

Ministers and Churches.

THE last number of *Life and Work*, published by Erskine Church, Montreal, contains brief but valuable information respecting the Christian activity of that vigorous and prosperous congregation.

THE annual sermon in connection with the Toronto Irish Protestant Benevolent Society was preached Sabbath at noon in Cooke's Church by Rev. William Patterson. There was a large congregation present.

THE Rev. Dr. Deems, of the Church of the Strangers, New York, is to lecture, under the auspices of the Men's Missionary Society in connection with St. Andrew's East, on the 20th inst. in Association Hall on "Trifles."

THE Rev. T. F. Fotheringham, M.A., of St. John, N. B., lectured to the students of Pine Hill College, Halifax, last week on "George Buchanan, the Scottish Virgil." This was one of a series on "Heroes of the Scottish Reformation," delivered by several ministers of the Church at the request of the College Board.

AT a meeting of the Presbytery of Whirby, held in Bowmanville on the 6th inst., Mr. Fraser, of Ororo, was loosed from his congregation, that he might accept an appointment from the Home Mission Committee of the General Assembly to Comox, Presbytery of Columbia. Mr. Fraser will preach his farewell sermon on Sabbath, the 18th inst., and will leave for Vancouver's Island in the beginning of April. Mr. Drummond, Newcastle, was appointed Moderator of Ororo Session.

THE congregation of Chalmers Church, Kingston, has decided to build a \$25,000 edifice on a new site, and to sell the old building. The work of construction will be begun as soon as \$15,000 have been subscribed. The people of St. Andrew's are also arranging for a new church, and \$10,600 have been subscribed therefor. The cost of the rebuilding of Cooke's Church has been fully met by subscription. The congregation, under the pastoral care of Rev. S. Huston, has made steady and encouraging progress. Mr. Huston has been delivering a series of theological lectures to the students of Queen's College.

THE Toronto Presbyterian Council met last week in Knox Church. The attendance was a representative one, though not very large. The question of how best to support and carry on several of the outlying missions in new districts was referred to the executive of the council, to be reported on at an early date. Rev. R. P. McKay, of Parkdale, reported the erection of a new mission hall in Parkdale, at a cost of about \$3,000. A paper by Mr. Caswell on the "Limited Term for the Eldership" provoked an interesting debate, which was taken part in by the Rev. Messrs. Parsons, Macdonnell, Miligan, Wallace, Barnhill, Burns and Elders Merryfield, Y. J. Lewis, McMurchy and Smith. The almost unanimous finding of the Council was in favour of life term.

THE annual election of officers of Knox College Metropolitan and Literary Society and the *Knox College Monthly* staff, held on Friday evening, March 2, resulted as follows: General Committee: George Needham, B.A., president; M. C. Rumball, B.A., first vice-president; John Robertson, second vice-president; John Crawford, B.A., critic; P. J. McLaren, B.A., recording secretary; J. M. McLaren, B.A., corresponding secretary; J. D. Hammond, B.A., treasurer; John McNair, secretary of committee; H. R. Horne, curator; John Little, Wm. Ross, W. A. Bradley, councillors. *Knox College Monthly* staff: J. Crawford, B.A., business manager; W. A. Bradley, treasurer; J. McD. Duncan, B.A., T. R. Shearer, B.A., M. C. Rumball, B.A., Thomas Nattress, B.A., J. McP. Scott, B.A., H. E. A. Reid, B.A., editors.

ON Sabbath, the 19th February, Rev. W. J. Dey, of Hamilton, preached the anniversary sermons in Knox Church, Jarvis. The audiences both forenoon and evening, more especially in the evening, were large, and the sermons able and impressive. On Monday evening a most successful tea meeting was held in the basement, followed by a musical and literary entertainment in the church. Speeches by the Rev. Messrs. Croft, Hamilton, Jackson and Thynne, and by the pastor of the congregation, the Rev. Mr. Wells. Excellent music was furnished by the choir, whilst the solos rendered by Mrs. Richardson, of Fergus, and Miss Ed. ar, of Hamilton, fairly took the audience by storm. Mrs. Workman ably presided at the piano. On the Tuesday evening the social specially for the young was a great success. The proceeds amounted to fully \$200.

