

Church News

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

Montreal Notes.

In face of the urgency with which all the evangelical churches are pushing their work and pressing the financial claims of that work upon their people, the non-denominational societies which have not such ready access to the people through the various pulpits are apt to be overlooked and to suffer correspondingly. Some that were active and vigorous a few years ago have had to close up their work altogether for this reason, and others are in danger of collapsing unless vigorous measures are taken to keep them before the public. Even such a Catholic institution as the Bible Society has felt the need of this in recent years. With a view to maintaining the interest in its work, the officers of the Montreal Auxiliary last Monday morning by previous arrangement brought its claims before the Ministerial Association through the Secretary, Prof. Carns-Wilson, of McGill University. The matter was cordially received and spoken to by quite a number of the members, and several suggestions were thrown as to the means that might be taken to promote its interests, some of which are likely to be acted on. The auxiliary is doing a very valuable colportage work, especially among the French Roman Catholic population, and that work is very far from being completed as yet. The truth is that only a small percentage of the people have the scriptures in their hands in any form, and the strongest pressure is brought to bear upon them by their ecclesiastical leaders to prevent their obtaining them. In spite of their warnings and threats, however, each year sees some advance, and the society has sufficient encouragement in every district to continue its efforts. The society also furnishes the scriptures which are circulated by the agents of the different churches including our own.

On Friday evening last the Rev. Prof. Ross gave a lecture to a good audience in Knox church, entitled "Rambles in Scotland." His sketches of Scottish scenes and Scottish ways gave at once amusement and instruction. Accompanying the lecture was a short programme of appropriate Scottish music rendered by members of the choir under the direction of Mr. W. A. Coates, the organist of the church.

On Sunday last Prof. Ross officiated at the opening of a new church building near Vankleek Hill at a station forming part of Mr. McLeod's congregation. For several years back services have been held at this point in Gaelic and English by the minister of Vankleek Hill or by a student missionary under the direction of the Session. The student this summer has been Mr. Hugh D. Leitch, of the Presbyterian College, Montreal. The opening of the new building shows the success which has attended the work in the past and places it in a more favorable position for the future.

The Session of the Presbyterian College will open on the evening of the 7th inst. with a lecture from Dr. Barclay on "Doctrine and Life." There is good reason to expect a large attendance of students.

The evangelistic services in Taylor Church still continue with ever increasing audiences and deepening interest.

North-West Notes.

When the Presbytery of Glenboro met a few days ago the Rev. A. E. Driscoll, B. A., of Souris and the Rev. A. Currie, of Wawanesa, laid on the table the resignations of their respective charges.

The semi-annual meeting of the Synod's Home Mission Committee is going on in Winnipeg. Accounts for the past half year are being passed, and estimates and appointments for the winter are being arranged.

The Rev. Prof. Hart and Mrs. Hart are planning to cross the Atlantic during Prof. Hart's convalescence. The following resolution was recently passed by the College Board: The Board of Manitoba College has learned with sincere regret of the severe

and prolonged illness of Prof. Hart. It desires to assure him of its deep sympathy with him in the suffering through which he has passed and in his still remaining weakness, and of its gratification and thankfulness at the prospect of his recovery. It embraces this occasion to express its deep sense of the great value which it attaches to the long and faithful services in connection with the institution, and to assure him of its readiness to make the best arrangements possible for the conduct of his classes until such time as by the blessing of God his health may be fully restored.

There has been an epidemic of measles in the South Indian mission school. Twenty-two of the fifty-eight pupils were affected, but happily there were no deaths, although measles are very often fatal to Indian children.

Manitoba College opened on the 1st inst. with the largest attendance, for an opening day, in its history. The classes of Prof. Hart will be carried on during his absence by the tutors, Messrs F. W. Clark, B. A., and John R. MacArthur, B. A.

General.

Rev. A. Graham, Lancaster Ont., has been appointed Moderator during the vacancy at Dalhousie Mills and Cote St. George. Only Gaelic speaking Candidates need apply.

Rev. P. McF. MacLeod, former pastor of Knox church, Stratford, has been called to the charge of the congregation of Upper Tooting, near London, England.

The congregation of St. Paul's church, Hamilton, has presented a purse of gold to the Rev. Mts. Gandier, the student who has occupied the pulpit for the past three months.

Rev. T. A. Bell, of Avonbank, has received a unanimous call from the Presbyterian congregations of Napier and Brooke, in the Presbytery of Sarnia. Mr. Bell is a recent graduate of Knox College.

Rev. A. K. MacLennan, Dalhousie Mills, leaves for Boston on the 12th inst. to take charge of the First United Presbyterian Church there.

The Harvest Home services in connection with Hornings Mills Presbyterian Church were conducted by Rev. Wm. J. West, B. A., of Woodstock on 27th Sept. who preached two impressive sermons to large congregations. The Harvest Home supper and social gathering was well patronized on Tuesday 29th, the proceeds amounting to about sixty dollars. The pastor Rev. A. E. Neilly deserves much credit for the good work accomplished in this charge one of the difficult fields of our church.

