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Toronto June 17, 1897

THE DIAMOND JUBILEE.

The event to which many minds are turned, and which to Britons, is one of the most interesting of the century, will transpire next week, when the sixtieth year since the Queen's coronation will have been completed. In no part of Her



THE PRINCESS VICTORIA, AT THE AGE OF TWO, AND THE DUCHESS OF KENT

Majesty's extensive realm is a deeper interest manifested in the event than in Canada. The centre of attraction is, of course, London. There the celebration will be on a scale of magnificence truly grand. Money will flow like water and the wit of man has been strained to produce pageantry and spectacular display. In Canada there will be pageantry also, as there will throughout the British dependencies, and

if on a proportionately smaller scale, the feeling of loyal thankfulness the demonstrations will represent, will be none the less sincere. Some of our contemporaries complain of the large amount of money spent on mere show, when so many people starve for bread, and when public works, and public benefactions are so greatly needed. It is difficult to defend the large expenditures on business grounds, in face of the poverty and suffering that abound within the Queen's Dominions. While the jubilee gifts would not be sufficient to remove poverty, their value in money would go far to relieve the hard lot of many a deserving, struggling British subject, and the establishment of public institutions would certainly be a more rational thank offering for the Queen's glorious reign, than a splendid procession, with some of the seats from which to look at it costing hundreds of dollars each. The course followed so generally has been adopted not for want of suggestions to do otherwise. For many months columns have been devoted to pointing out ways in which the Diamond Jubilee might worthily be celebrated and as some of the suggestions are still practicable a few of them may be reproduced. One was that all lawful and reasonable debts be paid from a public fund to which the rich would largely contribute. Another was that the farmers receive freehold titles to their farms, the compensation to landlords to be from a similar fund. Both these suggestions involve difficulties which cannot now be well surmounted: but the suggestion that all church debts be paid by voluntary subscriptions is still open, as is also that hospitals should be endowed and that seats of learning should be strengthened and enriched. The thousands of dollars spent by municipalities and private individuals on a day's carnival of exciting celebration would go far to provide many mementoes necessary and useful.

But whatever may be said as to the wisdom of some of the forms of commemorating the jubilee, all will agree that the motives are deep-seated and most laudable. To some these demonstrations are acknowledgements of the manifold blessings enjoyed by mankind during an eventful reign: others are attached to the person of the sovereign who has exemplified in her own life the virtues that grace the cottage and palace, the chair and the throne. Others, again, find the acme of monarchy in Victoria's reign, and there are those who will find expression in the coming parades for the loyalty they yield to rightful authority. Whatever the standpoint, the impulse is good, and the results will be beneficial in many respects.

It is not intended here to enumerate the outstanding features of the "record reign," but the testimony of the Canadian House of Commons to the moral and religious prosperity of our Country is worth repeating. The loyal address sent by Parliament has it: "Not only have none of your illustrious predecessors sat on the throne of our country for so extended a period, but in the history of the nations of the world few monarchs have ruled so long and none have been so universally honored and revered. Looking back across the 60 years which have elapsed since your Majesty's coronation, it is impossible not to be impressed with the immense strides which during that period have been made by the civilized world in all that constitutes the moral, intellectual and

physical well-being of mankind. The Gospel of our Divine Teacher has been preached in the remotest parts of the earth; temperance in all things has become more than at any previous period an accepted rule of human conduct; more adequate provision has been made for suffering humanity; the administration of justice has been placed on a more humane and otherwise satisfactory basis; great advances have been made in science and the arts; and the literature of the Victorian era surpasses that of any former period in breadth of thought and general excellence as well as in volume and popular appreciation." These sentences describe well the experience of Canada in the period concerned and to reign during a time of such prosperity of the highest kind is as unique as it is satisfactory.

THE NEW MODERATOR.

The pride which the Church takes in her moderators is justifiable and desirable. The position or office is important. As the nominal executive head of the Church, her important interests may be favourably influenced by his actions, and as the presiding officer over her General Assembly he maintains the prestige and dignity of her highest legislative body. The Moderator is supposed to reflect in himself more or less the many-sided character of the church. The ministers look to him as an example to be followed and the members as the embodiment of clerical excellence. And the fathers who have occupied the highest seat in the Presbyterian Church in Canada maintain the traditions of the office admirably. It is only necessary to think of the names of past Moderators to see how well the best thought and character of the church have been represented in them. Than Dr. Gordon just retired it would be difficult to name one man combining in himself the better elements of the Canadian ministry. Cultured, dignified, urbane, scholarly, and clear headed, he is a man strong in many parts. Dr. Robertson, Dr. Mackay, Dr. Caven, Dr. Grant and others, whose names are household names in Canada, whose personalities are distinct and outstanding and whose tenures as Moderators have been distinguished by material service to the church, are examples of the care exercised by the General Assembly in making a choice. This year two names were prominent in advance, either of which would have worthily filled a line on the ever growing roll. Dr. Campbell has placed the church under many obligations by his devotion to her interests in one of the great departments of her work and it was quite natural that many friends should have thought the time had come when he and his work should be honored. On the other hand Rev. Dr. Moore has been for many long years prominent in the ministry, as a faithful and beloved pastor, an able preacher and a fine type of the active, successful minister. His election was unanimous and was a graceful tribute to a worthy man. His fitness for the office of Moderator is of course, beyond doubt. He is one of the best fitted men in the Church for the position, and his regime will no doubt be marked with success as has been that of any of his predecessors. We extend to him our hearty congratulations, in which we are safe in saying the Church as a whole cordially joins. Ottawa, the Capital of the Dominion, will be particularly well-pleased that her respected minister has been thus signally honored, and Ottawa deserves the honor through Dr. Moore for Ottawa has been a most loyal field for the Church.

Rev. Dr. Moore was born in Ireland on February 25th, 1838. His parents entered Canada in 1843—the Disruption year—after a brief stay in the United States. They settled at Ingersoll, where the future Moderator was educated. His theological course was taken in

Knox College, which he entered in 1860. He afterwards studied at Princeton, being two years under the teaching of Dr. Charles Hodge. From 1865, he has been in the Canadian ministry, having had several appointments, but since 1866, minister of Bank St. Church, Ottawa. There he has passed an active life, taking part in the founding of the Ladies' College, an institution which owes no small share of its success to him. He has served on many of the Church committees, notable that on Foreign Missions. The degree of D.D. was conferred upon him by the University of Hanover.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION.

We are glad to observe that Rev. Dr. Caven has brought the question of religious education before the General Assembly. The report having reached us too late for our report of the proceedings of the General Assembly we produce the motion here so that it may reach our readers this week. It is a commendable resolution on an all important question:—"The General Assembly, while fully recognizing the fact that the duty of imparting detailed and adequate instructions on the doctrines of the Christian religion devolves primarily and mainly on the parent and the church, yet the church regards it of exceeding importance that all instructions given in our Public Schools should be in harmony with the revealed truth, and that the Bible should have the place in our educational system which its incomparable excellencies and its Divine authority claim for it. In order to assist in giving effect to its convictions, on a matter so vital, the General Assembly appoints a Committee on Public education, whose duty it shall be to act in the name of the church in any of the Provinces of the Dominion in relation to the subject of religious instruction in the Public Schools, and also to co-operate with any Synodical committee of our church or any committee representing any other branch of the church, whose views on this question may be in substantial accord with those of the General Assembly."

CHURCH STATISTICS.

The columns of figures presented by Dr. Torrance may not be inviting to the general reader, yet in the figures piled up are the proofs of the great work being accomplished by the Church. No one is more systematic than the Church statistician, and great clearness as well as conciseness characterize his reports, so that they are easily understood by the average mind. A study of these figures ought to be made by every office-bearer, at least, and by every member who can do so. To be familiar with the whole work of the Church or rather with the tabulated results of the whole work can not fail to help the Church worker in local circles. Not only will inspiration be derived from them, but a knowledge of the facts will give an intelligible basis of work not otherwise secured.

It is gratifying to glean from the statistics that the growth of the Church is gradual and steady, and that the advance is in directions the most interesting and vital in the circle of effort.

AN INDEPENDENT NEGRO CHURCH.

