

# Ministers and Churches.

## Our Toronto Letter.

Dr. Theodore S. Henderson's visit last week, in connection with the Forward Movement, initiated an organized effort for the deepening of spiritual life in the city. A representative committee is being chosen, and united work will be begun very shortly. The report of that committee will be given in this week, and, will in all probability intimate that the time is ripe, and recommend that special services at different centres begin at once.

By some Dr. Henderson would be called narrow. He keeps closely by the "one thing I do" standard, and does not permit himself to be drawn from the great object of the gospel ministry, preaching Jesus Christ and Him crucified. To the many voices that call for the consideration of other themes in the pulpit he resolutely turns a deaf ear. The Christian pulpit is for the preaching of the gospel of Jesus Christ, and however right these other themes are in their place, and some of them are most necessary, there is no place for them in the pulpit.

In the presence of such a man one feels the responsibility of living. In the world, yet not of it, is little understood at present. We are in the world, and as much of it as possible for professing Christians to be. It is possible for us to be more of the world than it was ten years ago, with less comment upon our course of action. We are disposed to go farther yet, and feel rudely awakened when a man with a message, such as this man bears, comes into our life, to tell us what Christian living really means. And should this movement with which he is identified gain headway, it will be effective, not in the usual line of a religious effort, but because of the higher type of spiritual living it will result in among those who are known as church members.

For a brief space the world stood still when the Queen died, and gazed with real sorrow at the bier where she lay. But the world has turned back to its pleasure again, and the careless laugh is as loud as ever. The mourning drapery has disappeared, and bright colors are in the windows that were all in shadow a few days ago. The concert hall, the evening party, the social calls are again in full swing, and the gay world easily adjusts itself to changed circumstances. Earnest words were spoken by the ministers of Christ in connection with the passing of an illustrious member of His Kingdom. The world listened with more than decorum. But many have already forgotten, and the ministers of Christ must again take up the weapons of aggressive warfare in seeking to enlarge His Kingdom.

Still we have reminders that life's mechanism may be easily disturbed. Two of the ministers of Christ have passed into His presence. One of them, Mr. McCann, an Anglican clergyman of great promise, was called when life lay before him apparently. Another Mr. McEwen, was farther on in the journey of life, and had suffered much, but was still many years from its limit. He was prominent in Baptist circles. His call came suddenly.

Two of our ministers were suddenly laid aside by illness, which has happily been conquered and they will soon resume work again. Dr. Armstrong Black's physician ordered him to bed after the morning service on the 10th instant. Dr. Black is Scotch, and didn't go to bed, but went into the pulpit in the evening, at great personal risk to himself, however. He has been laid aside during the week, but expects to be about again soon.

Mr. J. A. Turnbull was also laid aside on the 10th instant, and has not yet been able to shake off the effect of the illness that so suddenly seized him. He is better, however, and is taking up the work again. The minister of College Street, Mr. Gilray, has had a severe attack of the prevalent malady, but has succeeded in shaking it off once more.

Within College halls the hum of industry is heard, for the term is nearing its close. The men who have been studying life in all its phases have dropped many of their lines of investigation and are confining themselves strictly to the prescribed course of study. The term is a short one at best, and when a student tries to crowd into it more than is laid down in the curriculum, especially when some of the courses of elective studies are not cognate with those outlined for him by the Senate, the end of the term is apt to be an unpleasant surprise for him in some respects.

## Western Ontario.

Mr. V. E. Green has been appointed organist of Chalmers Church, Guelph.

Rev. A. McWilliams has been conducting anniversary services at Grimsby.

Rev. E. H. Sowers, Bracefield, has been conducting anniversary services at Hill Green.

Rev. A. L. Budge, Maudamin, has been confined to the house from the effects of a severe cold.

Rev. S. Acheson, of Kippen, conducted the thanksgiving services at Brucefield on the Monday following the communion.

Rev. T. Eakin, St. Andrew's, Guelph, is announced to preach anniversary sermons in Knox church, Acton, on next Sabbath.

The Rev. W. Erskine Knowles occupied Knox pulpit, Galt, last Sabbath morning and evening, the pastor preaching in Winnipeg.

Rev. A. Stewart, Clinton, preached in the Presbyterian church, Seaford, on Sabbath last. Rev. F. H. Larkin taking the anniversary services in Mr. Stewart's church, Clinton.

Rev. J. S. Scott, B. D., Brantford, has been lecturing in Knox church, Stratford, on the "Holy Land." The local press speaks of the lecture as "beneficial to all students of the Bible."

Mrs. Johnson, the popular president of the Ladies' Aid, of Preston, has been presented with an address and a purse of gold. The minister's estimable wife is deservedly a great favorite with the congregation.

Burn's Church, Milverton, for the first time in 15 years is out of debt. Pretty heavy calls have been made on the congregation during the past year but they have responded nobly and they have now the consciousness of being able to worship in an edifice free from debt.

The annual meeting of Knox Sunday School, Stratford, was a great success. Mr. C. A. Mayberry, Superintendent, was in the chair. Bibles were given to six girls and sixteen boys as a reward for correctly repeating the Shorter Catechism. Short, useful addresses were given by Rev. Mr. Leitch, Mr. Hunter and Mr. Fletcher, interspersed with music and recitations.

On Sabbath, 10th inst., Rev. J. D. McCullough, Harriston, preached three times at the opening services of the New church, Kirkwall. The building was crowded on each occasion. On Monday evening a tea meeting was held, also largely attended. After tea a fine program was given. Rev. Mr. Robertson, of Morriston, took the chair. Speeches were delivered by Dr. Torrance, of Guelph; Rev. McLean, of Strathairne; Dr. McQueen, of Freelon; Dr. Manes, of Sheffield, and the pastor, Rev. J. McKenzie. The proceeds of the evening amounted to \$200.00.

