

CHURCH
WORK

Ministers and Churches

NEWS
LETTERS

OTTAWA.

On Sunday last Rev. J. H. Turnbull, of Bank Street Church, preached anniversary sermons in St. Paul's, Smith's Falls.

It is proposed to open the new Stewarson church on the 17th inst., when Rev. Principal Gordon, D.D., of Queen's University is expected to preach. On following Sundays, if it can be arranged, Rev. R. E. Knowles, of Gat., and Rev. R. Herdison, of Toronto, former pastors—will take the services.

Free Press, 4th Feb.: The Rev. E. Mackay, of St. Paul's church, Smith's Falls, preached eloquent and forcible sermons at Bank Street Presbyterian church yesterday. Large congregations were present at both services and listened attentively throughout to the visiting minister. In the morning Rev. Mr. Mackay took for his subject the exhortation to repentance to the children of Israel as contained in a verse from Zephaniah, in which they are spoken of as a nation without desire. The parable of the man whose guests failed him and who had his servants bring in the poor, was the evening topic.

Rev. W. A. McIlroy, of Stewarson church, who preached at the opening of the \$60,000 Sunday School hall of Knox Church, Toronto, was offered the position of Associate pastor. The offer was an exceedingly tempting one as Knox church is not only one of the largest and wealthiest congregations in that city, but with the completion of the new quarter million dollar edifice on Spadina avenue, will be the largest and best equipped Presbyterian church in Canada. On Sunday evening Mr. McIlroy announced that he had decided to decline the invitation, believing it to be his duty not to sever his connection with the Stewarson congregation at a critical time in its history. Outside of his own congregation his decision will give satisfaction, as it is generally felt that the Stewarson minister has an important work to perform in the fair field of which he is pastor. In this case again, let it be noted that the larger salary did not attract.

At the annual meeting of the St. Andrew's Women's Home Mission Society, in an admirable report presented by Mrs. W. C. Gullcock, it was stated the membership was 53, and the income for the year was \$2,073, of which \$1,600 is a bequest from the late Mrs. Bronson. The society supplemented the salaries of the home missionaries, one of whom has five stations. A contribution of \$350 was made to hospital work at Wateau in the Northwest, and \$200 towards the salary of Miss Mayou, a nurse of the Victorian Order from Ottawa, who is assisting Dr. Grenfell in Labrador. The election of officers resulted as follows: Honorary president, Mrs. W. T. Herridge; president, Mrs. Walter Bronson; vice-presidents, Mrs. Gemmill, Mrs. J. Lorne McDougall, Mrs. Blair, Miss Agnes Reid; corresponding secretary, Mrs. Burgess; recording secretary, Mrs. W. C. Gullcock; treasurer, Mrs. C. C. Ray. The members of the council are: Mrs. W. M. Dunlop, Mrs. C. J. Brook, Mrs. Baylie, Mrs. Christie and Mrs. Gillen. Rev. Dr. Herridge in closing summed up in a few masterly words his convictions of what the new Testament church should be. Christ never intended it to be "a comfortable ecclesiastical home." The spirit of missions was to permeate the whole body. Dr. Herridge also spoke earnestly of the Women's Home Mission work as one of true patriotism, and declared most emphatically that the gospel was to be the factor in solving many of the vexed questions in regard to the true development of our Dominion.

TORONTO.

It is reported that Rev. Dr. Welch, of the Bible Society, is to be recommended to the General Assembly for appointment to the chair of Church History in Montreal College. The appointment would be a good one.

The Board of Management of Knox College has decided on new college buildings to be located on a property extending from St. George street to the University lawn, giving the college a frontage on the campus, while the dormitory building will face St. George street. The two buildings will be connected by a memorial hall. The cost of the new buildings and site will probably be not far from \$500,000, a large part of which will be derived from the sale of the present property on Spadina avenue. It is believed that apart from this sale price from \$100,000 to \$150,000 of the required amount will be secured in Toronto. A general canvass of the out-of-town constituency will then be undertaken. It was also agreed that the General Assembly should be asked to associate Professor Ballantyne in the Principalship of the college as colleague and successor to Principal MacLaren; and that for some time Dr. Ballantyne should devote special attention to organizing and pushing the canvass for building funds.

MONTREAL.

The pastor, Rev. G. B. Castellini, is reported to be very much encouraged at the progress already accomplished and the prospects for a still better future, for the Italian Protestant Church in Montreal. He spoke of the sympathy which is shown him and his work by all other ministers of the Gospel irrespective of denomination or creed, and the notice the Christian people of Montreal begin to take of this work for the moral uplifting of the Italian colony.