The action of the Southern General Assembly as to an independent Presbyterian church for the colored people is of great interest. The action is not final, but appoints a committee, with the Moderator, Dr. Goetchius, as chairman, to confer with the Presbyteries of colored people, now in connection with the Church. These Presbyteries are themselves not at all unanimous in desiring the separation. The plan of our Church's

work among the colored people anticipates such an independent organization, and it has been only a question of development of their churches and Presbyteries to such a degree of strength as would justify the separation. While this action has been deeply deplored in many quarters as showing the tendency to clerage on color lines, it seems to be inevitable for the feeling against the negro is deep in the Southern breast.

SABBATH LEGISLATION.

It is encouraging to know, says an American Exchange, that the general trend of recent legislation is in favor of the Sabbath. The agitation of the subject in the past few years has done much good. Men who do not observe the Sabbath as a day holy to the Lord seek the preservation of the day of rest as for all the higher and better interests of men. Legislation does not directly recognize the day in its true character as a day of religious worship, but as a day so regarded by a large part of the people, and as necessary for the general welfare of the people. It is undoubtedly true that, with the increase of wealth and luxury, there has been a growing tendency to undervalue and neglect the religious observance of the Lord's day, on the part of many who call themselves Christians, but it is also true that there is a growing demand for the protection of the day of rest. Wage earners recognize its value and claim their right to its enjoyment. Some of the principal associations have so declared, and give their influence for protective legislation. The laws in nearly every state give the day of rest a good measure of protection, and need only to be wisely enforced by the presence of a sound public sentiment. The changes which have been made in the laws are on the lines of greater effectiveness. We advocate the Sabbath as the Lord's holy day given for man, but we are glad of support from every quarter, even if it does not come up to our own standard.

Gift From the Pope. One of the notable gifts in recognition of the celebration of Queen Victoria's long reign is a handsome souvenir from the Pope. This is a somewhat new departure in Papal etiquette; but times have changed. Besides, at this juncture of Papal scheming in Great Britain, it is a good stroke of policy to show special interest and friendliness on this occasion of British jubilation. Moreover, the tribute appears to be founded upon personal esteem. Long ago the Queen excited the Pope's curiosity and admiration. It seems that he is the first occupant of St. Peter's chair who ever met an English sovereign. While he was young and known only as Mgr. Pecci and as a nuncio to the King of Belgium, he made a special journey to London to see Victoria in the glory of her early reign.

Pagan and Roman Intimidation. Rev. John McNeill said to a reporter of the *New York Tribune* that when he held meetings in India last year a man had been converted and publicly professed his faith in Christ. "But in twenty-four hours the man had disappeared as though he had been swallowed up by the earth. His family had spirited him away, and such would have been the fate of others who would have followed his example." This is the case of many Roman Catholics who attend revival meetings, says the *Converted Catholic*, they are converted, but their relatives prevent them from uniting with Protestant churches. In the work of Christ's Mission there have been such cases, even priests who have expressed their loathing for the false doctrines and abominable practices of Rome have been compelled by threats to remain silent. It may be said that such persons lack the heroic quality of asserting their right to declare their honest convictions and to confess Christ before

men; but it is not easy to be heroic when opposition, threats and even danger to life comes from one's own relatives. This has been the experience of a priest who came to Christ's Mission last month and found friends to cheer and encourage him. His relatives had kept him a prisoner for a month before he came to the Mission, and it was with difficulty he escaped from them.

Roses and Graduates. June is the month for roses and graduates. Each bloom in profusion. In a few short weeks the roses will wither and die. Their petals will be blown about with every breath of wind, and the world will have them only in memory until next year. But the graduate comes to stay. Whether the perfume of his life will be sweet as the roses depends largely on the character of the life and training the graduate has received. With his faith in God and the great brotherhood of man firmly rooted in his heart the young scholar, just leaving the academic halls and stepping out where the restless sweep of life's current rushes madly on, should fear nothing. The world has need of just such men as he. On the other hand the man of no faith should beware. He will be buffeted and bruised and torn with no friendly harbor in sight, no help nigh. Faith is a man's ballast through life's voyage. Without it neither rudder nor sail can keep him off the rocks and shoals that line the course of our earthly life.—*E.r.*

Parental Interest in Graduating. What greater satisfaction comes to a father than that felt at the moment when he sees a son graduating from a theological school equipped and eager for the work of the Christian ministry? Our eyes rested the other day on a man who was passing through that experience. At fifteen his boy had said to him, "Father, I want to be a minister." "Well, my son," was the reply, "if that is your wish, though I see no means with which to put you through college and seminary, go ahead and I think the way will open." The lad did so, strained every nerve, met with the assistance which every boy of pluck and ability, bent on noble things, is likely to receive and to-day is possessor of both the collegiate and the seminary diplomas. The father, a plain, everyday man, but warm with enthusiasm in Christian service, and with an enviable record himself as a winner of souls, rejoices hardly less than the young man in obstacles overcome and prizes won. And neither of them is much disturbed by the talk about a superabundance of laborers and a scarcity of fields.—*Congregationalist.*

An Australian's Liberality. It is a pleasure to place before our readers an account of the liberality of a South Australian philanthropist as set forth in the *Presbyterian*: "The 'will' of the late Sir Thomas Elder, of South Australia, is remarkable for the large bequests to educational, philanthropic and religious objects, for the most part in his adopted colony. He was a large giver during his life-time for a great variety of objects, but his bequests far surpass what he himself gave. The University of Adelaide owes more to him than to anyone else. He has done for it what Mr. Challis did for the kindred institution in Sydney. £25,000 is a grand gift to the Picture Gallery. He has remembered Churches of various denominations. Prince Alfred College (Wes) and the Anglican Cathedral get £4,000 each; Chalmers Presbyterian Church (Rev. Dr. Paton), Way College (Bible Christian), Adelaide City Mission and the Y.M.C.I. get £2,000 each. The Presbyterian Church of South Australia gets £6,000. Outside the colony, £1,000 are left to Dr. Barnardo's Homes. To build Workmen's Houses £25,000 have been left. These and others bequests to the amount of £154,000 are all duty free. One cannot but feel that here is a wise use of wealth, and it is to be hoped that such an example will duly influence this and following generations throughout Australia.

GOD SAVE THE QUEEN!

ODE ON THE

Reign of Queen Victoria.

By J. HENRY HARRISON,

Sub Inspector for the English Classes of the Naval Cadet Corps
of St. Petersburg.

When o'er the Anglo-Saxons rang the name
Of Alfred, who the Danish foe defeated;
When ships and commerce added to his fame,
And law and peace were in the land reared;
When the Third Edward led his legions bold
At Creasy; and at Poitiers his great son
Vanquished King John; still more, when heralds told
The frightened world that Agincourt was won;
Then was the fateful race by us for aye begun!

Then Norman unto Saxon was no foe;
Then law, religion, policy, and letters
Took root, though to their height they could not grow,
For civil war long held them in its fetters.
The regal power had still the realm sustained,
And curbed the nobles, curbed by them meanwhile,
Till great Elizabeth Spain's huge fleets disdained,
And saved from Pirates and Rome our sea-girt isle—
God's help and her free people's love her only guile!

And later; when, under another Queen,
Marlborough so many lands and races harried,
England the arbitress of war was seen,
And once again from France the palm was carried.
And then it was the proudest name we gained
Of all names borne by us on history's page;
Great Britain's glory ne'er since then hath waned,
For Scot and Saxon then threw down the gage—
"For rights denied to peace, together war we'll wage!"

On all sides well that pledge hath been redeemed.
The Corsican's ambition found no bar—
To tremble at his ock all Europe seemed,
Till Nelson crushed his pride at Trafalgar;
Till Wellington his eagles failed in Spain
And drove him to an islet of the sea.
And, when to threat mankind he came again,
The same hand hauled the man of destiny;
And, from him, but for England, the world had not been free!

And 'twas the same, through all the struggle long,
That in the end upon the Mogul's throne
Seated our Queen, Empress of Ind. Full strong
Was the White Tsar so many nations own
Their chief, but yet "a thin red line" could break
His phalanxes, and there, as at Lucknow,
The Scot beside the Saxon stood to take
His share of honor and of death; but now
'Tis not alone that war's bloodthirstiness they slake.

Two hundred years, less ten, have passed since we—
The dwellers in Great Britain—have been brothers;
And that our Union hath been blessed we see;
But in that Union shared have also others.
Seven hundred years ago the tie began,
And shall all memory of old wrongs outlast;
Now, Ireland's sons our fleets and armies man;
In senate, guilds, professions found, they fast,
With Scot and Saxon, hold to the glories of the past.

