

Church News.

St. Joseph's Presbyterian church, Montreal, is henceforth to be called Calvin church.

The Rev. J. H. Cameron, late of Bridgewater, has received and accepted a call from the church at Bass River, N. B.

The Napanee Presbyterian church has granted Rev. A. Young a six months' leave of absence. He is in a delicate state of health.

DR. CAMPBELL, of Seaford, Ont., has lately been securing in Plattsville and other places with much acceptance on the subject, "Scottish Characteristics."

The Rev. F. R. Beattie, pastor of the First Presbyterian church, Brampton, has been presented by the members of his congregation with a magnificent gold watch.

MR. W. MORTIMER CLARK, Toronto, Chairman of Knox College Board, has been appointed representative of the College on the Senate of Toronto University.

ON the 19th ult., Rev. A. Tall, Mono Mills, Ont., was presented by members of his congregation with a valuable gold-mounted set of harness, together with an address expressive of their good will.

St. Paul's church, Ottawa, held their annual meeting on the 13th January, the Rev. W. D. Armstrong, pastor, in the chair. The various reports read exhibited substantial work done during the year. The amount raised by the congregation for church purposes was \$2,645, a sum slightly in excess of expenditure, \$209 were collected for the Church Building Fund during the year, and \$415 for missionary purposes.

The anniversary of Fort Massey Sabbath School, Halifax, was held recently. After refreshments, a model exercise was beautifully gone through by a number of children, under the supervision of Miss Burns, and a programme of instrumental and vocal music was well rendered. Early in the year, the pastor, Rev. Dr. Burns, offered a medal to every scholar who would repeat the Shorter Catechism without the slightest blunder. Over a dozen succeeded in obtaining it.

The Rev. K. McDonald was inducted into the pastoral charge of Ashfield, in the Presbytery of Maitland, on the 14th of January. The Rev. A. Stevenson preached an appropriate sermon, the Rev. J. L. Murray presided and inducted the minister, Rev. D. Cameron addressed the minister, and the Rev. A. Sutherland and Rev. J. McFarland addressed the people. There was a large congregation present, and at the close of the service Mr. McDonald received a most cordial welcome from the people.

The annual meeting of St. David's church, St. John, N. B., Rev. Geo. Bruce, pastor, was held on Jan. 20th. Financial reports showed total for all purposes, \$7,400. For congregational purposes \$4,198.52, being an increase of \$230 over the previous year. A mortgage of \$2,000 was paid off. Sabbath School contributions for all objects \$388. Within three years the debt on the church has been reduced \$4,576, and the process of reduction is going steadily on. Members on the roll, 346. Increase, 40. There are a number of societies connected with the congregation, all hard at work—a Y. M. Association, a Ladies' ditto, a Ladies' Mite Society, and a Willing Workers' Band.

The annual congregational meeting of the Parkdale Presbyterian church, held on Monday evening, Feb. 1st, was attended by a large audience. The pastor, Rev. R. F. Mackay, was in the chair; Mr. A. G. Gowanlock, secretary, acted as secretary. Satisfactory reports were presented by the various church committees. The receipts for 1885 were \$2,446.69; expenditure, \$2,150.71. The stipend of Mr. Mackay was increased from \$1,200 to \$1,400. Messrs. Wantless, Stewart and Clark were elected managers, and Messrs. Crichton and McKinlay auditors. A large committee was appointed to see what can be done towards the erection of a new church, as the present building cannot accommodate all those who wish to unite with this thriving congregation.

St. John's church Sunday School, Brockville, Ont., had a most successful gathering, January 18th, the basement being filled to its utmost capacity. After the refreshments, which were furnished with lavish hand, had been disposed of, Rev. Dr. Jardine took the chair, and a programme of readings, recitations and music was presented, which appeared to be fully appreciated. A pleasant feature of the evening was the presentation to Rev. Dr. Jardine, by Hon. W. J. Christie, on behalf of the congregation, of a cheque for \$100, as a mark of the esteem in which he is held and their appreciation of his services. Dr. Jardine was taken completely by surprise, and made a brief reply. At the close of the evening each of the Sunday School children received a present of fruit as they passed out.