Very successful Harvest Home Services were held in the Presbyterian Church at Cresswell on Sabbath and Monday the 6th and 7th inst. Rev. J. Mc D. Duncan conducted the Sabbath Services at 3 and 7 p.m. and preached to large and appreciative congregations. On Monday evening after a Harvest Home Supper the church was filled with an interested audience who listened with delight to choice music rendered by the choir of St. Andrew's Church, Lindsay, and addresses by Rev. Messrs. Tucker and Brace of Manilla and the pastor of the church—Rev. P. A. McLeod.

A Presbyterian mission was undertaken at Dunchurch a number of years ago by the Knox College Missionary Society, but this year, as a result of the able services rendered by Mr. Barber last season, the carrying on of the work was given over to the Home Mission Committee. D. M. Robertson, a student of Queen's University, Kingston, has had charge of the work this season, and has left the cause in a flourishing condition, finances being beyond what was called for, and the spiritual life deepened. He also preached at Whitestone, Maple Island and Abmic Harbor, the latter place having done particularly well. Both at Dunchurch and at Abmic Harbor there is a flourishing Christian Endeavor Society. The followers of the great reformer, Knox, have worshipped for three years in a little old log school house, but before another summer passes they intend to have a commodious new building, in which to hold service. The church is to be built on a

stone foundation and veneered with red brick, the inside being finished with dressed birch. A tower, through which entrance is to be gained, will stand on one corner. It is to be known as the "Kilpatrick Memorial Church." Although the Presbyterians are few yet they are energetic and are determined to have a church second to none in the district.

At the close of the Prayer meeting at Glen Norman, a section of the congregation of Dalhousie Mills, and Cote St. George last Friday night, requested the pastor, Mr. MacLennan, to remain a little while, when two little girls stopped to the platform, read a kind and sympathetic address, and then presented a beautiful gold watch and case. The pastor was completely overcome at this unexpected kindness, as well as at the prospect of speaking for the last time in the Glen Norman school house, in the capacity of pastor. He feelingly referred to the happy hours spent in that school house, and the good feeling which ever existed between him and all the people. Dr. Kellogg, of Richmald, also spoke a few suitable words, and the meeting closed with "God be with you till we meet again," and the benediction.

Presbytery of Peterborough

Met in Millbrook on the 22nd Sep. There were 17 ministers and 4 elders present. The Rev. J. U. Tanner, of Omemees was chosen moderator for six months. Interesting and gratifying reports were received from the several mission fields. Clydesdale and Apsley are to have a missionary for the winter and Harvey as much supply as possible for 3 months from local sources. The proposed change in the mode of electing commissioners to the Assembly will be further considered next meeting. Messrs Hall and Oswald, students, were ordered to be certified to Knox College. The next meeting of Presbytery, was appointed to be held in St. Pauls Church Peterborough on the 15th Dec. at 9 o'clock a.m.

The standing Committees for the year are the following viz—

Home Missions—Dr. Torrance, Messrs W. Bennett, J. C. Potter, R. Laird, Ministers and G. M. Roger and R. Tulley, elders. Augmentation—John Hay, B.D., C. S. Lord B.D., P. Duncan Ministers and Messrs H. Carruthers and J. Underwood, elders. Church Life and Work—Dr. Smith, Messrs A. Laird and W. Johnston, Ministers and P. Brown and Mr. McNaughton elders. Sabbath Schools—R. Hyde, I. Cattanoah, A. C. Reeves, Ministers and W. E. Roxborough and W. Battar, Elders Y. P. Society—C. S. Lord, John Hay, A. Laird P. Duncan, Ministers.

Sup. of Students—D. A. Thomson, D. Sutherland and J. F. Somerville Ministers and R. Tully and John Clark, Elders.

Statistics—W. Bennett, J. U. Tanner James Cleland, A. K. McLeod Ministers, and Messrs. D. Armstrong and I. Steele, Elders.

A motion of Sympathy with the Millbrook Congregation in the loss of their Church by fire was passed and gratification expressed that another commodious structure was in course of erection.

The remit of Assembly on the subject of reduced representation was unanimously approved of.

The following notice of motion was given by Wm Thomson "That we recommend that the Assembly meet in Toronto each year that the billoting system cease and that each commissioner be paid out of a common fund at the rate of Sets per mile one way and \$2 per diem."

Presbytery of London.

The Presbytery met in First Presbyterian church, London, on the 5th Sept., and was duly constituted. Rev. I. Little, Moderator. After reading the minutes of last regular and special meetings the business was arranged. On motion of Mr. Clark, duly seconded, Mr. Talling was elected Moderator for the next six months, and thanked the Presbytery for the honor conferred on him. On motion of Dr. Proudfoot the retiring Moderator was thanked for his conduct in the chair, and the vote of thanks was enthusiastically acknowledged. The clerk presented a letter from Rev. Mr. Dewar, Ailsa Craig,