A LADIES' Aid Society has been formed in East Toronto, in connection with the Presbyterian Church, that bids fair to become a power for good. Its officers are Mrs. T. T. Johnston, president; Mrs. D. Liddle and Mrs. Fred Monteith, vice-presidents; Mrs. Dr. Shaw, secretary; Miss Jeannie McCulloch, assistant secretary, and Mrs. J. McPhadden, treasurer. An illustrated lecture on the Southern States was delivered under their auspices recently, by the resident minister, Rev. T. T. Johnston. Music and refreshments were also provided, and the proceeds realized were \$25. During the evening, Mrs. Fred Monteith presented the congregation, through the Ladies' Aid, with a handsome clock, and received a hearty vote of thanks as a response. The ladies, besides acts of benevolence, have recaptured the pulpit platform of the church, and furnished the vestry in a comfortable manner. Schemes of usefulness have been devised for the future that will afford ample scope for their zeal and patience; but, judging by the past, these will be successfully accomplished.

THE most successful mission concert of the season was held on Friday evening, March 9, under the auspices of the Young People's Christian Association of the Duchess Street Mission. The hall was crowded to its utmost capacity by friends and strangers living in the vicinity of the mission. An excellent and entertaining programme of songs, recitations and readings was furnished by the following ladies and gentlemen: Misses Ritchie, Winnett, Living-

ston and J. Sinclair, and Messrs. G. W. Grant, P. Kleiser, C. Major, S. Martin, W. McDougal and Fraser and Robertson, of the Varsity Glee Club. Miss Greig was the accompanist of the evening. The Knox College Glee Club with their humorous songs "Way up on Main Top," and "Kingdom Coming" contributed largely to the success of the entertainment. Mr. Fraser was honored repeatedly, and favoured the audience with his humorous stump speech, "Woman's Rights"; but the climax of the evening's amusement was reached when Miss Ritchie and Mr. Grant sang the "Crookit Bawbee," and in response to an encore gave "When ye gang awa, Jamie." After a vote of thanks being tendered to the friends who furnished the programme, the evening was brought to a close by singing the doxology.

THE Rev. Dr. Jardine, of Prince Albert, has forwarded for publication the following card of thanks: Having about accomplished the work committed to me by the General Assembly, I desire, through THE CANADA PRESBYTERIAN, to express cordial thanks to many kind friends who have assisted me in my undertaking. In many a hospitable mansion I have been most kindly entertained; from many a minister and elder of the Church I have received hearty sympathy and encouragement; and the numerous friends who have given of their means to establish the Nisbet Academy of Prince Albert have done so in a spirit and with a heartiness which shows that the future interest of Presbyterianism and Protestantism in our Dominion will find brave supporters in time of need. If the congregations which have yet to respond to my appeal do so with a reasonable degree of liberality, I feel assured that we shall be able to start this new institution of the Church under favourable auspices and without the encumbrance of debt. The people of Prince Albert will be rejoiced and encouraged when I report to them the manner and spirit in which this cause has been sustained. And I earnestly hope that, in connection with this academy, we shall be able to do work which will be a help to the onward progress of our Church in the Saskatchewan, and a blessing to the town and district in which it is situated.

THE anniversary services of St. Andrew's Church, Huntingdon, Quebec, were conducted on Sabbath, 4th March, by Principal MacVicar, D.D., who preached two admirable sermons on the occasion. In the morning from Gal. vi. 2, "Bear ye one another's burdens; and in the evening, from Gen. xxi. 1, "And it came to pass, after these things, that God did tempt Abraham." The attendance of members of the congregation in the morning was good. Owing to the giving up of their evening services by two of the ministers of other churches in the place, the attendance was unusually large. The Rev. Mr. Spaulding (Methodist) led in prayer, and the Rev. Mr. Watson (Presbyterian) read the lesson, there being, in all, five ministers present. In connection with the above, the ladies of the congregation held a social in the M. H. Hall on the evening of the 5th, which was largely attended. After an excellent tea, the meeting was called to order by the Rev. J. B. Muir, M.A., pastor of the church. In his introductory remarks Mr. Muir mentioned that at fourteen years had now elapsed since he preached his first sermon in Huntingdon. He also stated that within the past year twenty-five additions had been made to the membership of the church, thirty-eight baptisms and eight marriages had been performed and nine deaths had occurred. The programme, which was a varied and good one, consisted of vocal and instrumental music, readings and addresses. Miss Cameron presided at the piano, and acquitted herself to the satisfaction of all present. The programme, with one exception, were young people of the congregation. The readers were Rev. Messrs. Spaulding and Kewat. The addresses were delivered by Rev. Messrs. G. Mery, Watson and MacCannan. The social was in every respect a decided success.

