

CORRESPONDENCE.

A CONGREGATIONALIST REPLIES.

Editor *Presbyterian Review*:

Sir,—Because a visiting Congregational minister from England tells a reporter that one of the needs of Canada is more Congregationalism you pour forth editorially in your issue of the 2nd inst. a slashing and, in my opinion, a very discourteous tirade against myself and others. Not, of course, individualizing but every Congregationalist cannot but feel the slight, and I would dare to institute two or three comparisons from personal knowledge to seek fair play.

I am one of eight brothers brought up in a Presbyterian home, two of us early in life became Congregationalists the others are both older and younger and some of them hold offices in Presbyterian churches, not one of them, however, has taken part in any religious work outside their own denomination and no great part within it, while my brother and I have been active in our own churches and in addition have become widely known in all societies of non-denominational and inter denominational character. Why the difference? They are certainly as good as we.

Again, in Montreal to-day the Young Men's Christian Association, the Young Women's Christian Association, the Sunday School Union, the Christian Endeavor Union, the National Alliance, the Dominion Alliance, The Women's Christian Temperance Union, the Boy's Home and others have each a Congregationalist as President, and almost every other society of similar character has a Congregationalist as Vice-President, or they appear on the Committees, and these, mind you, have been so elected by Presbyterian votes and not by Congregational votes, who are, as you discourteously state, few in numbers, and therefore cannot control such elections. Now, you Presbyterians vote us into office either because we are best qualified for these most honorable positions, or because you think anyone good enough for work that is not of the strict Presbyterian denomination. You may take whichever position does you most honor, or you may say that we are so narrow and bigoted that we must be taken from our own denominational work to prevent us doing injury.

In Toronto at the Congregational Union last week a leading member said "We Congregationalists must go heart and soul into Foreign Mission work or we are unfit to exist as a denomination."

I came to Montreal and on Sunday last met a leading Presbyterian Doctor of Divinity who preached in one of the greatest pulpits in the city, and in conversation with him was told, "I do not believe in Foreign Missions, our people at home should have our fullest support" or words even stronger, to that effect.

Dr. Cochrane is quoted by the *Montreal Star* as having said "We Presbyterians are only now beginning to realize our strength."

In the *PRESBYTERIAN REVIEW*, to which I refer, Presbyterian strength is shown to be what some of us fear to be but a faint appearance of the steel claws under the velvet paw to be followed by, well I will not speculate, but simply ask your readers to judge by the few instances I have given and by the knowledge they already have and which is everywhere available, which I could quote by the column in the Christian life of to-day, not to speak of the days of the Apostles, or of Cromwell, whether Congregationalists are intensely denominational, even sectarian, etc., etc.—*vide PRESBYTERIAN REVIEW*—or whether as Henry Ward Beecher has said of them "A Congregational church is a blessing in any community."

I trust you will do me the justice to give my opinion at least as wide a circulation as you have given your own.

Yours, etc.,
C. CUSHING.

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Church News

[All communications to this column ought to be sent to the Editor immediately after their occurrences to which they refer have taken place.]

MONTREAL NOTES.

The Assembly has come and gone. So far as its proceedings are concerned a full account will doubtless be given in other columns. But these proceedings take no account of the pleasure their presence has given in many of the homes of the city. In many cases old and valued friendships have been renewed and in many others new friendships have been formed that will prove to be permanent. Not a few will bless the day that brought eminent men of God into their homes and gave them an opportunity to come into contact with their children.

A few of the members of Assembly are remaining over for another Sunday and will supply some of the city pulpits. A few others are going farther east or west, as the case may be, for a brief holiday. Both they and any congregations to whom they may incidentally minister will be the better for the change.

The special anniversary services in Westminster church, June 12th, conducted by members of the Assembly proved a marked success. The congregations were large at all three services, and the collections such as materially assisted in reducing the building debt, which is now within sight of extinction altogether. Mr. Oxley is to be congratulated on the success of the effort now made.

The Rev. A. Bowman of New Glasgow, has been supplying the pulpit of St. Andrew's church for several Sundays in the absence of the pastor in Scotland. His services have been much appreciated.

MANITOBA NOTES.

Rev. Mr. Muldrew, of Knox College, is supplying services at the Presbyterian church, Treherne, for the present.

Rev. Mr. Miller arrived from Winnipeg this week, to conduct services in the La Riviere field for two Sundays.

The Rev. M. C. Rumball, Morden, accompanied Mrs. Rumball and family to Winnipeg on their journey to the east, where they will remain for the summer.

The Presbyterian church, Pilot Mound, held a social in Mrs. Letang's hall last week, at which they realized something like \$20. A very enjoyable time was spent.

Mr. Bell, a Manitoba college student, preached in Knox church, Pilot Mound, last Sabbath evening, and took up a collection for the Manitoba Missionary Society.

