

Ministers and Churches.

OUR TORONTO LETTER.

Some of the Eastern brethren have lingered with us, and we are glad of it. We should like to see a larger interchange of pupils between our brethren from the sea, and those of our own inland parishes. The strength of the sea air is good for the soul, too, as well as bracing to the body. Could not a more generous interchange be arranged each summer.

We have some, too, from over the sea. Rev. Alex. Brown, of Pollokshields, Glasgow, has been heard, with great pleasure and profit, in more than one of our leading pulpits, and there will be a warmer welcome than ever awaiting him should he return next year. Some of the delegates to the I.O.G.T.I. convention have been spending a week or two with us, and have given their services very generously. We hope they carry away good impressions, as they leave such with us.

The southern shore of Lake Simcoe is becoming a favorite summer resort for the Toronto business man, and for many of our Toronto ministers. It is easy of access, and is at the verge of a beautiful country. The minister of Bloor Street congregation has gone into summer quarters there; so, too, has Dr. Welen, and Dr. Caven will spend a week or two there in July. The Canadian Keswick convention was held there last summer, but we have not heard of it this year as yet.

Some Sabbath school picnics are run for money, some to cultivate sociability, some for the fun of the thing, and some for the benefit of the children. For instance, we read the advertisement of one that was run up into Muskoka—an all-day run—and offered tickets, good for five days. The name Sabbath school picnic was on the bills, but it was surely a misnomer. One other had chartered a boat to cross the lake, to nowhere in particular. We heard another announced—it was not advertised—where the parents and children went to a pretty hill that overlooks the city, and is within easy walking distance of everyone in the congregation. We were curious, and learned that all were invited; there was no charge; provision was made by the congregation for all, and the afternoon was a real treat. It was very old-fashioned, but it was good. That is not always the adjective used to describe the up-to-date picnic.

We presume the mail of the Rev. L. H. Jordan has assumed alarming proportions since Wednesday last. He is the Moderator of the Parkdale Session during the vacancy in Parkdale Presbyterian Church. It would lighten his work considerably if it were known that every communication were read to a committee of two other members of the Presbytery and two members of the Session. While we wait for some measure of reform from the General Assembly, might we not try a little reform on our own account. It would be a relief to the luckless interim Moderator, and would help applicants to preserve their self-respect.

In the new Knox College calendar, just issued, there is an item that should not pass unnoticed. It reads: "The General Assembly in 1898 abolished the preparatory, or Knox College, course, and substituted for it a three years' course in some approved university." The statement might be supplemented by the further note that this was done at the recommendation of the college senate, and that the course is a modified three years' course.

The announcement is significant, inasmuch as other colleges, notably Montreal, where there is a course closely akin to the Knox preparatory course, refused to join in the progressive movement. Knox has gone on alone, and we honor her for it. We hope that she will continue in the van of a progressive movement for a thoroughly trained ministry. Montreal pleads the difficulty she experiences in preparing her French-speaking students for the university course, even in its modified form. We believe she will not find this an insuperable difficulty, and that her answer to the Assembly next year will be that she is willing to follow the lead of her elder sister in the abolition of her preparatory course—at least for all but her French-speaking students.

The publication of the programme for the next post-graduate course in the calendar of Knox College is an excellent idea. And it is good programme. It will sharpen the intellectual appetite of the alumni as they read it, and should bring together a goodly number of them on the 29th of January next. We have just one criticism, unfortunately not a new one—there are few new names among those who take part.

We note with pleasure the appointment of Mrs. E. Livingstone to the position of superintendent of the Ewart Missionary Training Home in this city. The removal of Mrs. Ross was keenly felt, and the choice of a successor so

worthy of confidence will be received with very general satisfaction. We congratulate the management upon their success in securing Mrs. Livingstone.

Rev. Alex. Brown, of Pollokshaws, Glasgow, preached at St. Andrew's Church, King street, last Sunday.

