

Ministers and Churches.

Ottawa.

The Ottawa Presbytery met on Tuesday in the Aylmer church with a somewhat smaller attendance than usual at the opening session. Rev. Wm. Patterson, of Buckingham, moderator, presided. The Presbytery received and accepted the resignations of Rev. J. T. Lochead, North Gower, and Rev. A. Logan, Chelsea. Mr. Lochead is retiring from the ministry after a long and faithful service and Mr. Logan who has for some years occupied the pastorate of Chelsea and Cantley is contemplating a change in his field of labor. He has been a popular and successful pastor and a preacher of exceptional ability. A call was extended to Rev. Mr. Rondeau by the congregation at Portage du Fort, which was submitted to and ratified by the Presbytery. Mr. Rondeau is a recent graduate of the Presbyterian College, Montreal. The ordination and induction service will be held on July 21st at Shawville at 2.30 p.m. Rev. Mr. Patterson will preside, Rev. Mr. Purvis of Bryson, will preach and Rev. Mr. Reddon of Coulonge, will address the minister and Mr. J. A. McMillan the people. A committee was appointed to confer with the Methodist committee with a view to arranging so that the work at Fitzroy and Galetta would devolve on one denomination only. The population is so small that two churches cannot be supported. Rev. Dr. Armstrong brought to the attention of the Presbytery, the matter of assisting the Ottawa Ladies' College. The college, he said, should be made the best in Canada. The responsibility of the Presbytery was great in this matter and was increasing by reason of the \$5,000 grant from the Century Fund of the church. Two new teachers have been appointed. They are Miss Katherine Wisdom, of Royal Victoria College, St. John, N.B., and Miss Ethel Airth, a graduate of the Ottawa Normal School. Permission was granted Stewarton church to mortgage the building for \$5,000. Five years ago the church was mortgaged for \$7,500, of which amount \$2,500 has been paid. A committee composed of Revs. Taylor and Gamble was appointed to visit the French mission station at Mashom and all French visiting committees in September. The Home Mission Committee through Rev. Dr. Armstrong, reported that the services of Mr. W. Akitt had not been satisfactory to many and recommended that it would be wise to collect no more on his salary. The report was adopted. A standing committee on special services, composed of Revs. M. H. Scott, Mitchell, Milne, Ramsay, Morrison and Taylor and Messrs. J. R. Reid, Pattison and J. MacMillan, was appointed. Rev. Mr. Scott deplored the falling off in conversions and thought there was the greatest need for special services. The delegates to the General Assembly, Rev. Dr. Herridge, Rev. Dr. Armstrong, Rev. N. A. McLeod, Rev. J. W. H. Milne and the moderator, Rev. W. Patterson, presented comprehensive and carefully prepared reports of the proceedings of the Assembly. It had been one of the most successful ever held in Canada. The delegates were entertained at luncheon and again at tea at the residence of Mr. W. McLean.

Toronto Notes.

The convalescence of Rev. Principal Caven is one of the happy events of last week. His numerous friends throughout the church rejoice at his recovery.

Rev. Dr. G. M. Milligan, of Old St. Andrew's, left for Montreal last week, after resting for a few days in western Ontario. Dr. Milligan sailed for Glasgow on Thursday, and will preach at the morning service in Glasgow Cathedral on the 26th, Dr. Milligan having preached there once every year since 1896. He expects to return in September.

At the meeting of the Toronto Presbytery a call to Rev. L. Perrin of Georgetown to Wroxeter was considered. The Presbytery will hold a special meeting on July 21st at 10 o'clock in Knox church, Toronto, to deal with the matter. Rev. K. W. Barton, who stood highest in his class at Knox College, was licensed to preach by the Presbytery. Mr. Barton will supply for a few months in Zion church, Brantford, and Chalmers church, Guelph, and will then go to Scotland and Germany to further pursue his studies.

"In memory of Rev. John Mutch, B.A., first pastor of Chalmers' church. Born in Montrose, Scotland, Dec. 16, 1853, ordained to the ministry Sept. 25, 1883, departed this life March 13, 1896.

For we preach not ourselves, but Christ Jesus our Lord and ourselves, your servants, for His sake." A handsome bronze tablet, bearing the above inscription, was unveiled in Chalmers' church last week, in the presence of a large number of the congregation. Rev. G. F. Davey, pastor of the church, officiated, and after a few preliminary remarks introduced Mr. D. D. Christie, of Guelph, who told of the history of the church. It was just 20 years ago that Mr. Mutch took charge of the church, which was then in Brockton. Upon the growth of the congregation the church was removed to its present site. Four years after Mr. Mutch took charge the first annual report was presented, which showed a membership of 201 and an offering of \$2,215. On Nov. 14, 1887, the congregation had grown to 340, and a new building was erected. The congregation grew until in 1890 there were 1,240 members. Rev. Prof. McLaren, B.A., Rev. J. A. Grant, of Richmond Hill; Capt. Ewer, representing the session, and Mr. J. R. Colborne, on behalf of the Board of Managers, all spoke on the life of the deceased minister, in the very highest and most praiseworthy terms.

