

MONTREAL.

Rev. J. L. George was the preacher in Stanley street church last Sunday. The evening service in Erskine church was taken by Rev. John Lochhead, B.D., of Melville church.

Upwards of 40 new names were added to the roll of Calvin church prior to last communion. The new pastor, Rev. James McKay, is realizing all the expectations of his people.

Kilwinning lodge of Freemasons attended service in First Presbyterian church on Sunday evening, when the members listened to an appropriate sermon from Rev. Malcolm A. Campbell.

The congregation at Verdun is making substantial progress. Two years ago the membership was only thirty-seven; it is now one hundred and twelve, with about sixty adherents. With the rapidly increasing population and prospects for continued growth the congregation has asked Presbytery for organization as an augmented charge. Mr. F. T. Drumm has done much useful work in this mission, and its excellent position at the present time is largely due to his efforts.

The Presbyterian Mission of St. Gabriel de Brandon is making most encouraging progress. On Thursday last a Christmas festival was held which brought joy, pleasure and gratitude to Protestants and Roman Catholics alike. Through the kindness of the Sunday school class of Mrs. (Dr.) Dewey, of Stanley street church, Montreal, a Christmas tree was laden with gifts and brought joy to many children who had never had such a treat. Some twenty-five had been gathered, a good percentage of whom were French-Canadian Roman Catholics. Fifty chairs had been secured through the liberality of Mr. W. J. Morrice, of Montreal, but some twenty more were needed to seat the people. The prospects for good work are bright. On October 15 the mission did not possess even a lot. On December 30 the new chapel was sufficiently advanced to be occupied. Dr. Amaron, of Joliette, who is directing the work, is much gratified with the zeal and earnestness displayed by the people.

The Rev. W. D. Reid, B.A., B.D., at the close of his sermon on Sunday evening, announced to a large congregation that he had decided to accept the appointment offered him of the superintendency of Presbyterian Missions in Alberta. He handed his resignation to the officials of Taylor church last week, and it will, in due time, come before the Presbytery for ratification. He said that no doubt the rumor would be spread abroad that he was going in consideration of an increased salary; but if anyone heard such a statement they could meet it with the assertion that in his new position he would receive \$250 less salary per year than he is receiving at Taylor church. "I have been pastor of Taylor church for nearly twelve years, and in that time have had many invitations to other spheres of labor," Mr. Reid continued, "but I have always felt, hitherto, that I had as large a field of labor here as I could find anywhere else in Canada. Larger salaries have been offered, but they proved no temptation, and I have been very happy in my work here. In October last I received an invitation from the Synod of Alberta to take charge of the missionary department of our Church work in that province. The communication stated that I was the unanimous choice of the General Assembly Committee charged with the appointment. I was surprised, and at first I could not see my way clear to leave this church, in which I was so deeply interested, and which was so dear to me. But after long and serious consideration and prayer it appeared to me that this was a call to a greater work for God and the Church. I have looked at the question from the standpoint of the Church's interests as well as in regard to my own future, and I have come to the conclusion that another minister might reach some people in the East End that I could not. I expect harder work and fewer comforts in the western field

than I have in Montreal. It will mean what is sometimes called sacrifice in other ways than decrease in salary; but where duty calls neither finances nor other personal considerations should weigh. My decision, of course is subject to the sanction of the Presbytery." Mr. Reid concluded his remarks by referring to the cordial relations that had existed between him and his congregation during the whole of his pastorate, there having been no differences or "church quarrels" in the entire period. The church was manned with a united, earnest consecrated band of officers and workers; the church had been cleared of the debt of \$15,000 which rested upon it when he became its pastor; a piece of land adjoining the church had been bought and paid for, and a new pipe organ had been installed and paid for. He was gratified to be able to leave things in such a condition for his successor, and he wished them success in the future.

WINNIPEG AND WEST.

Rev. J. S. Muldrew, whose induction at Point Douglas was noted last week, was, on leaving Souris, presented with a valuable gold watch and chain.

The induction of the Rev. A. C. Strachan, formerly of Arcola, into the pastorate of the Gladstone church took place on the 6th inst. Rev. T. McCord, of High Bluff, preached and conducted the devotional exercises, the induction services being conducted by the moderator, Rev. A. L. Manson, of Arden.

The Free Press says: Rev. Alexander Matheson, the veteran Presbyterian minister, who was born at Kildonan, where he still resides, in 1827, has been rather seriously ill for the last two weeks, but is now happily recovering. Mr. Matheson's illness and his great age caused some anxiety, and his many friends will be glad to hear of the improvement in his condition.

At the annual meeting of St. Andrew's church Ladies' Aid the treasurer's report indicated receipts of \$407.40. The officers for the ensuing year are: President, Mrs. Brock; vice-presidents, Mrs. Campbell and Mrs. Masterman; secretary, Mrs. Kernaugh; treasurer, Mrs. Purvis; executive committee, Mrs. Scott, Mrs. Adams, Mrs. Peace, Mrs. Sinclair, Mrs. McLeod, Mrs. Forrest, Mrs. Douglas, Mrs. Brock.