A MUSICAL and stereopticon entertainment was given in Rochester, Ont., on Tuesday evening, the 26th January, by Mr. D. W. Campbell, under the auspices of the Young People's Society of the Presbyterian Church. Mr. Campbell accompanied his views of London, Eng., with a lecture, in which he gave much useful and interesting information on some of the principal objects in and around the great city. Mr. Campbell, we understand, was a student of promise for our Church, but under a severe attack of illness became unfitted to prosecute his studies, and has for some years pursued the calling of a lecturer. Young people's societies will find an evening with Mr. Campbell to be thoroughly enjoyable and profitable. The musical part of the programme was provided by the Young People's Society.

The annual business meeting of the Presbyterian church, Cobourg, Ont., was held January 28th, Rev. D. L. McCrae, M.A., the pastor, in the chair. The meeting was one of the most harmonious and enjoyable ever held in the church. All the reports were of an encouraging character. The report of the Board of Managers showed that all financial engagements had been met, and that there was a balance on hand. On motion of Mr. R. Mulholland, M.P.P., a very hearty vote of thanks was tendered to Mr. E. A. MacNachtan for his long and faithful services as treasurer of the congregation. After the business was over, the large number present partook of refreshments, and a pleasant social time was spent. The new managers elected in place of those retiring are, Messrs. R. Mulholland, M.P.P., Geo. Spence, John Sanders, A. Ferguson, Wm. Barnett, and Jas. Kerr.

The annual meeting, Knox church, Milton, took place last Wednesday evening in Knox church, the Rev. M. C. Cameron, B.D., in the chair. The secretary read a carefully prepared report, which was received enthusiastically by the congregation. It showed a marked increase in every department of the church. The treasurer's report showed an increase in the Sabbath offerings of \$14, an increase of \$65 in the stipend account, and the large increase of \$286 in the Building Fund, chiefly owing to the activity of the ladies. Thirty-five new members were added to the congregation, being the largest increase since the pastor's ordination. The old managers were reappointed. Dr. Robertson was added to the staff of trustees. A hearty vote of thanks was tendered to the ladies. The handsome new manse is now entirely free of debt.

The annual meeting of Stanley Street Presbyterian church, Montreal, was held on Wednesday, January 27th. The attendance was fairly large, and the reports submitted were, so far as the session and interests presided over by the pastor, most encouraging, showing a net gain to the membership during the year. Rev. J. McCaul, the pastor, reviewed the growth from the beginning in 1874 with a membership of 75 (many of whom had been removed, some by death, others from the city, while some had seen fit to remove to other churches) to a present membership of 272. During the seven years of Mr. McCaul's pastorate 350 had been added, an average of 50 per year; very encouraging, showing that there was spiritual life and growth manifested

all through. The congregation has been largely composed of a class whose residence in the city is of a temporary nature, so that there is perhaps no congregation of its size and years whose membership can be traced from time to time to so many parts of the country and abroad. When Mr. McCaul took charge in 1879, the mortgage indebtedness was \$21,000, with a floating debt of nearly \$4,000, in all \$25,000. This has been reduced to \$3,100, a comparatively small amount.

The Rev. J. F. Forbes leaves Lochaber and Union Centre for West River, Pictou—after a pastorate of 19 years. During that time he admitted over 400 to full communion, baptized 600, buried over 300, and married 99 couples. When Mr. Forbes entered on his work the congregation was far behind in some respects, especially in regard to church accommodation. They have now two commodious and comfortable churches which cost \$5,000. Many a weary day and week did Mr. Forbes devote to the work of collecting for those churches. He had also to do with two mission churches, costing \$1,400 and \$4,000, respectively. A manse, costing \$2,400, has been built. All the buildings are free of debt, and there are no arrears. The congregation also showed steady liberality to the Schemes of the Church. Mr. Forbes was not more devoted to his people than they were to him. The ladies of Union Centre presented an address to Mrs. Forbes, with a purse of \$45.25. The ladies of Lochaber did likewise, with a purse of \$36.25. In both cases the deepest affection and the best wishes were expressed. Mr. Forbes replied for his wife. Parting in this case has been exceedingly trying on both sides.—Halifax Witness.

