

OWEN SOUND PRESBYTERY.

At the March meeting the induction of Rev. S. D. Jamieson at Thornbury on Feb. 25th was reported. Prospects are promising for a happy and prosperous pastorate. The resignation of Rev. N. A. McDonald of Latona was regretfully accepted. This charge is unable to give more than the minimum salary. Reasons for resignation given were: (a) Distance of manse from school too great for young children. (b) Expense of living too great for minimum salary, as what is expected now of a minister's wife makes it necessary to have hired help in the manse throughout the year. (c) A pastor unencumbered with children can work such a field to much better advantage. The clerk was instructed to record and report these reasons. This charge for a suitable man is a very desirable one. Mr. Matheson, Chatsworth, is interim moderator.

Encouraging and optimistic reports on Church Life, S. S. and Y. P. S. work, Systematic Giving, and Moral and Social Reform were adopted, the last, by Mr. Woodside the inspiring convener was singled out for complimentary comment. Its recommendations are, in brief: That Presbytery pledge its sympathy and support to the Assembly's Committee and instruct ministers to call attention of their congregation to the questions to be dealt with; that the Assembly's Committee press Provincial Governments for more effective enforcement of law's relating to moral and social reform, for imprisonment as penalty of illegal sale of liquor in territory; not under license, for larger powers to License Inspectors; for refusal to corporations infringing law, or the leniency sometimes shown to the individual criminal, and for more effective provision for the promotion of sexual purity in our public schools. These are all issues of large and urgent importance.

Assembly's remit on Statistical Forms was generally approved, but it is suggested that all academic titles be omitted in alphabetical list, and that there the institution from which the title comes should be omitted, that receipts for colleges should be reported in one column instead of six, and that arrears of stipend should be in footnote, as they are so rare that it seems like waste to devote a separate column to them.

Remit on supply of vacancies was approved. And it is recommended that salaried secretaries and other officials of Assembly be corresponding members, ex-officio, when not commissioners. Revs. Dr. McLaren, Nicol, Woodside and Black are commissioners to Assembly, all by rotation.

Rev. M. Danby was appointed ordained missionary for one year at Mar, etc., and his name added to the roll. The site selected by Daywood and Johnson for a new church was approved, the congregation commended and given leave to use or dispose of the present buildings for erection of a much needed new church. Mr. Lemon, of Walter's Falls, was elected moderator for the ensuing year. The next regular meeting to be held in Meaford, July 5th, 10 a.m. At noon members of Presbytery with their wives dined together and were addressed by Dr. Howey of Owen Sound on the service the ministry might render, incidentally, in the promotion of public health.

Rev. Dr. Andrew Robertson, pastor of St. James square church, Toronto, and his family had a narrow escape from asphyxiation by coal gas on Saturday morning in their residence at 154 Carlton street, into which they had only lately moved. As a result of the effects of the gas Dr. Robertson was unable to attend either morning or evening service in his church on Sunday, but a speedy recovery from the effects of the gas is expected.

MONTREAL.

The charge of Inverness, in the Presbytery of Quebec, is vacant owing to the translation of the Rev. R. C. H. Sinclair to the Ottawa Presbytery. The Rev. H. Carmichael, Richmond Que., is moderator of the vacant charge to whom applications may be forwarded.

On Sunday last the eleventh anniversary of the founding of the Verdun Presbyterian Mission was celebrated by special services conducted by the Rev. W. R. Cruikshanks, B.A., secretary of the Presbyterian Union in the morning, and by the Rev. Peter Walker, B.A., Mallesneuve in the evening.

Mr. T. P. Drumm, who has been in charge of the Verdun mission for the past two years, will give up the work at the end of this month. Mr. Drumm will graduate from McGill this spring, but has not indicated his plans for the future. He was assistant at Calvin church for 18 months before going to Verdun, and in both places gave service of a highly satisfactory character.

Rev. James Patterson, the veteran clerk of Montreal Presbytery, speaking from a long experience, urges the appointment of inspectors to look after immigrants on shore. They would supplement the good work being done by immigration agents at sea ports. Mr. Patterson is now in his eightieth year, and has long been doing excellent work as Chaplain of the Presbyterian mission in Montreal.