And now; see, from the height of this great reign
Of sixty years—the longest, wisest, best
That England ever knew—to what attain
Our tripled efforts, in our ceaseless quest
Of liberty and progress, peace and trade!
England hath struck to death the serpent vile
Of Slavery, and Ind and Egypt made—
In youth renewed by hope—again to smile.
And peopled half the globe she hath from one small isle!

More than two hundred millions now obey
Our Empress Queen in other lands afar,
Wider than o'er the Macedonian's sway,
Nobler than Rome's is hers—based not on war
For conquest, winning by the arts of peace!
Ask then, the Ryots or the Fellahs,
If they would wish the foreign rule to cease;
Or, the New South Eastern nations, if they mean
To loosen our heart's tie to England and her Queen!

Not they! But why, then, have we so progressed
In war and peace? Why is our ensign hailed
The wide world o'er as sign of ease and rest?
Why hath no colony we sent e'er failed?
And why have factions, awe, and civil strife
Tripartite union bound in one firm whole?

Why? But that law hath ruled the nation's life;
Progress—not revolution—been our goal;
And banished been all wild schemes with shame and misery rife!

For we have had the incalculable boon
Of monarchs strong, not because law was weak,
But in that they obeyed the law: how soon
Would unjust Princes have—like James—to seek
A foreign shelter for despotic ways!
And, above all, we have had the happy chance
That Queen Victoria ruled these latter days!
'Tis she that best hath helped us to advance,
And kings to learn what may their majesty enhance!

With wisdom of the statesman and the chief,
With all their prudence and untiring care;
Their energy and courage—the bright self
From Alfred and the Edwards held; with rare
Fidelity of womanhood and grace,
An ever widening sympathy with all
Her subjects of all classes, and no place
Near her for those that into folly fall;
Her joy and grief to share, on us she'll ever call!

And thus, ensampling all of best we boast,
Our Queen hath linked all hearts unto her own;
Until her name alone on many a coast
Leal ardour will rekindle for the throne.
And hence it is we spare nor cost nor pain
To serve the age's grandest thought—her dream—
Britain, her Colonies to take again
Into her nest—one mighty state—the scheme
That for all time shall crown the glories of Victoria's reign!

OUR QUEEN.

Incidents and Scenes in the Life of Queen Victoria.

EARLY LIFE.

"I will be good!"

Sixty-six years have passed since our beloved Queen uttered these words. She was then a child of twelve, and how that promise has been abundantly realized her people well know. As a constitutional Queen, as woman, wife, and mother, they have watched her career with love and admiration. The nation, which had good cause to grow weary of the folly, extravagance, and moral corruption of those "in high places," has seen with great joy and gladness the sovereignty of a new and prosperous era, whose blameless life, even in the midst of "that fierce light which beats upon a throne" gave no suspicion of calumny.

Truly might the poet say of Queen Victoria—

"Her court was pure; her life serene;
God gave her peace; her land reposed;
A thousand claims to reverence closed
In her as mother wife, and Queen."

On a genial morning in May (the 24th), 1819, Princess Victoria (afterwards Queen of England) first saw the light. Her father, the Duke of Kent, was the fourth son of George III, and was superior to any of his brothers in those qualities which command respect.

The Duchess of Kent, the Queen's much-loved mother, was the youngest daughter of the Duke of Saxe Coburg, and sister of Prince Leopold, afterwards the King of the Belgians.

Thus the little Princess Victoria was greatly favored by God in her parentage.

First among the influences that made our Queen what she now is, must be noted the ceaseless watchful care of her devoted mother. The Duchess of Kent nursed her infant at her own bosom, and attended personally to her bathing and dressing. As the child grew older the little one partook of her meals at a small table beside her mother's, but always of the food prescribed for her. For ten years the Princess never slept out of her mother's room. And all this care of health and physical development was supplemented by the wisest of training as regards the mind. As the mental powers developed they were fully cultivated, and the Princess was ready at the appointed time to enter on the august career which was to be hers in the days to come.

But in speaking of these things we are anticipating the march of events. When six months old the Princess was

taken by her parents to Sidmouth, a picturesque little town on the south coast of Devon; and while there she had her first narrow escape from death. A boy who was shooting in the vicinity of Woolbrook Cottage discharged his gun so close to one of the nursery windows that some panes of glass were broken, and several of the shot passed within an inch or two of the baby's head. It was only an accident, however, and the reckless young sportsman shed copious tears of contrition when brought before the Duke, who lectured him and let him go.

How pale did the Duke think that his own end was so near! A few days after the incident above recorded, on the evening of January the 13th, 1820, he returned home from a long walk in the snow. Prudence would have dictated his removal of his wet clothing, but attracted by the sight of his wee daughter, he stayed to play with her. The delay was fated to bring him to his grave, for the next day severe inflammation of the lungs set in, and on the 23rd January, 1820, he died. The grief of the Duchess was painful to witness, for their marriage had been a genuine love-match, and it was well for her that she had at this time the staunch friendship of Prince Leopold, who was unremitting in his attentions to his royal sister and niece.

And right nobly did the Duchess acquit herself in her trying situation. The child destined to become the monarch of a great empire could hardly have had a more conscientious and loving guardian. For the forty-one years of her long widowhood her only object in life seemed to be to watch over the career of the daughter left in her charge. She trained that daughter in all things that were lovely and of good report, and guided her with loving counsels until he came,

"Wearing the white flower of a blameless life,
A Prince indeed,
Beyond all titles, and a household name
Hereafter through all times, Albert the Good."

Leaving the sad scene of her husband's untimely end, the Duchess and her family were lodged in the old Palace at Kensington. It is not difficult to imagine what the daily routine of life must have been in the old court, but the following outline will be of interest in enabling one to realize more vividly that life.

At eight o'clock the Duchess and her family, having paid their morning tribute of prayer and thanksgiving, partook together of their first social meal, Victoria having her bread-and-milk and fruit put on a little table by her mother's side. After breakfast the little Princess went for an hour's walk or drive with her half-sister, Feodora (a daughter of the Duchess by a former marriage); then came lessons, from ten to twelve; and after that they might amuse themselves with their toys (Feodora had not quite grown out of dolls at that time) or romp about through the suite of rooms which extended round two sides of the Palace. Two o'clock was the Duchess's luncheon time, and the children's dinner hour; and our chronicler is careful to inform us that the latter meal was always extremely plain. After dinner there were more lessons, and then another drive, or perhaps a visit; and later still, if the evening were fine, the whole party would sit out on the lawn under the trees. Then, while her mother dined, the Princess Victoria would take her supper, which, like the rest of her meals, was always laid beside the Duchess, and consisted of the simplest fare; and, after a romp with "Boppy," she would join the party at dessert, when she would probably be made much of by the guests. At nine o'clock she would retire to her bed, "a beautiful little French bed," which was placed beside her mother's.

The Duchess made it a special part in the training of her child to inculcate rigid truthfulness, and very successfully impressed this highly important factor on the budding mind of her daughter. An instance of the Princess's truthfulness, and her aptitude to take in these lessons, may be quoted. One morning the Princess caused her governess some anxiety, and was, indeed, refractory during her lessons. The Duchess coming in, asked the governess, Baroness Lehzen, how the Princess had behaved. The governess replied, "Oh, once she was rather troublesome." Princess Victoria gently touched her arm, and said, "No, Lehzen, *twice*. Don't you remember?"

About this time an event happened which had an important bearing upon the child's future. On the 5th of January, 1827, the Duke of York, the Princess's uncle, was removed by death. There was now only one person between her and the English throne—the Duke of Clarence. The Baroness Lehzen suggested that the time had arrived

when she should be shown her place on the genealogical table, for up to this time, so well guarded had she been, that she was quite ignorant of the grand future awaiting her. A genealogical table was thereupon placed between the leaves of a book much used by the Princess. On opening the book, and observing the additional paper, she said, "I never saw that before." "It was not thought necessary you should, Princess," returned the Baroness. The child had begun to tremble, but said quietly, "I see I am nearer the throne than I thought." "So it is, Madam," answered the Baroness. A pause of some moments ensued, and then the Princess resumed, "Now, many a child would boast, but they don't know the difficulty. There is much splendor, but there is more responsibility." Then she placed her small hand in that of her governess, and earnestly uttered the words which commence our narrative: "I will be good! I understand now why you urged me so much to learn, even Latin. My Aunts Augusta and Mary never did; but you told me Latin is the foundation of English grammar, and of all the elegant expressions, and I learned it as you wished it—but I understand all better now."