The following is the substance of the session's report for 1885, St. Andrew's church, St. John's, Newfoundland. The church attendance on Sundays quite large, on week days much better than ever before. The want of further accommodation is much felt. There were 40 new communicants added to the roll; 7 were removed by death, and 6 left the country, making a net increase of 27. There were 40 baptisms in the year. Two hundred and forty-one children are in Sunday School. An organ has been erected, and Mr. Arthur Jarvis has been engaged as organist and choir-leader, giving promise of greater efficiency in the service of praise. The amounts collected for missionary and charitable purposes are as follows:—By Missionary Society and Sunday collections for Church Schemes, \$324.30; by Women's Zenana Society for Foreign Missions, \$290 by Sunday School for missions, including missionary bazaars, \$277.04; collected for North-West Building Fund, \$1,000; collected for poor (balance unexpended \$27.60), \$201.98.—Total for missions and charity (exclusive of sums collected for Bible, Tract and Dorcas Society), \$1,593.32; income for congregational expenses (including organ), \$7,334.45.—Total raised for all purposes, \$9,927.77.

The Derry West correspondent of the Brampton Times thus pays a well-deserved tribute to the zeal and labours of Rev. James Pringle, of Brampton, one of the oldest and most highly respected members of the Toronto Presbytery. We heartily join in the good wishes of the Times' correspondent. "The Presbyterian church in this town is about to be closed up. Owing to removals from the neighbourhood the congregation has dwindled away to a very few, who will now in all probability worship in two to three halls. Notwithstanding all the discouragements he was anxious to have the old church fitted up and Brampton. He has ministered in the old church for upwards of forty years, driving from Brampton in sunshine and storm. We have known him to come through storm and rough roads to find perhaps one or two comfortable and services continued as heretofore. The congregation have thought otherwise, and permission will be asked the presbytery to sell the property and hand over the funds to the trustees of the Brampton church. Had it not been for Rev. Mr. Pringle our town would long ago have been without a church. We doubt very much, when we consider all the difficulties, the smallness of the congregation, and the mere pittance in shape of stipend, if any other minister in Canada would have continued so long as he has. May he live long to enjoy the blessing of the Master he has so long and faithfully served."

The annual meeting of Old St. Andrew's, Toronto, was held on Wednesday, Jan. 20th, the pastor, Rev. G. M. Milligan, in the chair. The session report stated that 46 members were added to the church during the year, 15 by profession of faith and 31 by letter. The membership of the church is now over 400. Last May mission work was commenced in the northeast of the city. A lot has been purchased, and a building is about to be erected on the southwest corner of Winchester and Sackville Streets, in order that the religious interests in that growing section of the city may be met. Mr. A. MacMurphy presented the financial report of the Session and Sunday School. As superintendent of the Sunday School he also stated the condition and work of the school for the year. The presbytery asked the congregation for a little over \$2,000 for Church Schemes this year. Up to the present about \$1,900 was in hand. He had no doubt that shortly the whole amount expected from the congregation would be forthcoming. When the contributions to colleges and benevolent objects were all summed up, something like \$3,000 would be given by the congregation for objects outside of themselves. This is in addition to liabilities incurred to carry on mission work in the northeast part of the city, amounting to \$4,000, making the total incurred for extra congregational purposes during the year something in the neighbourhood of \$7,000. The total amount contributed by the school was \$225, apportioned as follows:—Indian Missions, \$50; Day Spring, \$45; Pointe aux Trembles School, \$45; Chinese work to British Columbia, \$25; McAll Mission, in France, \$25; Muskoka Mission, \$25; Provincial Sunday School Association, \$10. The total number of scholars on the roll, 364; teachers, 21; average attendance of scholars, 240. Encouraging reports were presented from the Ladies' Aid, Mission Band and Young People's Association. Mr. Eby presented the manager's report. The total expenditure for the year was \$6,162.70. There is a balance on hand of \$894.25. The receipts from pew rents are \$3,209, showing an increase of about 20 per cent. over the amount from this source of last year. The weekly envelope collections last year were \$767.70; this year they were \$1,279.40. It was stated in an appendix to the managers' report, that a few friends in the congregation were ready to bear the expense of removing the choir to the front of the pulpit, and erecting a pulpit platform a little more elevated than the present platform and more in keeping with the whole internal arrangements of the church. This, along with the rest of the report of the managers, was gratefully and unanimously approved of. Mr. J. L. Brodie moved that an effort be made this year to reduce, by from \$1,000 to \$3,000, the debt on the church, which was carried. Messrs. MacMurphy, John Lees, Junr., and Jas. Oliver were elected managers, and Messrs. James Kent and H. E. Suckling auditors for the ensuing year.