The new Presbyterian church at Killarny was opened Sabbath week by Rev. C. H. Pibbado. Mr. Floyd is in charge of this flourishing field and with their new church now in the village, every prospect pleases.

Mr. Pow, the new Presbyterian minister, Sutherland, is now there, and will try to get the field into workable shape before winter. The Church will soon discover that summer work only in mission fields will not build up congregations very fast.

Mr. John Russell, a former Presbyterian missionary at Dominion City, who has been attending Princeton University, has returned to Manitoba and intends staying in his adopted land. Another minister devoted to the interests of Manitoba's salvation.

Rev. Mr. Reddon, B.A., late of Moosomin, was inducted into the pastoral charge of Glenboro on Tuesday, 7th inst., by the Presbytery of Glenboro. This is a growing charge and with an energetic pastor, of Mr. Reddon's experience, the prospects are bright for advancement.

The Presbyterian church, Treherne, held a very successful social at the manse on May 31st. A large attendance was present, despite the unfavorable weather. Ice cream, strawberries and other fruits were indulged in, and the coffers of the treasurer considerably increased thereby.

At the University Convocation of Manitoba University there were 40 graduates, 16 graduating from Manitoba College. The silver medal in Mathematics goes to a lady graduate of Manitoba College, Miss Hamil-

ton. Manitoba College wins five of the medals offered by the University out of fourteen.

GENERAL.

Last Sabbath was children's day at MacNab St. church, Hamilton. The services were conducted by Rev. Dr. Dickson of Galt.

The anniversary services of Knox Church Cornwall, will be held on the 26th inst. Rev. Dr. Moore of Ottawa will conduct the services.

Rev. J. W. Crawford, of Mahons Bay, N.S., occupied the pulpit of St. Andrew's church, Guelph, last Sabbath. He will preach there next Sunday also.

Improvements costing in the neighborhood of \$400, will shortly be made to the Hampstead Church. A new foundation will be put under it, and the inside will be entirely remodeled.

St. James' Church London, has extended a unanimous call to Rev. Alex. J. McGillivray, who has been in charge of St. Andrew's Church, Guelph, for some time past, the stipend being placed at \$1200 per annum.

Last Sabbath was the thirteenth anniversary of the induction of Rev. Dr. Fraser as pastor of Knox church, Hamilton. Rev. R. E. Kuwles, B.A., of Knox church, C. C., preached both morning and evening. On Monday evening a successful congregational social was held.

Rev. E. Wallace Waits of Owen Sound, has gone to Chatham, N.B., and expects to occupy the pulpit of St. Andrew's Church two or three weeks. Mr. Waits was pastor of St. Andrew's for several years before going to Owen Sound, and received a very cordial welcome from his people.

A meeting of the congregation of Salem Church, Summertown, Ont., was held on Friday the 10th inst. for the purpose of selecting a pastor. Rev. J. S. Burnett, moderator of session presiding. Rev. J. Matheson, B.A., of Marlinton was the choice of the meeting, and the call was made unanimous.

Mr. Samuel Arnold, a member of St. John's Church, Toronto, who was recently called to assist Mr. Robert Hall, city missionary, was formally received by the mission board at a public meeting held in St. John's Church, on Monday evening of last week. Mr. Arnold has been for many years past actively engaged in religious work in the east end of the city.

The value of little things has been very well illustrated by the Junior Missionary Society of Erakine Church, Montreal, which has just celebrated its semi-jubilee. During these twenty five years those little people have contributed to the mission funds the large total of \$18,641.73. The first year 1872, the sum of \$20.75 was contributed, in '76, \$474.50, in '83, \$563.08, in '89, \$610.63, and during the year ending June '97, \$859.00.

The induction of the Rev. W. C. Doida into the pastoral charge of St. George's church, Union Mines, B.C., took place on Thursday evening June 2nd. The Rev. W. L. Cloy, of St. Andrew's church, Victoria, preached and presided, Rev. Alex. Tait, of Comox, addressed the minister, and the Rev. D. MacLise, of St. Paul's, Victoria, addressed the congregation. Mr. Doida who has supplied the pulpit since October last enters upon his settled pastorate with bright prospects of much comfort and usefulness.

Dr. Margaret McKellar, of Central India, addressed large congregations last Sabbath, in the morning in College St. church, and in the evening in Central church. The doctor told from observations made during years of experience of the sufferings and degradation that characterized the lot of the women of India. She explained in a most interesting way the several branches of the church's work there, evangelistic, educational, industrial, and medical, and concluded with an urgent appeal for the support of the Church at home.

Rev. Neil McKay, D.D., pastor of St. John Church, Chatham, N.B., died on the morning of Wednesday, June 15th., of heart disease. He was born in Eglowtown, N.S., in 1829, and was therefore 69 years of age. Dr. McKay was ordained in 1855 and was