The coronation of William the Fourth and Adelaide took place a few weeks later, and the years following were full of wild political tumult. Meanwhile, the future Queen was preparing herself for her high estate, or visiting various parts of England with her mother. In the autumn of the year 1835 they visited their favourite seaside resort, and enjoyed the last holiday together before the daughter was called upon to accept the cares and obligations of royalty. On May 24th, 1837, the Princess reached her eighteenth birthday, and accordingly came of age. The old King was at this time lying ill at Windsor, on a bed from which he was never again to rise, so he could not be present at the grand ball which was given in her honor at St. James's Palace. As time went on the King did not mend, but rather lost strength, and on the 20th of June, 1837, he passed away attended to the last by his faithful consort.

THE YOUNG SOVEREIGN.

The twenty-first of June had just dawned when two distinguished visitors (the Archbishop of Canterbury and the Lord Chamberlain) arrived post haste at the old palace at Kensington, the inmates of which yet slumbered. Their business was of the utmost importance, and would admit of no delay, for they came to tell the Princess that she was now Queen of England. The young maiden came down from her chamber, clad in a loose white nightgown and shawl, her feet in slippers, her hair falling around her shoulders. Her first words on hearing the tidings were addressed to the Archbishop: "I beg your Grace to pray for me!" They knelt down together, and so the new reign that has since been so manifestly blessed of Heaven was begun with prayer at the footstool of the King of kings. To write a letter of loving sympathy to her bereaved aunt, Queen Adelaide, was the next thing. It was directed as usual to "Her Majesty the Queen." On it being gently suggested that it should be directed to "Her Majesty the Queen Dowager," the girl-Queen answered, "I am aware of that, but I will not be the first to remind her of her altered position."

As soon as possible the Queen got away to her mother. In the course of their conversation she remarked, "I can scarcely believe that I am Queen of England, but I suppose I am really so, and in time I shall become accustomed to the change." At her own request she was left for two hours quite alone, and then, strengthened and calm from her retirement, she came to her first council, which had been speedily summoned. Every one has heard how she charmed that assembly of the foremost men in the land with her simple, graceful dignity. Next day she was proclaimed as usual from the window of St. James's Palace.

Surrounded by the customary pageantry, Garter King-at-Arms proclaimed the accession of Queen Alexandrina Victoria to the throne of these realms.

Very soon was the young Queen busy receiving deputations from various people, to express to her their feelings of loyalty and good wishes and the favorable impression of her demeanor deepened. Those who were the nearest to her person were the most struck by the sterling worth of her character.

But fully occupied as she must have been, yet she would let no state or social duties interfere with her religious ones. In the first year of her reign, a certain minister came at a late hour to Windsor one Saturday night. He informed the Queen that he had brought

down some documents of great importance for her inspection, but as they would require to be examined in detail, he would not encroach on Her Majesty's time that night, but would request her attention the next morning.

"To-morrow is Sunday, my lord," said the Queen. "True, your Majesty, but business of the State will not admit of delay." The Queen then consented to look at the papers after church the next morning. The nobleman was somewhat surprised that the subject of the sermon next day turned out to be the duties and obligation of the Christian Sabbath. "How did your lordship like the sermon?" asked the Queen, on their return from church. "Very much indeed, your Majesty," was the reply. "Well, then," said the Queen, "I will not conceal from you that last night I sent the clergyman the text from which he preached; I hope we shall all be improved by the sermon." Sunday passed over without another word being said about the State papers, until at night, when the party was breaking up, the Queen said to the nobleman, "To-morrow morning, my lord, at any hour you please as early as seven, my lord, if you like, we will look into the papers." But the urgency of the matter had strangely abated, and his lordship said he would not think of intruding upon Her Majesty as early as that, and thought nine o'clock would be quite early enough. "No, no, my lord," said the Queen, "as the papers are of importance I should like them to be attended to very early; however, if you wish it to be nine, be it so." Accordingly at nine o'clock next morning the Queen was in readiness to confer with the nobleman about his papers.

MARRIED LIFE.

One of the earliest to congratulate Her Majesty on her accession was the young Prince Albert. While she was still a Princess he had been brought by his father, the Duke of Saxe-Coburg, to pay a visit to his aunt, the Duchess of Kent, and the two cousins, who met for the first time, evinced great friendship for each other, a friendship which grew into love at a second visit of the Prince some years later.

The Royal Wedding took place on the 10th of February, 1840.

Many years have rolled by since the troth of these Royal lovers was plighted, and the boys who followed the bridal pair to the Castle gates are boys no longer. They are old men now, or else are in their graves. But the central object of that day's rejoicings is still with us. The gentle Lady who wielded the sceptre of Britain then still wields it: nor is she less beloved by her people than in the day of her espousals.

Is it not a strange thing that a sovereign so much beloved should have been in danger of the assassin on six occasions during her reign? Yet these attempts on her life were not from hatred, but frequently the acts of madmen, with a morbid desire for notoriety.

Now that she had a husband by her side, the Queen found herself shielded from many worries and vexations which had hitherto tried her. Quiet happiness and contentment marked the even flow of Queen Victoria's married life. The good and wise husband made it his aim in life to be of the greatest possible use to his wife, and lightened all the cares of State by his helpful companionship. The Royal pair were happy in their mutual love, and were gifted with many grand accomplishments. They sang and played together, drew and painted together; and when the duties of State demanded the Queen's time and attention, there by her side was her faithful helper. If ever there was perfect happiness on earth, it was to be found in this Royal home at Windsor.

In March, 1844, the Queen and Prince Albert had their first separation from one another. The old Duke of Coburg had died, and it was necessary for the Prince to go to his Fatherland. We learn how much his helpful presence was missed, and that the Queen acted "as a pattern wife" during his enforced absence. It was about this time that Her Majesty purchased Osborne House, in the Isle of Wight, which became a haven of rest from the oppressive splendor of the Court.

We will briefly span the years which followed.

The year 1851 was rendered notable as the year of the Great Exhibition—that colossal structure erected in

Hyde Park, London, by Sir Joseph Paxton. The exhibition was the idea of Prince Albert, who had fought through bigotry and opposition to attain his end. The Queen naturally took great interest in the enterprise, and was gratified that it was such a triumphant success. She says, speaking of the scene of the opening day:—"It was one that can never be effaced from my memory, and never will be from that of any one who witnessed it."

Two years later the clouds of war were hanging heavily over England. Russia had proved obdurate and obstinate, and defied the Allied Powers, so a long and terrible war ensued.

LIFE AT HOME.

In addition to Osborne House the Queen had another private mansion—Balmoral Castle, situated on a commanding site by the River Dee, in the Highlands. It was purchased by the Prince Consort for £32,000. The old castle is said to have been built by a Highland chief, and at the time of the purchase it was barely more than a hunting-station in the wilds. The Prince razed the old castle to the ground, and had the present building erected. Here at intervals the Queen and her family dwelt year after year, enjoying drives and excursions, and occasionally taking *incognito* journeys of exploration for a considerable distance around. At her Highland home, as elsewhere, the Queen lost no opportunities of making herself acquainted with the people on and around her estate. She delighted to visit the sick poor, carrying with her necessities and little dainties from the Royal kitchen to strengthen them. On occasions like these she put aside her great and high degree, and became the kindly and sympathetic woman, freely talking to them and inviting their confidence.

SHADOW AND SUNSHINE.

The year 1861 was a most unfortunate one for our good Queen: the death of the Duchess of Kent, her devoted mother, in the spring of the year, and of the Prince Consort at the close, mark it as a memorable one with painful distinctness to Her Majesty.

Towards the close of the year the Queen and Prince Albert exerted their pacific influence in the settlement of the "Trent affair"—a difficulty with the United States which, through the policy of Lord Palmerston, would probably have otherwise developed into a war between the two nations. This was the last public service of the good Prince.

The days remaining to complete the year 1861 were indeed sad ones to the Queen, and it seemed for a time as if she were inconsolable. The Christmas came and passed; the spring, too, was over, when the Royal widow revisited her Highland home, for the first time since the death of her beloved husband.

