

and always listen. Some of them have begun to observe the Sabbath.—The Friends have been of late displaying considerable activity in foreign mission work. Within the year they have done much in South Africa; they have a number of societies in Madagascar; they have labourers in India and Syria; and now we hear of Mr. Hensen in Denmark organizing the scattered Friends there into regular meetings.—“All the ends of the earth shall fear Him.” Two things have been impressed upon us by the recent meetings at Syracuse and Chicago. One is the duty of getting down our atlases and familiarizing ourselves with Africa, and the other is the rapidity with which the ends of the earth are being reached, and instructed in the Gospel. The progress which has been made within five years in Africa, and elsewhere, is marvellous. We cannot afford not to keep ourselves posted regarding it. Nor may we forget in our close attention to our daily personal duties the broader reach of our religion and its need of our interest and prayers. Ought we not, also, to ask ourselves if Christianity means to us as individuals as much as it should? They who live nearest the Saviour are the ones whose prayers tell most for the world. (*Congregationalist*).—Discouraging reports have recently come from the Nyanza Mission in Africa. Hostile influences at work on the mind of King Mtesa have put him in an attitude of antagonism to the missionaries. He has accused them of complicity with an invasion of his territory by the Egyptians. Two of their number have gone to Egypt to disprove these charges, and the position of the three who are left at Mtesa's court is very embarrassing and dangerous.

News of the Churches.

REV. W. J. CUTHBERTSON closes his labours in Frome and Shedden next Sunday. Any vacant church wishing an earnest and wise pastor will do well to communicate with Mr. Cuthbertson. His address is Frome, P.O.

COBOURG.—The social on the 2nd inst., was a success. The church was crowded to excess. Misses Lawes, Appleby and Howell, with the choir, furnished the best of music, and Revs. Beer, Hutton, Pedley, and Dr. Nelles did the speaking.

WINNIPEG.—Four members were received into membership at the last church meeting. A resolution was passed authorizing the pastor to return east to solicit aid for church building, provided a suitable supply can be procured during his absence. Brother Ewing wishes to acknowledge the receipt of \$5 from the Congregational Sunday school, Melbourne, Que., through its pastor, Rev. W. McIntosh.

THE Ladies' Sewing Society of the Hughson street Church, Hamilton, held a sale of work on Thursday, the 11th inst. Early in the day the lecture-room was the scene of activity, and many articles of use and ornament were bought in. The sale began at three o'clock and continued up to about ten. A refreshment table also was to be found in the adjoining school-room. The financial results were very gratifying, something over two hundred dollars having been secured, which will be applied to the payment of the church debt.

EASTERN DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting of the Eastern District Association was held in the vestry of the First Congregational Church, Kingston, in November. Present: Revs. J. Wood, Ottawa; D. Macallum, Athol; S. N. Jackson, and W. M. Peacock, Kingston; A. O. Cossar, Belleville (Chairman for the past year); J. Brown, Lanark; R. Brown, Middleville; Geo. Willett, Hawkesbury; H. Pedley, Cobourg; and R. Mackay. Rev. S. N. Jackson was unanimously elected Chairman for the ensuing year. The thanks of the Association were tendered to Rev. R. Mackay, and he was re-elected Secretary-Treasurer for another year. The Rev. John Wood read a paper on “The examination and reception of applicants for membership in Congregational churches,” which was followed by an interesting discussion. Reports from churches were heard, and

a conference took place in the interest of the College. On motion it was unanimously resolved: “That this Eastern Association has heard with exceeding interest the report of the commencement which has been made in our missionary work in Manitoba, by the organization of a church and the settlement of a pastor in Winnipeg, and also of the very promising openings at Pembina Mountain, Rapid City, and elsewhere, and cordially commends the claims of the Great North-west to the attention of all our churches, and urges such increase in their contributions to the Canada Congregational Missionary Society as will enable it to occupy these new fields.” Rev. John Brown read an exposition on Heb. vi. 1-6. Rev. Hugh Pedley, B.A., read an essay on “Studying for the ministry,” which was followed by a discussion, in which the Rev. Principal Grant, D.D., of Queen's University (who honoured the Association with a visit), took part. A public meeting was held, when Rev. Geo. Willett preached the annual sermon. The kind invitation of the church in Ottawa was accepted, and the next meeting will be held in that city.—R. MACKAY, Secretary.