All the reports presented at the annual meeting of the Knox church W. F. M. Society were of a most encouraging character. The following officers were elected: Honorary president, Mrs. George Bryce; honorary vice-president, Mrs. W. Bathgate; president, Mrs. Sanderson; vice-presidents, Mrs. K. J. Johnston, Mrs. J. A. Bowman, Mrs. Dunwoody; secretary, Mrs. D. Bowmann; treasurer, Mrs. Robson; superintendent of junior mission band, Mrs. Solandt; superintendent of scattered helpers, Mrs. Clark; leaflet secretary, Mrs. Endress.

HAMILTON.

G. Tower Ferguson, of Toronto, was the afternoon speaker to the men of Knox Church on Saturday afternoon.

Mrs. Walker, of Toronto, spoke at a meeting of the W.H.M.S. Presbyterian held in St. Paul's church on Tuesday last week.

Rev. E. D. McLaren, of Toronto, and Rev. A. S. Grant, of Yukon fame, both preached in Hamilton pulpits on Sunday last, the 9th inst.

Rev. D. M. Buchanan, of Jarvis, was elected moderator of Presbytery at last meeting, held on Tuesday the 4th inst.

A special meeting of Presbytery will be held on Jan. 25th to formally deal with the call about to be presented to Rev. J. Roy Van Wyck from St. Andrew's Church, Chatham.

The members of Presbytery were delightfully entertained at luncheon in St. Paul's church on Tuesday of last week by the W.H.M.S., Hamilton Presbyterian. Rev. Principal Gandier, and Rev. Dr. Lyle were guests of honor.

JEWISH MISSION, TORONTO.

During the past week the Presbyterians of Toronto tried, and with good success, to make the Jewish people feel the true Christmas spirit. Only three years ago, on Christmas day, in Odessa a fearful massacre of Jews by fanatical Christians took place. Parts of some families who escaped are living in our ward, and for the first time saw lived out the Christian maxim "Peace on earth, good will to men." On Thursday evening over 250 children who have been in attendance at the sewing classes and Sabbath school of the mission were right royally treated to a Christmas tree entertainment. Sir Mortimer Clark kindly acted as chairman, and Miss Clark, who was presented with flowers by Elsie Klein, a little Jewish beauty, distributed the gifts to the children, whose behavior was admirable. A programme of recitations and music was given by Mr. Alexander and his daughter, assisted by the Jewish children. Representative visitors were: Rev. J. McP. Scott, convener of Jewish committee; Dr. R. D. Fraser, of the S. S. Publications; Rev. J. C. Robertson, secretary of Sabbath schools, and Mr. Findley, superintendent of Bloor street school, all of whom spoke warmly of the appearance and behavior of the children and the good work being accomplished by the superintendent and his staff. On Tuesday evening the Men's Bible class, known as "Seekers After Truth Society," and whose teacher is Mr. Henry Bregman, held their second annual social gathering, when the chairman, Rev. S. B. Rohold, had with him on the platform the following ministers, whom he introduced as the "Princes of the Church": Revs. J. McP. Scott, W. E. Hassard, Alex. Robertson, A. B. Winchester, G. T. Miller, Drs. D. McTavish, J. Nell, E. P. Mackay, W. G. Wallace, J. M. Duncan and A. T. Taylor. As one looked into the faces of the young men who filled the hall and knew that some were baptized Christians, some were secret disciples and some were anxiously inquiring the way, one felt that here was a great door wide open and the church is only half alive to the opportunity. At the close Mrs. Shortreed presented gifts to those who had been most regular in attendance. This meeting of 200 men accomplished two things: it proved the possibility of interesting the Jews in Christianity, and it showed these men that back of this mission is the great Presbyterian Church. The following day the mothers who have been attending the various services in the mission were given their treat, and the programme of music and recitations, which had been arranged by Miss Tasker, president of the mothers' meeting, was thoroughly enjoyed. Mrs. Litster kindly distributed the gifts, and many a mother went home with a heart full of gratitude for the mission and all the sympathy and interest it had meant for her.

OBSERVER.

Principal McFarlane, of Annprior, well deserves the addition of \$100.00 recently made to his salary.

The Perth Knox Church choir were hospitably entertained on a recent evening, when at the home of Mr. William Hossie, Bathurst, the choir took occasion to present one of their number, Miss Olive Flett, with a pair of beautiful pictures, marking their regard and esteem on her approaching marriage, together with a very complimentary address.

The annual tea-meeting of the Newburgh Presbyterians was in every respect a complete success. Lieut.-Col. Dr. Duff, of Kingston a former member of the congregation, was in the chair, and made a speech humorously reminiscent of old days in Newburgh. Presbyterians was in and McInnes, of Harrowsmith, made addresses which were highly instructive and thoroughly appreciative. The musical part of the program was also good. At the close Mr. T. A. Dunwoody expressed the thanks of the congregation to all who had assisted in making the evening a success.