In March, 1863, the fair Alexandra of Denmark came to be the bride of the Queen's eldest son, the Prince of Wales. The Queen warmly welcomed to her heart the fair Danish Princess, who at once became a favorite alike of the Royal Family and the nation. At the wedding the widowed Queen took no part in the proceedings, but sat alone in the Royal pew, looking down upon the ceremony.

Towards the close of 1871 the Queen and her people were closely united in a common anxiety on account of the alarming illness of the Prince of Wales. For many days the Prince was hovering between life and death, devotedly nursed by his wife the Princess of Wales, Princess Alice, and the Duke of Edinburgh. The feeling of the nation was acute as the daily bulletins were issued. Prayers were everywhere offered in churches and chapels on behalf of the illustrious patient and his distressed wife and mother. At length, on the 14th of December—a date which some dreaded as the anniversary of Prince Albert's death—the longed-for improvement began.

Much to the Queen's gratification that magnificent testimony of a nation's gratitude and a Sovereign's love, the Albert Memorial, was erected in Hyde Park, and unveiled by her Majesty in 1876; and the year following, amid much pomp and ceremony, she was proclaimed Empress of India.

In December, 1878, the Queen received a heavy blow in the death of her dear daughter, the Princess

Alice. The people of this country sincerely mourned her, for they had learned to love and admire the Princess for her life of simple and unobtrusive benevolence to those around her.

On the 27th of April, 1832, the Queen's fourth son, the Duke of Albany, was married to the Princess Helen of Waldeck. In March 1834, he had gone to Cannes to avoid our east winds. But a few days had elapsed before news of his death reached this country; he had been seized by an apoplectic fit, from which he never rallied. The remains of the dead Prince were brought to England and buried in the crypt of St. George's Chapel, Windsor.

The early part of the year 1835 brought the terrible news of the fall of Khartoum, and the death of its heroic defender, General Gordon. Her Majesty's sympathy was shown in a letter addressed to Miss Gordon. Her Majesty was presented by Miss Gordon with the well-worn Bible, the constant companion of that prince of men.

Sunshine and shade! The same year that witnessed the death of Gordon witnessed also the marriage of the Queen's youngest daughter, the Princess Beatrice to Prince Henry of Battenberg.

On the 4th of June, 1886, the Colonial and Indian Exhibition was opened by the Queen at South Kensington. The actual promoter of this truly interesting Exhibition was the Prince of Wales, who was thus developing the idea of his father, the Prince Consort.

The year following was an important one in Her Majesty's life, for it marked the completion of fifty years' reign. Great preparations were made to celebrate this Jubilee. The 21st of June was kept as a general holiday throughout the kingdom. Potentates from all parts of the world came to do her honor.

The presents to the Queen in commemoration of the Jubilee exceeded 700; they were exhibited at St. James's Palace and the Bethnal Green Museum, where thousands came to view them. The most interesting of all was the Women's Jubilee Offering—a penny subscription—which reached the sum of £75,000. The greater part of this money was invested in a fund for the benefit of nurses labouring amongst the sick poor.

THE "RECORD" REACHED.

The years following the Jubilee have not been uneventful ones for the Queen. Early in March, 1888, the Emperor William I. of Germany was gathered to his fathers. He was succeeded on the throne by the Crown Prince, the husband of the Princess Royal. But he was not destined to reign long. At the time of his accession he was suffering from a disease which, a few months later, developed alarmingly; and to the great and sincere regret of everyone he passed away. Ever sympathetic, the Queen crossed to Germany to console the sorrowing widow.

The succeeding year (1889) the Queen went to Biarritz in the company of Princess Beatrice. The Count de Rochefoucauld had gallantly placed his beautiful villa at her disposal, with its valuable library and unique collection of fine art books and water-colour drawings.

On her return to England, Her Majesty was the central figure of a large party met to celebrate the wedding of the daughter of the Prince of Wales, Princess Louise, to the Duke of Fife, and testified her hearty approval by her gracious demeanour and evident enjoyment of the festivities.

In little more than two years later the nation was mourning the death of the young Duke of Clarence, the Prince of Wales' eldest son. He had caught a cold while standing at the grave of Prince Victor of Hohenlohe. In spite of every effort of the physicians in charge, pneumonia set in, and on the 14th of January—a fateful day for the Royal house—he lay dead.

At Windsor the Queen entertained a curious visitor in the person of Mrs. Martha Ricks, who was a native of Liberia, and had travelled 35000 miles to see her Majesty. This good old lady had spent the accumulated savings of fifty years—stored for this purpose—in the journey to England, and brought with her a present in the shape of a quilt of beautiful workmanship. Her Majesty was very gracious to the stout-hearted old lady, who went back to her farm in Liberia with delightful recollections of the Sovereign of the greatest empire in the world.

The year 1893 brought two events of importance—the opening of the Imperial Institute, and the marriage of the Duke of York (Prince George of Wales) to Princess May of Teck.

The Queen, a little later, paid a visit to the place

associated with her early youth—Kensington Gardens—there to unveil a statue of herself by her daughter, Princess Louise. A large number of the flower of the land were there to receive her. Her Majesty made a neat little speech after the unveiling, which we append:—"I thank you very heartily for your loyal address, and for the kind wish to commemorate my Jubilee by the erection of a statue of myself on the spot where I was born and lived till my accession. It gives me great pleasure to be here on this occasion, in my dear old home, and to witness the unveiling of this fine statue, so admirably designed and executed by my daughter."

The statue represents the Queen at the time of her accession, and is of marble. It stands upon a pedestal of Portland cement, which bears the following inscription:—

"VICTORIA R.

1837.

In front of the Palace where she was born and where she lived till her Accession, her loyal subjects of Kensington place this statue, the work of her Daughter, to commemorate fifty years of her reign."

The Christmas of 1895 was spent at Osborne, where the Queen, happy in the presence of her children and grandchildren, dispensed seasonable generosity. Alas! that the shadow of death should then be looming so heavily over so much happiness in the Royal house. The new year had just commenced when news arrived that the Prince of Battenberg, who was serving the country of his adoption in West Africa, had succumbed to an attack of fever.

Our narrative draws to a close. On the 24th day of September, 1896, the reign of Her Majesty passed the longest on record—that of her grandfather, George III. Only once had this been exceeded in the history of the world—by Louis XIV. Her beneficent reign of purity has been blessed by the Almighty; for during the sixty years she has sat upon the British throne, prosperity and happiness have been showered upon her people. The Empire of today is proud of their Queen, and what is even more to be desired, she has their affection and respect—she is a Mother of the people! That God may spare her valuable life for many years to come, to occupy the throne and fulfil her duties with the same characteristic dignity, is the earnest prayer of her loyal subjects throughout her extensive dominions!
GOD SAVE THE QUEEN!

THE BIBLE CLASS.

THE MISSION TO THE GENTILES.

(For June 27th.)

BY PHILIP A. NORDELL, D.D.

The lessons of the quarter cover the larger portion of the active work of Paul as an Apostle of Christ; that is, from his conversion to the close of his long ministry at Ephesus during his third missionary journey, or about twenty-two years in all. About ten years of this period may be assigned to his training for his future work, and twelve to the first and second missionary journeys and the work in Ephesus.

PAUL'S CONVERSION AND TRAINING.

Paul's age at his conversion is not known, but it is conjectured to have been about thirty years. At that time he had received the amplest education that the best Jewish schools and the most celebrated Jewish teachers could give him. By education, experience, and natural endowments he was fully qualified for a career of extraordinary distinction as a Rabbi among his people. Yet it will be noticed that when the Lord called him to become a chosen vessel to carry His name to the Gentiles, this wealth of preparation was not considered sufficient. Three years were spent under direct divine tuition in the solitudes of Arabia, and seven years in preliminary evangelistic work in Syria and Cilicia. All this while the heathen world was perishing for lack of the Gospel. Why then this long delay? If God could wait millenniums to prepare a perishing world for the coming of Christ He could easily give a decade to the special preparation of an instrument of world-wide influence such as Paul. God never calls a man to special service in His kingdom without also calling him to acquire all needed preparation for the work. That is a false zeal which under the plea of saving the perishing rushes by short cuts into a ministry which demands the largest qualifications.

PAUL'S WORK AMONG THE GENTILES.

