the attention of the Synod, little else being discussed. The law of the Sabbath and its present obligation was the first topic taken up. Rev. J. McD. Duncan, B.A., Tottenham, read an excellent paper, in which he took strong ground upon the present day need for observing the Sabbath. Rev. John Burton, B.D., Gravenhurst, read the next paper, on "The Relation of Sabbath Observance to Spirituality in the Church." He treated the Lord's Day as being in itself a means of grace, and held that a proper observance of it is essential to a proper spiritual condition. Rev. Dr. Middlemiss, of Elora, followed with a paper in which he took strong ground that the observance of the Sabbath is the badge which distinguishes Christian from heathen nations, and emphasized the need of it in building up the moral strength which is necessary to make a nation great. Mr. John A. Patterson, of Toronto, followed with an able paper on the question in its relation to government. He first traced the manner in which the principle of Sabbath observance is imbedded in the common law, being a traditional principle in the governing of society. The subject was first dealt with by legal enactment in the time of Henry VI., he said, and in the time of Charles II. a law was passed making certain exceptions in the case of travellers, which, with a few changes, is still substantially the law. Mr. Patterson then discussed the question as to whether the law should be left in its present traditional form, with moral suasion as the chief means at hand for the prevention of violations of it, or whether a statute should be passed. He thought that the latter should be done, holding that public opinion on the subject would be more pronounced if backed by a definite law, with definite penalties attached, and large corporations and employers of labor would be prevented from intimidating their employees. The Lord's Day Observance Association, he said, took this ground, and desired to secure the passing of such an Act. Rev. Principal Caven gave an excellent address upon the subject, and Rev. Dr. McLaren also spoke briefly.

In the afternoon Rev. Dr. Thos. Smith, of Kingston, presided, and the first hour was devoted to a discussion of the subject opened up by the papers of the morning. After a number had participated, a committee, of which Rev. Dr. McLaren was chairman, was appointed to draw up a declaration upon the subject.

Later on in the afternoon the following declaration was submitted to be passed by the Synod:—"The attention of the Conference of the Synod of Toronto and Kingston, having been called to what the Conference regards as unnecessary Sabbath labor at many of our lake ports, and having learned of cases of serious hardship suffered by workmen at Owen Sound and Midland, some of whom have been dismissed and others threatened with dismissal for refusing to work on the Lord's Day, the Conference therefore expresses its sympathy with these workmen in their sufferings for conscience sake, and records its cordial appreciation of the efforts put forth by the ministers and Christian people of those places to preserve the sanctity of the Lord's Day, and also expresses the earnest hope that the railroad and steamboat corporations concerned will take immediate steps to remove the hardships to which these men have been subjected, and to carry out effectively the policy which they have generally strived to secure to the utmost of their ability—Sabbath rest to those in their service."

A discussion was also carried on for about an hour upon the subject which had been so ably broached on Monday evening by Rev. J. A. Turnbull, of Toronto, "Should we send to the field all approved persons who offer for foreign mission service, trusting to the church for their support?" Rev. Mr. McKay, Rev. Dr. Parsons, Rev. M. N. Bethune, Rev. Mr. McKellar, Rev. Mr. Munroe and others took part in the discussion, which was very interesting.

In the evening the Synod met for business and the retiring Moderator, Rev. Robert Fowle, preached an excellent sermon from I. Corinthians ii., 9, taking up the different aspects of man's

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co-operation with God and His reward for it, in a very able manner.

The election of a new Moderator then followed. The Rev. J. B. Mullan, of Fergus, was unanimously chosen, and a burst of hearty and genial applause greeted the tall, venerable but still vigorous clergyman as he took the presiding officer's chair. Rev. Mr. Mullan, who has achieved the rare distinction of having for thirty years ministered to the one charge, in a few well-chosen, graceful words thanked the Synod for the honor which it had conferred upon him. A good deal of routine business was then transacted, the ground being cleared for the business, and the Synod adjourned shortly after 10 o'clock.

Wednesday, 15th, routine business occupied the Synod during the morning sederunt, a great deal of work being got through. A pleasant incident was the municipal welcome extended to the Synod by the representatives of Orangeville. Mayor W. T. Bailey, Reeve H. Gillespie and Deputy Reeve T. Stevenson waited upon the Synod, and the Mayor in a well-put speech extended the welcome of the town to the members, expressing his best wishes for the progress and prosperity of the Church they represented.

Rev. Mr. Mullan, the Moderator, made a very happy reply.

The financial statement of the Synod for the year was submitted. The receipts, including \$159.61, balance from the year before, were \$431.53, and the expenditure was \$267.22, leaving a balance of \$164.31 to the good. The Rev. Dr. Somerville having moved that an Augmentation Committee for the Synod be appointed to review the applications for augmentation made by the various Presbyteries to the General Assembly, which has the ultimate disposal of the fund for that purpose, it was decided to wait further action until synodical expenses until the probable expenses of this committee were ascertained.

### RELIGIOUS INSTRUCTION.

Among the matters submitted to the Synod was a letter from Rev. C. S. Whitcombe of the Synod of Niagara Diocese of the Anglican Church, enclosing a resolution with regard to religious instruction in the Public Schools which the Committee on Religious Instruction will submit to the Synod at its meeting in June next. The co-operation of the Presbyterian body was requested. The resolution which was sent was as follows:—"That this Synod will gladly co-operate with other religious bodies in this Province in preparing a scheme of religious instruction for our Public Schools."

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