During several days of last week the Summer School at Knox College, designed for the instruction of all Presbyterians interested in Sabbath School, missionary, and young people's work, has been going on. While the attendance has not been remarkably large, much good work has been done. On Tuesday morning the speakers were Rev. J. A. Turnbull, of Toronto, Rev. Prof. W. C. Murray, of Dalhousie University, Halifax; and Rev. Dr. MacTavish, of Toronto. The first dealing with Bible Study, the second with Child mind and Teaching, and Dr. MacTavish with "The Bible and Missions." Mr. Turnbull used a series of maps, and his treatment of his subject was most suggestive and interesting. He urged on his hearers the utility of the true higher criticism. By acquiring a knowledge of the historical position of each book of the Old Testament by studying the geography of the scripture, all could become higher critics. At the same time he urged on his hearers that they should take the Bible as it appeared, on its own broad basis. Dealing with the geographical position of Palestine, he pointed out that in the early days of Israel there had been on either side of it the vastly wealthy empires of Egypt and Babylon. The dissolution of these empires showed that wealth could not save man. Then the great Grecian Empire had arisen near at hand, replete with all the intellectual refinements of art and philosophy. Yet these were not sufficient, and it had come to a speedy end. Then arose the great Roman empire, with its reign of law, which had given the world the statutes that still lived. But law and system could not save man, and that empire had perished. Coming to our own age, he found it an age of invention and science. Men were to-day trying to solve human problems by purely human aids, but in our age it would also be found that the only source of grace was the Cross of Calvary. Prof. Murray in the course of his brief remarks, said: It was not right to entrust all religious education to the Sunday School; the home, the day school and social conditions were influences of overwhelming strength. Nor were external regulations sufficient; the stimulation of ideas was the thing. Ideas ruled the world. Palestine, smaller by a fraction than Old Ontario, occupied a larger place in the minds of men than any other portion of the earth because it had given a message to the world. The girl of eighteen teaching in a country school house, could do more toward character than all the politicians of the day. The aim of the teacher should be to get at the mind of the boy, to look beneath the surface, to attempt, as it were, the impossible. He would hereafter try to trace the mental growth of the boy from childhood to manhood, and to show how the work of the teacher should be moulded to the needs and capacities of his pupils.

Rev. Dr. MacTavish, in speaking on "The Bible and Missions," showed from the Scripture how the Israelites had been called to be missionaries to all the nations, how they had been unfaithful to their call, and how the duty had been transferred to the Gentiles. He also dwelt on the individual calls to mission service and the duty of giving to missionaries, citing scripture to show that every man was but the steward of his own wealth. Finally, he dwelt on prayer for the success of missions as a definite Christian duty.

On Wednesday Rev. Mr. Turnbull, in continuing his series of Bible studies, took up the demand for a king by the Israelites and the elevation of Saul. He pointed out that this demand for a king originated from its own

failures. It indicated an inward desire to be like other nations. It meant a rejection of God. God had revealed Himself to Abraham as a friend; to the Israelites in idolatrous Egypt as the one true God; to the nation as the king of kings; to the people journeying toward the promised land (in a vision of Joshua) as the captain of the hosts of the Lord. The demand for a king was therefore a rejection of God in all these aspects. God had granted their request, but in anger, and a curse had rested on the Israelites for all the rest of their days until it ended in captivity.

Rev. Charles H. Vessot, who is one of the Board of Evangelization of the Presbyterian church at Montreal, gave an account of the French-Canadian missions in Quebec. He dealt with their private life, showing them to be good husbands and fathers, and with their social life, showing them to be very fond of social intercourse and simple pleasures. Dealing with their intellectual and religious life, he was willing to admit that Romanism contained some truth, but held that many superstitions were perpetuated by it, especially among the mass of the people. He dwelt at length on the need of education; the Quebec system he said, was very inferior, and the result was a lack of initiative which had kept his people in a backward state. He said the Board in charge of the work had eighty-five preachings stations, covering forty counties in Quebec. There were thirty-one missionaries in all, eleven of whom preached in both French and English. He claimed that proselytes from Catholicism were looked up to because of their superior education, and were no longer persecuted.

At the evening session, Rev. E. A. Henry, of Knox church, Hamilton, discussed under the title "The Home Church—the Duty of the Hour," Christian work in the West. He spoke of the development there and said it would tax the energy and ability of the church to the utmost to plant the cross in every settlement as soon as it was formed. If the church did not Christianize the foreigners, he feared that they would de-Christianize Canada. What was needed was a conviction that God had called Canada to do a special work. He was strongly opposed to overlapping among the churches in the work to be done. With the pressing needs that existed it was an actual sin. In conclusion, Mr. Henry paid a most appropriate tribute to the late Rev. Dr. Robertson, so long superintendent of the Northwest missions.

Rev. J. A. Macdonald followed with an address on the famous missionary, McKay of Formosa, and his message to the church. His message was that Christianity was neither a philosophy nor a dogma, but a life to be lived. Its power was the power of a divine personality. Every convert must become an evangelist in the rational, not the magical, sense, and the head of evangelized society was Christ.

In addition to the above, addresses were delivered by Mr. Frank W. Yeigh, on a personally conducted historical trip around the world; Rev. Chas. A. Webster, on Palestine; and Rev. E. D. MacLaren, D.D., on "Home Missions." He claimed that one constant aim should be to build up a religious nationality. The men needed for the work were men of piety, first of all, but this was not sufficient of itself, they must be men of large ideas, broad sympathies, tact, and common sense.

Montreal.

During the absence of Rev. Mr. Anderson, who has been at the General Assembly, the Beauharnois Church is in charge of the Rev. C. H. Gordon-Smith, of Montreal, who has been rendering most efficient services to the congregation.

During July the congregation of the American Presbyterian Church, will join in the services of Erskine Church. During August Erskine Church will be closed and the congregation will attend the American Presbyterian Church. Rev. Dr. Mowat will officiate at Erskine and Rev. Prof. Ross at the American Presbyterian.

Last Saturday the children, besides parents and friends of St. Gile's Church, held their annual picnic at Electric Park, Ahantsic, when, notwithstanding the great heat a very pleasant time was spent by all present.

The annual garden party of the Norwood Presbyterians at Ahantsic last Thursday evening was greatly enjoyed by the large number who attended.