Paul's apostleship was a commission given by the Holy Spirit,

*An Exposition of Lesson 52 in *The Bible Study Union Sunday School Lessons* on "The Three Great Apostles."



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and not by man. The elders of the church laid their hands approvingly on the chosen instrument, but the real motion came from on high. Men can make professional clergymen. God only can make the successful minister.

The missionary policy which Paul adopted at the outset was one that he pursued through the rest of his life. It embraced several leading principles. First, to give his time and strength to those countries whose populations held the promise of the future. He was the Apostle to the Gentiles. These were found in Western Asia as well as in Southern Europe. Souls were as precious in the one place as in the other. But Paul swiftly recognized the fact that the civilizations in Mesopotamia were decaying while those in Italy and Greece were destined to control the world. Hence, other things being equal, a sanctified common sense and an unerring conception of Christianity as a religion destined for the whole world, enabled Paul to see that the swiftest way to insure for Christianity this ultimate victory over the world was to plant it among those nations whose moral, intellectual, and political qualifications gave them a promise of the future. This is not a bad policy to pursue in heathen lands to-day. Secondly, Paul made the prominent Greco-Roman cities, situated in the leading lines of travel and commerce, the centres of his missionary work. The adjacent country could be evangelized from these, as it actually was from Ephesus. In no instance does he appear to have extended his personal work into little towns and villages, nor unto barbarous tribes. Thirdly, in every instance where it was possible he began his work in the synagogue of the Jewish colony in these great centres of population. This was not merely because he considered it his duty to present the Gospel first of all to his own people, but because by so doing he obtained access to the large number of proselytes who had attached themselves to the synagogue, and through them, when this was closed against him, to the still larger mass of Gentiles to whom they might be related by a variety of ties. In this way he established a line of churches in Derbe, Lystra, Iconium, Pisidian Antioch, Philippi, Thessalonica, Beroea, Corinth and Ephesus, the leading cities in the Roman provinces of Galatia, Macedonia, Achaia, and Asia, and made his way from the outskirts toward the very heart of the empire.

During the last few years of these labors Paul wrote a part of that series of letters which has been a priceless legacy to the whole Christian world. Of these the two letters to the church in Thessalonica, relating mainly to his ministry in that place, and to certain questions touching the coming again of Christ, were probably the first. Next in order comes that to the Galatians, called out by the efforts of the Judaizers to bring the Gentile converts under the bondage of the Jewish law. After these comes the first letter to the church in Corinth evoked by the party spirit and by the tendency to relapse into heathen practices, which had shown themselves there.

In all the toils and sufferings which attended Paul's labors during these years he shows himself the untiring, zealous, patient, humble, loving servant of Christ, whom no dangers could appal, and whom no earthly banishments could seduce from his appointed work. During this time he also fought and won the great battle between Christianity and Judaism. That Christianity was transformed from a despised Jewish sect into a great world-religion was, under God, due to the work of Paul.

FOR THE SABBATH SCHOOL

International S. S. Lesson.

LESSON XIII.—REVIEW OF THE QUARTER—JUNE 27.

GOLDEN TEXT—"This Gospel of the Kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations." Matthew xxiv. 14.

REVIEW CHART.—I.—Acts ix. 32-43, "Peter Working Miracles"; II.—Acts x. 30-44, "Conversion of Cornelius"; III.—Acts xi. 19-26, "Gentiles Converted at Antioch"; IV.—Acts vii. 5-17, "Peter delivered from Prison"; V.—Acts xiii. 1-13, "Paul Begins his First Missionary Journey"; VI.—Acts xiii. 26-39, "Paul Preaching to the Jews"; VII.—Acts xiv. 11-22, "Paul Preaching to the Gentiles"; VIII.—Acts xv. 1-6, 22-29, "The Conference at Jerusalem"; IX.—James ii. 14-23, "Christian Faith Leads to Good Works"; X.—James iii. 1-13, "Sins of the Tongue"; XI.—2 Tim. i. 1-7, iii. 14-17, "Paul's Advice to Timothy"; XII.—Rom. xiv. 10-21, "Personal Responsibility"; XIII.—Review.

QUESTIONS.—I. What is the title of the first lesson? Time? Place? Persons mentioned? Golden Text? What miracles did Peter work?

II. What is the title of the second lesson? Time? Place? Persons mentioned? Golden Text? Who was Cornelius? Can you relate the story of his conversion?

III. What is the title of the third lesson? Time? Place? Persons mentioned? Golden Text? By whom was the Gospel first preached in Antioch? Who was sent to inquire about it?

IV. What is the title of the fourth lesson? Time? Place? Persons mentioned? Golden Text? By whom was Peter put in prison? By whom was he delivered?

V. What is the title of the fifth lesson? Time? Place? Persons mentioned? Golden Text? From what place did Paul start upon his first missionary journey? Who went with him?

VI. What is the title of the sixth lesson? Time? Place? Persons mentioned? Golden Text? Where did Paul preach the Gospel to the Jews? With what results?

VII. What is the title of the seventh lesson? Time? Place? Persons mentioned? Golden Text? Where did Paul preach to the Gentiles? How was he treated by them?

VIII. What is the title of the eighth lesson? Time? Place? Persons mentioned? Golden Text? For what purpose was the conference at Jerusalem held? How was the question before the conference decided?

IX. What is the title of the ninth lesson? Time? Place? Persons mentioned? Golden Text? Who was the author of the text of this lesson? What does he show about the relation of faith to good works?

X. What is the title of the tenth lesson? Time? Place? Golden Text? In what way is "the tongue an evil"? How may this evil be controlled?

XI. What is the title of the eleventh lesson? Time? Place? Persons mentioned? Golden Text? What advice did Paul give to Timothy? What does Paul call Timothy?

XII. What is the title of the twelfth lesson? Time? Place? Persons mentioned? Golden Text? Who wrote the Epistle to the Romans? For what are we personally responsible?

CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR.

DAILY READINGS.

First Day—Praise for deliverance. Psalm xxx.

Second Day—A Psalm of Penitence. Psalm xxxii.

Third Day—"He Careth for Thee." Psalm xxxiv.

Fourth Day—Under God's Wings. Psalm xxxvi.

Fifth Day—Fret not Thyself. Psalm xxxvii.

Sixth Day—Waiting for God. Psalm xl.

PRAYER MEETING TOPIC, JUNE 27—HOW TO GET PATIENCE, AND WHY.—Jas. v. 7-20.

PATIENCE.

Patience, accomplish thy labor; accomplish thy work of affection, Sorrow and silence are strong, and patient endurance is Godlike, Therefore accomplish thy labor of love, till the heart is made God-like,
Purified, strengthened, perfected, and rendered more worthy of heaven!

LONGFELLOW.

"Patience is bitter, but the fruit is sweet."

"The greatest and sublimest power is often simple patience."

"He surely is most in want of another's patience, who has none of his own."

"Patient waiting is often the highest way of doing God's way."

Exercising patience in hours of severe conflict and cleaving to the Lord with full purpose of heart, not only renders our trials comparatively easy, but it is the surest way to obtain a speedy relief. God will cause peace and joy to take the place of sorrow in the heart of a person who endures patiently.

PATIENCE OF HOPE.

The hope of salvation supports the soul in the greatest afflictions. The Christian's patience is, as it were, his back, on which he bears his burdens; and some afflictions are so heavy that he needs a broad one to carry them well. But if hope lay not the pillow of the promise between his back and his burden, the least cross will prove insupportable; therefore, it is called the "Patience of Hope."

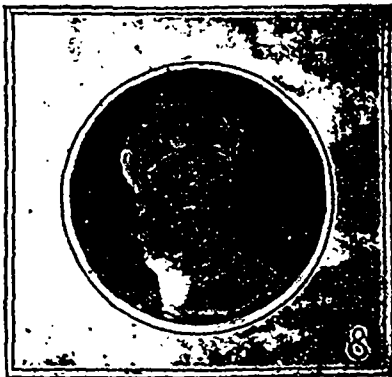
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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

Election of Moderator—Rev. Dr. Moore Chosen—
—Appointment of Committee's—Receptions
—Overtures, Resolutions and Reports Con-
sidered—Public Interest Manifested in the
Proceedings.

WINNIPEG, JUNE 14TH, 1897.

As had been expected great interest is shown by the citizens in the General Assembly—in the Commissioners and in the proceedings.



REV. WM MOORE, D.D., OTTAWA.