THE anniversary services in connection with the Egmondville Presbyterian Church were held on Sabbath week. The sermons were preached by Rev. Dr. Bittly, of Chatham. The congregation were large both in the forenoon and evening, on both occasions the church being filled. All were highly pleased with the services, the sermons being earnest, practical and instructive. Dr. Bittly is not what might be termed a showy preacher, but he is one who will wear. He has a fluent, deliberate delivery and is eminently practical, while he gives one the feeling that he is intensely, in earnest and fees and believes every word he says. His discourses on Sabbath were of a high order, and were well calculated to have a lasting and beneficial impression. The tea meeting on the following Monday evening was, as usual, successful, although the attendance was scarcely equal to some former years, but in every other respect it was fully up to the mark. The tables, which were spread in the basement, were bountifully provided with the best the land could afford, and the spread was a credit to those who got it up. The chair was taken in the audience room at the appointed hour by the pastor, Rev. Joseph McCloy, and it is needless to say he performed the duties with untiring skill and ability. Mr. McCloy enters upon the tenth year of his pastorate in this congregation, and the success which has attended his ministry must be encouraging to himself and satisfactory and beneficial to his people. Short but pointed and useful addresses were delivered by Rev. Messrs. Simpson, of Brucefield; Musgrave, of McKillop, Martin, of Exeter, Howell and McDonald, of Seabrook, and Dr. Bittly. A choir under the leadership of Mr. St. Johnston gave several nice musical selections in a manner that showed good musical ability on the part of the several members and careful training by the leader. The proceeds of the Sabbath collections and the tea meeting amounted to something over \$130.

AT the annual meeting of First Presbyterian Church, London, lately, after devotional exercises by the pastor, Rev. Dr. Proudfoot, Mr. D. Campbell took the chair, Mr. J. I. Anderson officiating as secretary. The pastor's statement showed that he had made 350 calls in the year; twenty-nine had been received into the church fellowship; three had removed from the city and six had died. The Mission Committee's report by Mr. N. T. Wilson showed large subscription increases and the formation of two new

societies for church work; missionary contributions, \$90.43; total church contributions, \$4,147.43; running expenses, church and Sabbath school, about \$2,400; receipts from all sources about \$4,200. Mr. W. Hamilton reported for the Literary and Musical Society, and Mr. John Anderson for the Board of Managers. The latter congratulated the congregation on the continued success of the weekly voluntary system of giving, introduced in 1885. Number of contributors, 120; amount raised, \$2,825.42; being \$39 more than in 1885, though the number of contributors was ten less. Average raised per member, \$18.84; per family, \$34. Church debt has been reduced by \$600, leaving a net \$1,700. Christian activity and success was reported in all departments. The reports were adopted, and a vote of thanks passed to the choir for its efficient and gratuitous services. The managers were empowered to ascertain the cost of frescoing, carpeting and re-seating the church, and report to a special meeting of the congregation. Managers were elected as follows: Messrs. R. Reid, sen., A. M. Hamilton, J. Anderson, J. H. Fraser, M. D. Fraser, George M. Reid, A. Sharp, H. Bapty, A. Smibert, A. Houston, H. M. Elliott, N. T. Wilson and W. J. Craig. Mission Committee: Messdames J. B. Elliott, R. Reid, George M. Reid and Pattullo; Messrs. Fraser, Robb, J. Wilson, Fleming, Ferguson and Mills; Mr. J. Baime and Mr. N. T. Wilson, convener.