Officers of St. Andrew's Church have been informed that Rev. Armstrong Black will sail on August 24. His furniture arrived in Toronto on Saturday last.

Rev. Dr. Bruce, principal of St. Andrew's College, preached at St. James Square Presbyterian Church on Sunday in the place of Rev. Louis H. Jordan, who has gone to Cape Breton for a holiday.

Rev. Dr. Morrison, of Halifax, was in the city this week. At the conclusion of the General Assembly Dr. Morrison went to Clifton Springs, where he has been since.

Rev. Wm. Patterson, of Cooke's Church, is attending the Christian Endeavor convention in Detroit. His pulpit was supplied by Rev. T. A. Watson, B.A., late of Alma, Ont., at the morning service, and by Rev. J. A. Macdonald at the evening service.

OTTAWA AND VICINITY.

The teachers of Stewarton Church held their annual picnic on Thursday last.

During the absence of Rev. Mr. Ramsay on his holidays, the pulpit of Knox Church will be occupied by Rev. A. A. Graham, of Petrolia.

The picnic in connection with the Gleebe Church Sunday school took place to Chelsea on Thursday.

The Ladies' Aid of the Gleebe Church will give a lawn social at the residence of Mr. W. Macintosh on Thursday, the 20th inst.

Rev. Dr. Herridge and his family have gone to Prince Edward Island, where, after a visit to friends in Charlottetown, they will go to one of the many pleasant seaside hotels in the island.

Rev. D. M. Ramsay will preach the re-opening service at the Hawkesbury Presbyterian Church next Sunday. Rev. Mr. Bennett, of Hawkesbury, will occupy the pulpit of Knox Church.

Mr. Low, a recent graduate of Queen's College, preached in St. Andrew's Church recently. Mr. Low will occupy the pulpit during the absence of Rev. Dr. Herridge.

Rev. R. Herbison, pastor of Stewarton Presbyterian Church, has left on a three weeks' vacation to Kingston. Rev. George Lowe will conduct the services during Mr. Herbison's absence.

A meeting of the board of managers of the New Edinburgh Presbyterian Church was held on Friday of last week. Mr. J. C. Gordon occupied the chair. The books showed that after the expenses for the quarter were paid there remained a balance on hand of over \$200.

WINNIPEG AND WEST.

Rev. J. Dewar, of Knox College, is in charge of the Presbyterian Church, Moosejaw, for July. The Presbyterian congregation of Berlin, Ont., have extended a call to Rev. A. B. Winchester, missionary to the Chinese at Victoria, B.C.

At Knox Church, Winnipeg, quarterly missionary meeting, Rev. R. G. MacBeth spoke on home missions as discussed at the General Assembly, and Rev. Prof. Hart gave an address on Indian missions.

The Sunday schools of Knox and St. Stephen's Churches, Winnipeg, held their annual picnic to Selkirk, and was a great success, over 700 old and young people participating. The day was a most pleasant one, and everybody thoroughly enjoyed the outing. There was an excellent programme of sports, and field games were played, while many of the picnicers who had taken their bicycles with them, travelled through the country. Selkirk is a favorite resort for picnics, this being the third from Winnipeg within a week.

The addition to the Point Douglas Presbyterian Church is now completed, and the reopening took place on Sunday last. The new part furnishes seating capacity for 100, making the whole now capable of seating altogether 350, with ease. Besides the new addition, the whole church has been repainted outside in silver grey, and the inside redecorated in light green. The services on Sunday were of a specially interesting character, and appropriate to the occasion. Rev. Dr. Wright, of Portage la Prairie, preached both morning and evening, and a special collection was taken in aid of the church finances. A male quartette assisted in the musical part of the service.

LONDON AND VICINITY.

The Pottersburg congregation is about to install an acetylene gas plant.

St. James' Church (late old kirk) has been sold to the Christian Scientist! How are the mighty fallen!

