



REV. ALEX. URQUHART

were without the services of a regular pastor. In 1876, however, a new chapter was opened for the congregation in the new connection formed with Duff's, Largie, which connection lasted harmoniously for many years. It now became expedient to consider the moving of the church building to a more central location in the congregation. It was therefore decided to move to what was then known as New Montreal, later Cowal. This having been satisfactorily accomplished, a call was presented to the Rev. Alexander Urquhart to become the pastor of the united congregations of Duff's and Chalmer's, and early in the spring of the following year Mr. Urquhart's settlement took place. It was considered advisable to have the minister live nearer to the church and steps were taken to have the manse in Cowal as well as the church. The old manse was disposed of and a new one erected immediately north of the church, which building, with many additions and alterations, still serves its purpose. Mr. Urquhart labored with much devotion and success for nearly fourteen years, when he resigned to take up the work in another field of labor. During Mr. Urquhart's ministry, in the year 1888, Mr. Colin Campbell and Mr. Peter McNabb were ordained to the holy office of Elder. Shortly after the pulpit became vacant. A call was extended to Rev. J. Gillies, but which was declined.

In October of the same year another call was presented and this time with success, to the Rev. Alexander McKay, D.D., of Guelph. Dr. McKay's pastorate was a brief one, being only one year, and owing to sickness in his home his family never came to the field, which sickness culminated in the death of his wife. The congregations, in deference to his wish, did not oppose his release. Although his pastorate was so brief,