MEETINGS OF PRESBYTERIES.

REGINA.—A pro re nata meeting of the Presbytery of Regina was held in Knox church, Regina, on Tuesday, the 19th Jan. Present—Revs. S. J. Taylor, A. Robson, H. McKay, Alex. Hamilton and A. Urquhart. The moderator, Mr. P. S. Livingston, having in the providence of God been removed by death, Mr. H. McKay was appointed moderator pro tem. The clerk read a report from the Presbytery of Brandon on the death of Mr. P. S. Livingston, whose decease occurred within the bounds of said presbytery. Mr. H. McKay was appointed moderator for the present term. Mr. A. Hamilton, ordained missionary labouring within the bounds, having presented his presbytery papers, the clerk was instructed to add his name to the roll of the presbytery. A report from the superintendent of missions was presented which was received, and the following recommendations adopted, viz.: Mr. Angus Robertson was appointed to supply Lethbridge in the meantime and until a missionary be secured and was asked to give such supply to Fort McLeod and Fincher Creek as is practicable. Mr. A. B. Davidson

was appointed to Saskatoon, and Mr. A. Hall to White-wood. Members of presbytery agreed to supply Broadview until April when it is hoped permanent supply may be procured. The action of the Home Mission Committee in recommending grants for church erection at Lethbridge, Fort McLeod and a manse at Medicine Hat was sustained. Grants were also recommended for church erection at Long Lake, Carleton Place and Kimbree. Mr. A. Hamilton's name was added to the Home Mission Committee, and A. Urquhart was appointed convener in place of Mr. Livingston. Mr. H. McKay was appointed on the Synodical Committee in place of Mr. Livingston. On application the clerk was instructed to grant presbytery certificates in due form to Messrs. Sinclair and Cameron, and also to report to Boards of the Church the death of Mr. P. S. Livingston, that his widow may participate in the benefits of the Widows' Fund or Funds. Four months' leave of absence was granted to Mr. S. I. Taylor, of Moose Jaw. Several other items of business were transacted. The presbytery adjourned to meet at Qu'Appelle, and within the church there, on the first Tuesday of March, at 2 o'clock p.m.—A. URQUHART, Clerk.