THE fifth annual meeting of the Woman's Foreign Mission Presbyterian Society of Lanark and Renfrew was held in St. Andrew's Church, Smith's Falls, a short time since. The attendance was very large, there being delegates and friends present from Pembroke, Arnprior, Carleton Place, Castletown, Ramsay, Pakenham, White Lake, Renfrew, Baidersson, Oliver's Ferry, Perth and Ottawa. In the absence of the president, Mrs. McKenzie, of Almonte, Mrs. Robertson, first vice-president, presided, who opened the meeting with devotional exercises, assisted by Mrs. Neilson, of Arnprior, Mrs. McDonald, of Perth, and Mrs. Pearce, of Almonte. After the opening services, an address of welcome was read by Mrs. F. T. Frost, and replied to by Mrs. Scott, of Carleton Place, and Mrs. Irving, of Pembroke. The president's address was read by Mrs. Robertson. In the absence of Mrs. Farrell, secretary, the reports of the secretary and treasurer were read by the treasurer, Miss Stark. The reports were very gratifying, showing a decided increase both in membership and contributions. During the year thirteen Auxiliaries and five Mission Bands have been organized, making a total in the Presbytery of twenty-eight Auxiliaries and fifteen Mission Bands, there being only two congregations in the Presbytery not represented. The contributions amounted to \$2,175.34, being an increase of \$400 over last year. The following officers were elected: Mrs. Neilson, Arnprior, president; Mrs. F. T. Frost, Smith's Falls, first vice-president; Mrs. McLean, Arnprior, second vice-president; Miss Russell, Arnprior, corresponding secretary; Miss Sewall, Renfrew, recording secretary; Miss Stark, Carleton Place, treasurer. Mrs. Farrell was appointed delegate to the annual meeting of the General Society to be held in Guelph. A vote of thanks to the ladies of Smith's Falls for their hospitality, was then moved by Mrs. Irving, of Pembroke, and seconded by Mrs. S. M. Hunter, and the meeting was brought to a close with singing and prayer.

THE able Nova Scotia Presbyterian evangelist, William Meikle, has held a series of special evangelistic services at Ottawa lasting over seven weeks. These services were held under the auspices of the Presbytery of Ottawa, and were opened in Knox Church on Sunday, 8th January, and continued the following week. Then a week each in Back Street, St. Andrew's and St. Paul's Churches, after which all the meetings were held in Knox Church, which was crowded every night for over three weeks with audiences of from 1,500 to 2,000 people, several hundred being unable to gain admittance on many nights. Services of this kind are entirely new to Ottawa Presbyterians, it being about seventeen years since any special meetings were held. There was naturally a certain amount of prejudice to overcome, and William Meikle overcame it. His discourses are, to a large extent, Bible readings, and he is certainly one of the most gifted and versatile minds in Canada, presenting the Gospel in the most simple, powerful, and convincing manner. His power with the young men is something remarkable, and hundreds in Ottawa will ever remember his visit in connection with the opening of their Christian career. Every Sunday afternoon, Mr. Meikle held "meetings for men only" in the Opera House, having crowded audiences. By this means he reached hundreds of men who hardly ever see the inside of a church, and scores stood up every Sunday to be prayed for. The closing service Tuesday evening week in Knox Church was a most memorable occasion. Ottawa Presbyterians never saw such a meeting before, the commodious Knox Church was unable to hold the multitude. Living testimony to the blessings God had bestowed on Ottawa through Mr. Meikle's instrumentalities were given by Rev. W. Moore, D.D., and W. D. Armstrong, Ph.D., and Rev. Messrs. Clark, Whyte, Whillans, Farries and Wood, after which the evangelist delivered a touching and effective address, especially to the new converts. Our churches have been greatly and truly revived, and a deep and spiritual interest is felt in our city. Rev. H. M. Scott, of Manotick, greatly assisted at the meetings in the service of song. The young men presented Mr. Meikle with a handsome gold watch, and a well filled purse for Mr. Meikle, as a substantial token of their esteem. He left Ottawa on Wednesday, and is conducting services in St. Andrew's Church, London.

PRESBYTERY OF LANARK AND RENFREW.—This Presbytery met at Union Church, Smith's Falls, Monday week, and sat until noon Wednesday. Nineteen ministers and twelve elders were present. Rev. R. McNab, of Beachburg, was elected Moderator for the ensuing six months. A minute was made of the death of Dr. McFarlane, of Almonte, a member of the Presbytery. Missionaries were appointed to the fields in the bounds of the Presbytery, and an application for aid from the mission board received at