The annual congregational meeting of the MacVicar Memorial Church was held last week in the lecture hall of the church, Rev. D. J. Graham, B.D., in the chair. Reports from the various societies presented showed a healthy increase in each department of the church's work, the total amount raised for all purposes being \$4,176. Reports from the session showed during the year 65 new names added, making a total membership of 231. The trustees reported that the church as completed cost over \$21,000, of which there at present remains a debt of \$7,700. An effort is now being made to materially reduce this debt.

At the annual meeting of Stanley Street congregation, Mr. J. A. Hawthorne, the treasurer, reported receipts for ordinary revenue during the year amounting to \$3,919.77; the expenses were within that amount, leaving a balance of \$32.25 on hand. The gross receipts for all purposes were close on to \$7,000. Very considerable repairs had been made during the year. A letter was read from the pastor, the Rev. F. M. Dewey, who is resting at Atlantic City, and which indicated that he is recovering from his recent illness and hopes shortly to return to his work. In the meantime the interests of the pulpit are being well cared for by the Rev. W. R. Cruikshank.

Rev. Principal Story died at his residence, The College, Gilmorhill. Although he had been in feeble health for a long time, he continued to discharge the duties of the Principalship to the end.

Seventeen distinct languages, besides English, are spoken in India.

WESTERN ONTARIO.

The induction of Rev. D. M. Robertson is appointed for the 12th inst. at Strabane.

The Rev. D. A. McKeracher, of the Lynedoch has been visiting friends at Delhi.

Rev. W. S. Wright, M.A., of Mohawk, occupied the pulpit of Kemble church the past two Sundays.

Rev. D. B. Macdonald, formerly of Scarborough, has been inducted into the pastoral charge of Haine's Avenue church, St. Catharines.

The Embro congregation has decided to hear more candidates before proceeding to call. Rev. Mr. Shearer, of Drumbo, is interim moderator.

Rev. Mr. Roxborough, of Smithville, has been appointed interim moderator of the session of St. Anne's, vacant by the resignation of Rev. D. M. Robertson.

Rev. Mr. Wright, formerly pastor at Newcastle and Newtonville, has been tendered a call from the churches at Verschoyle and Culloden in the Paris' Presbytery.

St. Andrew's Church, Fergus, held a good annual meeting. The financial statement was all that could be desired—all debts paid and a balance on the right side of the sheet.

Rev. J. B. Mullan, ever young, though advancing in years, has been lecturing under the auspices of the W.F.M.S. at Rockwood, on the "Old Flag." It is needless to say that all enjoyed the treat.

At the annual meeting of the St. Andrew's congregation, Stratford, it was decided to have plans for a manse prepared to be submitted to a future meeting. The salary of the pastor was increased by \$100. This looks well, as Mr. Thompson was only settled a few months ago.

St. Andrew's Church, Hamilton, (Rev. J. A. Wilson, pastor), had a good year in every respect. The membership is 737, a net gain of 137 last year. The average attendance at the Sunday school is 461; and there has been a large increase in the weekly offerings. With a handsome new church having a seating capacity of 1,100, a united and growing membership, and an able and devoted young pastor, this congregation is sure to make itself felt as a power for good in the community.

During a recent visit to Guelph in the interest of Queen's University Endowment, Rev. Alex. MacGillivray, in Chalmers' church, said: "In view of the connection of Chalmers with Queen's through its pastor emeritus, the venerable and beloved Dr. Wardrope, he felt that it required no special plea to this congregation to create a sympathy for that university. In 1842, when Queen's opened, Dr. Wardrope was one of the first class. This class only numbered ten members, and there were but six professors, lecturers and teachers. Last year the number of students had grown to 1,045, and the staff to 60.

The total receipts for the year in Chalmers' church, Guelph, amounted to \$7,771.18. Missionary contributions were nearly four hundred dollars in advance of the previous year, and reached the splendid sum of \$2,792. The congregation supports two Home Mission fields in the West, and the Foreign Mission station of Wei-Hai, China. The debt of the church property now only amounts to \$2,400. Messrs. G. Bruce, J. Cowan, sr., and John Yule were re-appointed as Trustees, and Messrs. R. Melvin, G. W. Walker, J. Benson, W. Scott, and Robert Armstrong were elected to the Board of Management.