WATERVILLE.—Sunday, November 23rd, was a red letter day in the history of the Congregational church at Waterville, Que., as on that day their new church edifice was dedicated to the worship of God. The Rev. J. L. Forster of Calvary Congregational Church, Montreal, preached in the morning from Rev. ii. 10: “Be thou faithful unto death and I will give thee a crown of Life.” In the afternoon the Rev. J. Kines (Methodist) of Sherbrooke, preached from 1 Cor. vi. 19, 20, and in the evening Rev. J. L. Forster preached from Psalm viii. 4. All three sermons were of a very high order, clear, practical, faithful, and were listened to with unabated interest by large audiences. The pastor, Rev. G. Purkis, took part in the exercises at each service. On Monday evening Rev. J. L. Forster gave a lecture in the church, on “Moses—the greatest character in history.” The lecturer considered that the great law-giver had displayed, more than other men, the marks of true greatness. His greatness consisted in a spirit of self-abnegation, and a hearty consecration of himself to the good of others. The lecture was listened to with great interest and profit. On Wednesday evening a tea meeting was held. There were present, and addressed the meeting, Revs. W. McIntosh, of Melbourne; W. W. Smith, of Eaton; J. McKillican (Sunday school union), A. F. Tully (Presbyterian), of Sherbrooke; Knowles (Methodist), of Compton; Capt. W. E. Parker, of the Episcopal church, Waterville, and the pastor. During the evening there was some excellent singing, the choir being assisted by friends from Sherbrooke and Lennoxville. The speaking was good and to the point, and the result financially was very gratifying. The building is both substantial and neat, and reflects great credit on the building committee. It is 45 x 34, with a tower ten feet square with belfry and spire. The inside woodwork is of ash with dark mouldings, the windows are Gothic with ground glass. It is heated by a furnace. The total cost, including the bell, is \$1,600. The collections and subscriptions received at the dedicatory services, together with what was previously given, meets the cost in full, so that the church and congregation have the satisfaction of feeling they have a house of worship free of debt, for which they desire to thank all their kind friends who have helped them in their enterprise, but more especially would they thank Him who put it into their hearts to do so; to Him be all the glory.

WESTERN CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH.—The Sunday school of this church under the superintendency of Mr. T. P. Hayes is in a most flourishing condition. The fourth anniversary was held on Sunday 14th inst. In the morning Rev. Professor Gregg delivered a short discourse to the young people from Proverbs xxx., 25, 26, 27, 28. The preacher said that though these creatures were small many useful lessons might be learned from a study of their habits. The ants gather in the summer time the food which is to supply them in the winter, when they cannot work. From this young people might learn to do the right thing at the right time. The right time to become a Christian

is now. The *locusts* were feeble creatures, but they had the wisdom to find shelter for themselves among the clefts of the rocks where enemies could not reach them. Our lesson from this was to look for salvation and safety to Christ—the “Rock of ages cleft for me.” The *locusts* were said to have no king, but in their united array they accomplished great things. There were temperance bands and mission bands of children and it was surprising to see what these children could do when thus unitedly they worked together. The *spider* by diligence found a place in the king's palace. This was a lesson to the young to have lofty aims and diligently pursue them. Each should aspire to a place in the palace of the Great King above which was grander than any earthly palace. He urged the young to enter the service of Christ, and be made kings and priests unto God. After singing by the children, Professor Gregg gave a Bible reading illustrating the various names by which Jehovah was known to the Israelites, viz., Jehovah-Jireh (Gen. xxii. 14), Jehovah-Tsidkenu (Jer. xxiii. 6), Jehovah-Nissi (Ex. xvii. 15), Jehovah-Ropheka (Ex. xv. 26), Jehovah-Shalom (Judges vi. 24), Jehovah-Shammah (Ezek. xlvi. 35). He is the unchangeable One and sustains these same relations to us. He is our sacrifice, righteousness, banner of strength, healer, peace, and the glory of heaven will be that “the Lord is there.” This discourse was listened to with closest attention by young and old. In the afternoon Rev. John Burton, B.A., pastor of the Northern Church, preached a most practical sermon to parents and teachers from Psalm xcii. 13, “Those that be planted in the house of the Lord shall flourish in courts of our God.” The lesson enforced was that as the children of Christian parents belonged to Christ and His Church, they should be lovingly, carefully trained up for Him from their infancy by the family and the Church. They should never be allowed to wander from the fold, but should be brought up “in the nurture and admonition of the Lord.” In this way would be fulfilled the words of the Psalmist, “that our sons may be as plants grown up in their youth; that our daughters may be as corner stones polished after the similitude of a palace.” A platform meeting was held in the evening. After introductory services by the pastor, Mr. John Gillespie, superintendent of St. James' Cathedral Sunday school, addressed the teachers. Mr. W. B. McMurrich, superintendent of the West Presbyterian Sunday school, spoke on “the relation of the Church to the Sunday school;” and Mr. James Hughes, inspector of schools in the city, gave a most practical address to the boys and girls, urging them to be true, pure, and unselfish. The singing of the children, under the leadership of Mr. Greenfield, was greatly enjoyed by all. The day was one of joy and gladness to old and young.

The December number of the “Westminster Teacher” contains several good papers on subjects connected with Sabbath school work, besides the usual carefully prepared expositions of the month's lessons.

At a recent meeting of the Russian ministers, it was decided to forbid the Dissenters to repair the edifices in which they perform their religious worship. This measure, if carried out, will lead to the extinction of the chapels belonging to the fifteen million Russian Dissenters, and they will then be without means of performing worship in public; the assembly of Nonconformists in private houses having already been prohibited by the Emperor.

As our readers know, the Confraternity of the Blessed Sacrament is a society or order belonging to the Church of England and of the most pronounced Ritualistic character. So much is this the case that the fact of belonging to this order was urged as a sufficient reason for a very prominent Anglican clergyman being inhibited by the late Bishop Bethune from officiating within the Diocese of Toronto. Its object is to advance what the members believe to be the truth with regard to the Lord's Supper. They teach by word and by symbol the dogma of Transubstantiation. There are twenty-five of the Anglican clergy of Canada members and officers of this society. Of these five are located in Ontario.