Dr. Whyte made his receiving of the freedom of Edinburgh a memorable occasion by a speech full of his characteristic wisdom and of genial reminiscences. He described Dr. Moody Stuart's church, in Edinburgh, with Dr. Stuart walking about the pulpit with his Hebrew Bible, dropping upon his people the most pungent exegesis at one time, and the most sweet and sanctifying, comforting words at another. Here was Rabbi Duncan sitting below the pulpit bathed in tears, his Bible unreadable to any but to himself. Then sitting there was the Duchess of Gordon. You would have said she was the Queen's sister; she was like our former Queen in appearance, in her mind, and in her heart, a rare mother in Israel she was. She used to tell him she had the best preaching in Scotland. She had Dr. Moody Stuart all winter in Edinburgh, and Dr. Robert Rainy all summer in Huntly; and he agreed with her. Then the congregation filled the place; he thought it was the most spiritually-select congregation he ever saw in Edinburgh. Dr. Whyte went on to speak of the judges and lawyers, Lord Moncrieff, Lord Cowan, Lord Ardmillan, and others. There was dear old Donald Beith, famous for his generosity, his humility, and his devouring love for sermons. He was like Mr. Gladstone, a "thriller" every Sabbath if he could get preaching. He had such a digestive appreciation of sermons that he liked even ordinary sermons. Every sermon was a good one for him. He could tell them stories until they were too late for their lunch, about the hidden generosity of Donald Beith, known only to his Master. Then there was noble-minded John Carment. After an hour's business in his room in Albany street, he said to him with his great blazing, Highland, mystical, spiritual eye—"No, I have no word for an aud sinner." That was John Carment in a nutshell. He was to him a most perfect Christian gentleman, the most liberal-minded and liberal-handed in Edinburgh; but to himself he was always "an aud sinner."

RELIGIOUS NEWS AND NOTES.

Commissioner Cosandey of the Salvation Army in Italy, has recently been publicly decorated with the Order of Chevalier of the Cross of the Crown of Italy, by his Majesty King Victor Emmanuel in recognition of the good services done by the commission during the recent earthquake in Messina.

At the commencement of last year a Protestant was elected mayor of Villacusa, Spain, and it is interesting to note that the greatest opposition to the

election of this Protestant was the parish priest, Father Dom Arenales, who was recently received into the Reformed Church.

There are over 700 children in the Protestant schools at Spezzia, Italy, under the direction of the Rev. H. H. Pullen.

The Rev. Edouard Bar, the Roman Catholic cure at Boisjean, in Picardy, France, has been received into the Reformed Church.

The Rev. Dom Cipriano, San Jose, the Reformed Church pastor in the town of Cigales, was elected a justice of the peace. Times are changing in Spain.

The Roman Catholic bishop of Madrid, Spain, has recently sent a manifesto to the Spanish Government demanding the suppression of the Protestant schools in Madrid.

During the last year 13 Roman Catholics were received into church membership by the Rev. Dr. Therrier of the Oratory church, Montreal.

The Abbe Mugnier, rector of the Roman Catholic church of St. Clothilde, Paris, has resigned his position owing to a religious disagreement with his superiors.

The recent pastoral letter of the Roman Catholic Bishop of Caracas, Venezuela, concerning the immorality of the priesthood under his jurisdiction is a terrible revelation.

The Government of the Argentine Republic has recently voted the sum of \$50,000 to the Protestant schools of the Republic as a token of their recognition of the good services done by these institutions. There are at present a little over 7,000 children in these schools, but it is expected that the number will exceed 10,000 by the end of next year. Next year a larger grant will be given.

The annual assembly of the Italian Presbyterians of the United States took place last week in Philadelphia, in the new \$60,000 Italian church recently dedicated. The Very Rev. Dr. Gaston and Prof. Giorgio Bartoli, the learned and distinguished Jesuit whose conversion to evangelical Christianity took place last year, were amongst those present; also ex-priests Giardina, Nardi, Noce and Cavarocchi, who are now Presbyterian pastors. Delegates were received from the Italian Episcopal, Italian Baptist, Italian Lutheran, and Italian Methodist Episcopal. Twenty-five years ago there were no Italian Protestant churches in the United States; to-day there are 158,—some with a membership of over 800.

We understand that steps are being taken to raise funds to build a Protestant University in Rome, Italy.

The crash of the "Bonner Bank für Handel und Gewerbe" (The Bonn Bank of Trade and Industry) has brought to light the extent to which the German Roman Catholic party goes in its efforts to isolate Roman Catholics in a separate ultramontane world. The loss to the Roman church has been very heavy. One of the monasteries which some time ago made application to the Bonn City government for certain financial favors on the ground of extreme poverty, is now shown to be a heavy depositor in the defunct bank. The Boniface Verein had deposited 15,500 marks, and the Nonnenswerth Cloister \$4,000 marks, etc., etc. Other depositors, members of the clergy, had bank books taken out in false names, and these depositors had taken (presumably for security!) the names of certain saints.

The failure of St. Venceslaus Loan Bank of Prague, Bohemia a Roman Catholic financial undertaking, is announced in the German press, the deficit amounts to the huge sum of eleven million crowns.

As one result of the blunder and crime of the Jesuitical party in the murder of Professor Francesco Ferrer, the Gioldano Bruno Society in Rome,—which is considered extremely anti-papal—has established its headquarters in a house opposite a gate of the Vatican Palace. Pope Pius X., who was made sick by the contemplation of the Dorian Bruno house in front of his palace, has ordered the window looking in that direction to be boarded up, though a few peep holes are maintained for observation.

ALVYSIUS TOSSETTO.