HARRIS.—This presbytery met at Harris on Tuesday, 26th ult. Present—23 ministers and 7 elders. Mr. David James was elected moderator for next six months. Several session reports were presented and examined. The following motion was brought up according to notice given: "That the presbytery nominate Dr. Proudfoot for the new chair in Church History, etc., for Knox College." To this an amendment was made, viz.: "That the presbytery deem it inexpedient at the present time to appoint an additional professor for Knox College, and recommend that lecturers be appointed to give aid to the present professorial staff as the College Senate may deem necessary." The amendment was carried by vote of 19 to 6. The moderators of Rosemont, etc., and Singhampton, etc., were instructed to ascertain the wishes of these congregations respecting separation from this presbytery with the view of their incorporation with the proposed Presbytery of Orangeville. There was a committee appointed to examine four catechists now in the mission field, in order that they may be recommended to the Home Mission Committee as approved catechists. In view of the necessity of aid being given to the stations in Muskoka and Parry Sound Districts for the erection of churches, leave was given to Mr. Findlay to make an appeal and a session was given to a proposed effort of Mr. G. Paton, elder, Windermere, to obtain help in building a church in that locality. A grant of \$20 was made from the Presbytery's Fund toward payment of the debt on the church at Gibraltar station. Mr. McLeod addressed the presbytery on behalf of the Aged and Infirm Ministers' Fund, and a resolution as follows was unanimously adopted, viz.: "That the Aged and Infirm Ministers' Fund is deserving of more adequate support than it has yet received from our congregations, and that the presbytery urge on every session to make a special appeal on its behalf and endeavour to secure for it. In addition to the ordinary collection, special contributions from the wealthier members of our congregations; and further, that sessions in dividing congregational contributions be requested to consider the necessities of this scheme as compared with the other schemes of the Church."—R. MOODIE, Clerk.

St. John.—The presbytery met in St. Andrew's Kirk, St. John, on the 26th Jan. After reading minutes exception was taken to a resolution passed at previous pro re nata meeting of presbytery, nominating Rev. T. F. Fotheringham as a candidate for the proposed chair of History, etc., in Knox College, Toronto, which was set aside on the ground of informality. Mr. Fotheringham resigned the co-convenership of the Sabbath School Committee on the ground of pressure of business. He was thanked for his labours, and expenses in connection with the convenership. Mr. K. McKay was appointed convener. Standing committee for examination of students was appointed—also a committee on Temperance; a committee was appointed to draw out scheme for working out Home Mission, and to report in afternoon. Some requests were made to have certain catechists allocated; papers were to be held in *retentis*. Some bills for missionary work were recommended for payment. Communications from Woman's Home Mission Society were received and approved. Committee to draw out suitable minutes regarding Dr. Smith's labours and standing reported as follows: "In placing with their esteemed brother, the presbytery desire to place on record their high appreciation of his labours and personal worth, and their sense of loss at the severance of the fraternal relationship as a presbyter. The esteem in which Dr. Smith is held by the Church at large is fully shared by the Presbytery of St. John; his willing cooperation in the general work of the presbytery, his wise counsels and his warm-hearted friendship cause a blank to be felt at his removal which will not be speedily filled. His ministry in St. Andrew's church has been richly blessed to the edification of members and the logathering of the young, over which latter his sympathetic nature gave him special influence. Guided by his advice and stimulated by his personal efforts the Church has, during his short pastorate of less than three years, paid off \$16,000 of its debt. It is with deep regret that the presbytery acquiesce in Dr. Smith's desire to remove to Wisconsin, and they would follow him with their earnest prayers that the blessing of the Lord may rest on him and his family, and that his labours may be abundantly fruitful in new charge." The minute was adopted. Mr. Stewart was recommended by Examination Committee for ordination as a missionary, which was appointed to take place in the evening. Report of Committee on Management of Home Mission Committee prevented the idea that there should be three sub-committees in different districts of the presbytery—each having a convener—and that there should also be a central committee with its convener through whom communication should be held. The presbytery in the evening engaged in conference on Sabbath Schools. The scheme of the Presbytery of St. John in reporting was contrasted with that of the General Assembly by Mr. Fotheringham. Mr. Gunn spoke of the training of children, and others joined. Mr. McGregor McKay stated his fears that the Sabbath School, having become a substitute for parental training, might do much harm. After conference, presbytery proceeded to ordain Mr. Stewart as a home missionary. Ordination service was conducted by the moderator, Mr. McDougall. Dr. Macrae gave the address. The report of the Augmentation Committee was then given by Mr. Bruce. The most of the congregations had taken action to raise the sums allocated to them. At the meeting of presbytery on the 27th Jan. presbytery agreed to sustain the action of the presbytery at pro re nata meeting of Dec. 31st, nominating Rev. T. F. Fotheringham as candidate for proposed professorship in Knox College, Toronto. Presbytery adjourned to meet on the first Tuesday in March next.—JAMES BENNETT, Clerk.