Chalmers' Church Sabbath School held their picnic at Thompson's bush on Monday, July 3rd. A most enjoyable day was spent.

At St. Andrew's Church the Rev. Dr. Johnston is preaching a series of three sermons—(1) Wealth, (2) Wine, (3) Women.

The Rev. E. McL. Smith, of Lucan, occupied the Knox Church pulpit on Sabbath, the 2nd inst.

The Rev. A. J. McGillivray, M.A., of St. James Church, London, has agreed to fill the pulpit of McNab Street Church, Hamilton, two Sabbaths in the month of July.

The Rev. Geo. Gilmore, B.A., has returned from Rossland. He was away from this city five Sabbaths. During his absence his pulpit was supplied by Elders from St. Andrew's Church.

The Rev. Dr. Fletcher, of Hamilton, is to occupy his brother's pulpit at Thames Road four Sabbaths in July. Mr. Fletcher, of Thames Road, is on a trip to Scotland for the benefit of his health. Recent reports are very satisfactory.

The anniversary services of the Granton Presbyterian Church were conducted by the Rev. J. W. Stuart, B.A., of Knox Church, London. The reverend gentleman almost met with a serious accident. His buggy toppled over, and, but for the age and consequent weakness of the traces and other harness, it might have been worse for him. The horse broke away and left Mr. Stuart intact, but the buggy a wreck.

St. Andrew's Church congregation has decided to go on with the erection of the new Sabbath school and church improvements. The expenditure, without furnishings, etc., will be at least \$25,000. The presbytery has sanctioned a mortgage of \$9,000.

The Rev. E. H. Savers, of Westminster, Ont., is resting at Blake, Ont., a quiet rural resort on Lake Huron. The reverend gentleman is considerably run down, but is now gaining strength. He has only taken one public service since March last.

The Westminster churches (North and South) were privileged with the services of the Rev. W. Moffatt, of Chalmers' Church, on Sabbath, the 2nd inst., Elder Armstrong of St. Andrew's Church, taking Mr. Moffatt's place at Chalmers' Church.

The corner stone of the new St. James Church was laid on Monday afternoon, the 10th inst. There was a large attendance of ladies and ministers. Rev. Dr. M. P. Talling came from Toronto to attend the ceremony. The Rev. Dr. Fletcher, of Hamilton, used the silver trowel and the mallet with great skill, and pronounced the stone "well and truly laid" in the name of the Triune God.

The London Presbytery met in Port Stanley on Tuesday, the 11th inst. The usual routine business. The resignation, by the Rev. Geo. Sutherland, D.D., of the presbytery clerkship, was accepted with deep regret. The reverend doctor is recruiting his health in Scotland, and favorable reports have been received. The Rev. D. C. Johnson was appointed his successor.

The Melbourne Presbyterian Church held their annual picnic at Hyndman's Grove Saturday, and it was a big success. Revs. W. J. Clark and J. W. Pedley, of this city, gave short addresses, as also did Rev. Mr. Johnston of North Elfrick, and Rev. Mr. Martin, of Melbourne. The Webster Quartette, city, and the Melbourne Quartette furnished music during the evening. The programme of sports was interesting. Owing to the favorable weather the crowd was a very large one. The proceeds totalled \$125.

EASTERN ONTARIO

The Presbytery of Kingston elected Rev. M. W. MacLean, of St. Andrew's, Belleville, Moderator for the ensuing year.

Rev. D. J. McLean, of Arnprior, preached in the Presbyterian Church, Clayton, on Sunday last, and declared the pulpit vacant.

The Presbyterian congregation at Merrickville has given a unanimous call to Rev. W. M. Foe, of Kingston.

Mr. F. A. Robinson, of Carleton Place, occupied the pulpit in St. Andrew's Church, Almonte, at both services on Sunday, Rev. R. J. Hutcheon, pastor, arrived home this week.

Oedar Hill Presbyterians have decided to level and fence their church grounds, make other improvements that will increase the beauty and utility of their property.