A letter received by the Zorra relatives of Dr. G. L. Mackay, the Formosa missionary, states that the doctor has been up to the 10th December in a hospital at Hong Kong for treatment for his throat. He expected to remain in the hospital until February 1st. His throat trouble followed an attack of grip. He is attended in the hospital by his secretary, Koa Kow, whose visit to Canada with the doctor a few years ago will be well remembered. Dr. Mackay's eldest son, George, is attending Victoria College in Hong Kong, preparatory to entering the ministry.

Under the pastorate of Rev. W. A. J. Martin, Zion Church, Brantford, is in a flourishing condition. At the annual meeting Mr. Wm. Grant, who has acted as Treasurer for nearly 34 years, in presenting his financial statement, characterized the year 1900 as the best from a financial point of view the congregation has ever seen. The receipts from all sources totalled over \$11,000, of which sum nearly \$6000, has been given for missions and extra congregational purposes, including about \$3,800 paid in century fund subscriptions. Of this latter \$1,500 was subscribed to the debt fund, but \$700 of this sum was given to assist St. Andrew's and Balfour street congregations to reduce their indebtedness. Amount subscribed to general century fund was in the neighborhood of \$4,000, and it is hoped that this amount will be considerably augmented, as a large portion of the congregation has not yet subscribed. Improvements are contemplated in the lighting and ventilation. Mr. Wm. Watt, sr., and Mr. Wm. Grant asked to be relieved of their duties as managers. It was decided to retain their names as members of an advisory board while Mr. A. C. Havil and Mr. Geo. Watt, jr., were elected to fill their places as managers.

Rev. W. Erskine Knowles, the young minister recently called to First Church, Chatham, preached in Knox Church, Galt, for his brother; and referring to his sermons The Reformer says:—The Chatham church is to be congratulated on having secured his services. He has a future of exceeding promise.

## Eastern Ontario.

Rev. D. G. McPhail, Picton, is visiting in New York and Montreal.

Rev. R. M. Hamilton, late of Brantford, has been preaching in St. John's church, Almonte.

Rev. R. Young, St. Andrew's, Pakenham, attended the meetings of Queen's Alumni Association last week.

Rev. W. M. Fee, Merrickville, and Rev. C. H. Cook, Thorold, have been preaching in Knox church, Vankleek Hill.

Mr. W. McDonald, a student of Queen's, took the services at Annprior last Sabbath for Rev. Mr. McLean, who was ill.

The Elders and Managers of the Picton church gave an enjoyable social to the members and friends of the congregation last week.

The induction of Rev. D. D. Millar into the charge of Hawkesbury took place on Monday last. Mr. Millar succeeds Rev. Orr Bennett, who resigned a few weeks ago.

Rev. M. W. Maclean, St. Andrew's Belleville, has been laid up with a very severe cold and his place was taken by Rev. Mr. Glover, Kingston, who preached two excellent sermons.

Rev. Dr. Milligan, Toronto, returning from the Queen's Alumni meeting, preached in John Street Church, Belleville, last Sabbath. The Doctor is a favorite here, and his discourses were greatly appreciated.

The missionary meeting of Knox church, Beckwith, last week was quite a success. The pastor, Rev. Mr. McFarlane, presided, and addresses were given by Revs. Scott and Woodside, of Carleton Place. The collection amounted to \$39.00.

Rev. Prof. Jordan, of Queen's, is announced to conduct anniversary services in Zion church, Carleton Place. There will be a Soiree in the town hall on Monday evening when a number of addresses will be delivered by resident ministers, and Rev. J. W. H. Mine, of Ottawa.

Principal Grant of Queen's says: "Better not send the gospel to the heathen at all than to send it on credit." It is to be feared that many churches would come under the Principal's condemnation, for while they send missionary money abroad there are well developed debts nearer home that remain unpaid.

Inspector Street Mission, Montreal, is holding a series of Tuesday evening entertainments that are proving both instructive and enjoyable. They had an English night recently, the feature of the evening being an interesting lecture by Mr. J. Burt Sutherland, on "England as I Saw it," which was illustrated with some fine stereoscopic views.

A quiet wedding took place at the Presbyterian manse, Renfrew, on February 12th, Rev. J. Hay officiating, when Rev. C. E. Gordon Smith, F. S. Sc., of Montreal, was united in marriage to Miss Curtis, daughter of the late Mr. James Curtis, of Northcote. We join the bride and bridegroom's many friends in hearty congratulations on this happy event.

Mr. P. C. McGregor, M. A., for many years the highly efficient Principal of the Almonte High School, was recently appointed registrar of North Renfrew. A few evenings ago he was presented with a warmly worded address along with a valuable clock. A number of leading citizens and ex pupils were present to do honour to Mr. McGregor; and all who spoke bore testimony to the high standing of the school under his management and expressed regret at his leaving. The Ontario Government could not have made a better or more popular appointment.

Many friends will regret to hear of the death of Miss Annie McKenzie, which occurred on Dec. 18th last, at Seoul, Corea, where she went nearly three years ago as an independent missionary. Miss McKenzie caught cold on an evangelistic trip, and subsequently this developed into typhoid pneumonia. Miss McKenzie was devoted to her work; and her demise, a most at the threshold of her foreign missionary experience, will be mourned by all who know of her devoted zeal and sterling worth.