MONTREAL.—The presbytery met on the 12th day of January, the Rev. K. H. Warde, moderator pro tempore. The minutes of last ordinary meeting, being in the hands of members, were held as read and were sustained. The minutes of the meetings in Knox church on the 20th of October, in Knox church, on the 14th of November and in Taylor church, Montreal, on the first of December, were read and sustained. Professor Campbell was elected moderator for the next six months. Session reports were laid on the table and committees appointed to examine them. Rev. Mr. Wright, Stratford, Ont., being present, was invited to sit and deliberate. The Rev. Mr. Heise, on behalf of the committee appointed to visit the Laguerre district, to consider as to the best means of supplying it with ordinances for the future, reported that he had not visited the field, having learned by correspondence that no union could at present be effected with any neighbouring congregation. Rev. Mr. Warden, Convener of the Presbytery's Home Mission Committee, reported that the supply for the past quarter had not been quite so regular, owing to the smallpox epidemic. Rev. Mr. Heise read the report of the French work within the bounds during the past two quarters, giving details connected with the several congregations and stations, show-

ing the attendance and additions to the membership, and speaking very hopefully of the work generally, in the schools as well as in the other fields of labour. The report was received and the members expressed their deep gratification with the facts and tone of the report. Rev. Robert Campbell, Convener of the Presbytery's City Mission Committee, read the report for the past quarter, showing the work of the mission and the prosperous condition of the fund. Mr. G. W. Stephens, M.P.P., President of the Associated Charities of Montreal, and Mr. Drake, Treasurer, appeared as a deputation and addressed the court as to the nature and working of the association and urged the importance of united effort in connection with charitable work and kindred subjects among Protestants. The moderator thanked the deputation in name of the presbytery for the information given, and the presbytery having heard the deputation, recommended to all churches and individuals in the presbytery the importance of discrimination and examination in the distribution of all charities. Reports of deputations to supplemented congregations and mission stations were dealt with by the presbytery. A circular was received from the Committee on Augmentation of Stipends, urging, among other things, that the sum of \$5,500, assigned to this presbytery, should be raised for the current year. The Home Mission Committee were instructed to apportion the amount among the congregations of the presbytery. A communication was read from the Board and Senate of Knox College, Toronto, respecting an additional professorship in said college. Rev. C. A. Doudiet asked the appointment of a committee to consider some features of the marriage law of this Province, with the view, if deemed necessary, to press them upon the attention of Parliament. The following committee was appointed: Dr. MacVicar, Robert Campbell, L. H. Jordan, Dr. Smyth, and the mover; Mr. Doudiet to be convener. The reports from the General Assembly were held over for consideration at the next quarterly meeting. The report of the Examining Committee was read, and in terms of its recommendations, the presbytery agreed to certify to the Senate of the Presbyterian College, Montreal, the following young men:—Douglas McKaskill, James Nairn, Joseph Francis Langton and Charles Arthur Campbell, all having the ministry in view. At a special meeting on the 13th Jan., Mr. Hugh McLean, probationer, recently arrived from Britain, laid upon the table a presbyterial certificate from the Presbytery of Liverpool, also a commission from the Colonial Committee of the Free Church of Scotland. The presbytery resolved to receive Mr. McLean, and to place his name on the presbyterial roll as a probationer within the bounds, and appointed him to the congregation of Laguerre, till next ordinary meeting.—JAS. PATTERSON, Clerk.

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