The citizens excel each other in hospitality and nothing could be more gratifying to the visitors than the warmth of the reception given to them publicly and in the homes where they have been billeted.

St. Andrew's church was crowded on the opening night when Professor Gordon, the retiring Moderator delivered his admirable sermon—admirable as to matter as well as to manner of delivery.

Then came the pleasing duty of electing the Moderator. The nomination was made by Revs. Dr. King and Mr. Herridge and the nominee was Rev. Dr. Moore, Ottawa. The election was unanimous. Rev. Principal King remarked that he hoped Dr. Campbell, whose name had been mentioned in connection with the Moderatorship, would be elected next year.

Rev. Dr. Gordon read letters from the British Secretary of State for the Colonies and from the Governor-General acknowledging the receipt of the loyal resolution and a resolution of the Assembly last year respecting affairs in America. A communication from the Governor-General was also read asking the Assembly to consider the appropriateness of a public thanksgiving on Sunday, June 20th, the anniversary of the Queen's ascending the throne.

A resolution was passed recognizing the ability and urbanity of the late Moderator.

FRIDAY.

On Friday the Rev. Dr. Moore presided. He named the following as the Committee on the Loyal Addresses to the Queen and the Governor-General:—Rev. Dr. Gordon, Rev. Dr. King, Rev. W. T. Herridge, Messrs. John McIntyre and Robert McBeath, Winnipeg.

Rev. Dr. Warden read the following list of applications, which were taken up individually and referred to the proper committees:—Applications for leave to receive ministers—Presbytery of Halifax, W. P. Logan and W. S. Whittier; Presbytery of Montreal, David Down and Alfred Logan; Presbytery of Lanark and Renfrow, R. Harkness; Presbytery of Brockville, Alfred Fitzpatrick; Presbytery of Peterboro', R. McKnight; Presbytery of Barrie, W. T. Noble; Presbytery of Guolph, David Anderson and B. W. Williams; Presbytery of Algoma, B. K. Boshgetoon; Presbytery of Hamilton, E. Snyder; Presbytery of Paris, P. A. Tinkham; Presbytery of London, Robt. Adams; Presbytery of Glenboro', N. S. Stevenson; Presbytery of Winnipeg, H. J. Gunn; Presbytery of St. John, C. W. Irwin. Applications for students—Presbytery of Montreal, A. S. MacLean; Presbytery of Toronto, J. G. Reid; Presbytery of Regina, Hugh Matheson and Neil Gilmore.

The reports of the various colleges were presented and adopted, complimentary addresses having been made in their support.

Rev. Dr. Cochran presented the report of Brantford Ladies' College. The attendance had been exceedingly fair, notwithstanding depression in trade. There had been 100 pupils, and fourteen students would graduate. The speaker dwelt upon the efficiency of the teaching staff. This was the oldest ladies' college; it had not asked a single dollar from the Church, and the people of Brantford had paid out for it \$50,000. It had graduates in Winnipeg, Brandon, Vancouver and Victoria.

Rev. Dr. Gordon made a motion that the report be received and adopted, and that the General Assembly express gratification at the high standing of scholarship that has characterized the college from its inception twenty-three years ago, and at the aim of the directors to make it increasingly worthy of the Church.

Dr. Thompson seconded the motion, speaking of the education in the college as of the highest kind.

At the evening session of the Assembly Rev. Mr. Gandier read a report of the Home Mission Committee, eastern section, and moved that the report be adopted. The motion was seconded by Rev. Mr. Bowman and carried.

Rev. Wm. Cochran followed with the report of the western section. In speaking of the progress of the Presbyterian religion in the Northwest he stated that in 1893 the Assembly consisted of five ministers, and that now it numbered 470.

Dr. Warden moved that the report be adopted. This was seconded by Rev. Mr. Gordon and carried.

Messrs. D. G. McQueen of Edmonton and Higginbotham of Lethbridge followed with remarks on missionary work in the Northwest.

Rev. Thomas Eaton, Kettle River, B.C., gave an interesting account of some of his experiences in the early days.

Mr. McKillop of Lethbridge was the last speaker of the evening, dealing briefly with missionary work in British Columbia and the Mormon settlement in Canada.

SATURDAY.

The report on Statistics was presented by Rev. Dr. Torrance, it contained interesting information in regard to the condition of the Church in Canada and concluded with the following summary comparison:—The number of churches or stations in the former year was 2,432 and in the latter 2,412, giving twenty of an increase; of sittings 646,506, increase 25,784; of families 102,213, increase 5,632; of single persons 27,884, increase 675; of communicants 196,404, increase 8,224. Additions during year on profession, 12,075, which was 27 fewer than the previous year; and on certificate 7,015, being 584 fewer. Removals by death, 2,711, or 12 of an increase; by certificate, 6,406, increase 146; without certificate, 3,263, an increase of 99; and by discipline 95; which was 67 fewer than the preceding year; 10,519 increase of 134, were baptized, and 1,318 adults, and increase of 12. There was an increase of 165 in the eldership, making the number 6,907, which gives an average of less than 3 to each church, and allowing about 15 families and 29 communicants to each elder. The other office-bearers were 10,790 an increase of 244. The number attending the weekly prayer-meeting was 64,428, increase \$57, and this, divided by the number of churches, gives an average attendance for each of about 27.

In Sabbath Schools and Bible Classes there were 156,104, which shows 3,040 of an increase; in those engaged caring for these, 18,078, an increase of 168. Each has an average of between 8 and 9.

In missionary associations, 355, there was an increase of 21, and of Woman's Foreign Mission Societies, 752, also of 21.

In 1896 there were 872 Christian Endeavor and 170 Young People's and other organizations, with a membership of 35,803; in 1895 there were 667 such societies, an increase of 205.

On the financial part of the report there was an increase of over \$30,000 in the year for stipends and a total increase all round. Of the eleven schemes of the church there was an increase in eight of these and a small decrease of about \$4,000 in three funds. The Young People Societies' givings to home missions are put into the report for the first time. Considering all the Schemes of the Church and deducting the amount of the decreases in the three funds there was a total increase of about \$8,000. Dr. Torrance reviewed the work since 1861, showing the steady increase in all lines, which was cause for gratitude. The Dominion census of 1891, just published, showed 190,000 more Presbyterians than the Church reports showed. He went over this, showing the reasons for it in incomplete returns, etc. Since the Union in 1875 the total amounts raised by the Presbyterian Church in Canada amounted to over \$3,500,000. It was impossible to find out all the liberality of the Presbyterians of Canada, as many of their gifts, as in the case of the India famine fund, were made through undenominational channels. The report was adopted and a resolution passed regarding the compilation of more correct statistics by individual congregations and their inspection and prompt return by Presbyteries.

The report was adopted on the motion of Drs. Grant and Thompson.

THE NEW HYMNALS.

The Rev. Dr. Gregg, seconded by the Rev. Dr. Smerville, submitted and moved the adoption of the report of the Hymnal Committee on the publication of the "Presbyterian Book of Praise." He presented a copy of each of the editions to the Moderator. The book will be given to the public as soon as a copy is printed in Canada, to settle the copyright question. The plates are now in Toronto, and a copy of each kind will be printed, to be entered with the Minister of Agriculture, after which the books can be brought over and sold. It was mentioned that one Canadian bookseller had already orders for 90,000 copies.

FRENCH EVANGELIZATION.

WHAT IS AIMED AT BY THE BOARD? The answer is, to give the pure Gospel to those of the French Canadian people of the Dominion who do not possess it, and thus to bring them to the knowledge of the Saviour and to secure the Christian education of their children. This is regarded as an aim both Christian and patriotic, and the agencies employed for its accomplishment are Colporteurs, Missionary-Teachers, Evangelists, and Pastors who place Bibles and instructive literature in the hands of the people.

IS THIS SPECIFIC WORK CALLED FOR? The Annual General Assemblies since the union of the Churches in 1875 have answered this question in the affirmative by commending the Mission to the prayerful and liberal support of the Church.

As justifying this action it is to be remembered as an undeniable fact that the people whose spiritual emancipation is sought, hold and cherish many unscriptural and anti-scriptural beliefs which are persistently inculcated by their religious teachers. These errors and their propagators are decidedly aggressive, and if left alone and not counteracted by the truth of God will inevitably act injuriously upon our children, our educational progress and all our most sacred institutions. It is well known that many thousands in the Province of Quebec have long been kept in a state of illiteracy which hindered their advancement in secular pursuits and unfitted them for the proper exercise of their rights as free citizens. They now keenly feel this to be the case, and there is a wide-spread demand for better education. As the outcome of missionary effort, the diffusion of wholesome knowledge in various ways through the press and by conversations, lectures and addresses, and by letters from friends in the United States and elsewhere, and, above all, by the circulation of the Word of God among them during the last fifty years, a powerful movement has set in of the nature of revolution from the religious-political system to which most of them hitherto have yielded unquestioning submission. Even their representatives in the halls of legislation have, with the emphatic approval of their constituencies, asserted independence of clerical domination in civil matters. The present moment in the history of the people is therefore most hopeful and critical, and furnishes opportunities of aiding them in the struggle for freedom such as never before occurred. The fact that they are more and more rapidly losing faith in their old creed and religious institutions is attended by serious danger, and lays special responsibilities upon those who have the truth. History conclusively proves that the transition is natural and easy from irrational superstitions and credulity to the most appalling scepticism. Is this to be the issue in Canada? This is certainly the problem with which we are now face to face.

If, therefore, we are to be patriotic, if we are to be loyal to our Saviour's command to declare His Gospel to every creature, if we are to love our neighbors as ourselves and to give practical proof of it, then it is plain that we should do all in our power to save this people and our country from the impending dire calamity of their lapsing into utter unbelief.

WHAT ARE THE HINDRANCES ENCOUNTERED? They are the indifference and superstition of the people; the lamentable servility of the secular press; the wealth and power of the Romish Church, which by the law of the Province collects tithes and levies taxes to any amount for ecclesiastical purposes; the abject fear inspired by belief in the divine right of priests to inflict the most awful spiritual penalties upon refractory persons by withholding from them the sacraments and rites of the Church without which they cannot be saved; and the local persecutions which converts invariably suffer, and which have compelled many thousands of them to leave the country. It is this depletion of the roll of converts that makes it extremely difficult to establish self-sustaining churches.

These are grave hindrances among the people themselves, but there are others hardly less discouraging and formidable among Protestants. Such as the growing conviction that errors in religious faith and practice are of little moment—that error is practically as good as another—that Romanism and Mohammedanism and Buddhism are good enough for those who conscientiously accept them, and that it is undesirable and a species of reprehensible proselytism to disturb any one's sincere belief, however unscriptural. The prevalence of these forms of broad and spurious toleration begets lethargy and even active opposition regarding our mission. Hence some ministers fail to bring its claims before their people and to give them an opportunity of sending assistance; Protestant merchants and employers of labor who desire to secure the favor and patronage of priests, nuns, and Romanists decline to employ our converts, and thus effectually aid the persecutions by which many of them are expatriated.

WHAT ARE THE RESULTS? They are such that neither figures nor sentences can record. Spiritual success is not to be reckoned by human arithmetic. God alone knows fully what has been accomplished. The names of the fifteen or twenty thousand converts who have been expatriated in ways already referred to, are not on our roll—nor can we tell how many have passed into the eternal rest that remaineth for the people of God. The uplifting and spiritual forces generated throughout the country are beyond our cognizance. We can neither tell how much they have had to do in bringing about what is already cause for abundant thanksgiving and rejoicing, nor how far-reaching their influence for good may be in the future. We are unable to tabulate the peace of heart, the comfort and light in seasons of darkness and sorrow, the courage and strength in moments of weakness and conflict imparted by the sympathetic and loving ministrations of our missionaries. We know not how many young hearts have through their services been touched by the love of Christ among the humble homes and primitive Sunday schools of rural and out-of-the-way districts. Our report is thus necessarily defective and even silent regarding what is of supreme value in the sight of God and His servants.

To meet, however, the desire of those who lay stress upon statistics, the following figures and facts are submitted:—During the whole or part of the year 28 Pastors and Ordained Missionaries, 17 Evangelists, Colporteurs and Students and 20 Teachers were employed.

There were occupied 37 mission fields and 93 mission stations, with a Sabbath attendance of 2,415. There are 923 families under our care, with 1,079 church members, and 990 pupils attending Sabbath schools and Bible Classes. There were 153 members added to the church during the year, and there were distributed 901 Bibles or New Testaments, and 21,976 tracts, etc. The amount contributed by converts for salaries and other expenses was \$5,917.70; amount paid as school fees \$1,602.30; making a total of \$7,520.00. There were 25 mission schools in active operation, some during the year and others for a shorter period, with an aggregate attendance of 809 pupils.

We cannot emphasize too strongly the importance of these schools. Those at Pointe-aux-Trembles have already given a Christian education to about 5,000 pupils, a large proportion of whom became true converts and have exerted an immeasurable influence for good in various walks of life. Not a few have become missionaries, pastors and teachers, and others lawyers, doctors, artisans and agriculturists.

THE COLLEGES.

HALIFAX.

The Board of the Presbyterian College, Halifax, record their gratitude to God for His goodness to the institution under their care. Another year of prosperity has passed. May like goodness and mercy crown the years to come. The city water was extended to the site of the College last summer, and the Board gladly availed themselves of the opportunity to have the use of it in the building. At the cost of seven hundred and seventy dollars, the necessary plumbing and sewerage were effected in a most satisfactory manner. Other improvements brought the whole capital expenditure up to one thousand dollars. Two bequests of five hundred dollars each were received during the year.—the one from the late Dr. R. F. Burns, of memory dear to the college, and the other from the late Rev. Alexander Campbell, who, for years labored in the Synod. These bequests were made unconditionally; but the Board have under consideration a special object to which they may be applied, and on which a further report will be made at some future time. The Rev. Mr. Campbell left also certain forest lands in Nova Scotia that may hereafter grow into value, for the purpose of founding an Alexander Campbell Bursary for a Gaelic student—one bearing the name of Campbell preferred. The Board has had under consideration the feasibility of erecting a suitable building for the valuable library now stored in the class-rooms and other parts of the College. It is considered that such a building should be of fire proof material, and that it might contain accommodation for a gymnasium and additional lecture rooms which, on occasion, might be converted into a convocation hall. The desirability of such a building has been affirmed by the Board, and the General Assembly are hereby asked to allow the Board to present to the Synod of the Maritime Provinces a plan for securing the same, and authorize the Synod to order steps for its erection, should they consider it wise to do so. The library has grown during the year by the gift of the most valuable of the books of the late Mr. McCulloch, and of many of those of the late Mr. Burns, as well as by the purchase of many of the best current books in the different departments of theological inquiry. The finances of the institution are fairly satisfactory, inasmuch as the revenue was slightly in excess of the expenditure.

The present debt is \$99.11, which the Board will aim at removing as soon as possible. The Bursary Fund is in a better condition than last year. Receipts were \$1,181.43, and expenditure, \$879.05, thus reducing the debt from \$522.08 to \$219.70.

MORRIN.

The Governors of Morrin College have much pleasure in being able to report that the work of the last Session has presented several features of an unusually cheering character. Including students taking special lines of study, eighty-seven were recorded as enrolled at the meeting of Corporation held in mid-winter at McGill, with which University Morrin is affiliated, and that number was increased to considerably over one hundred during the succeeding part of the Session.

Eight of the regular undergraduates have in view the office of the sacred ministry, and three of these received regular lectures and passed respectable examinations in Systematic Divinity, Church History and Apologetics, while five pursued studies in Hebrew. In addition to the existing staff of six regular and two honorary professors and lecturers, the Board has engaged a seventh, in the person of the Rev. John Sharp, M.A., to take charge in part of the classes in Philosophy and English, in relation to which departments Mr. Sharp gave evidence of singular fitness during the Session of 1895-96, and from whose appointment as a member of the College staff, the Governors anticipate marked advantages to the course of study. With this addition the Arts Department may be considered to be not insufficiently equipped in all of its essential branches, and the Board of Governors have in view adding, with a like aim, to the regular staff in Divinity. To accomplish this aim they have already taken steps to increase the Endowment Fund, and expect to have secured a material increase to their resources ere the lapse of another year. Placing at the service of the Church, as they do a valuable property free from all incumbrances of debt, and a fund already adequate to the providing of a staff of seven devoted and competent professors, and occupying ground in the very midst of a population, for the winning of whom to purer views of the Gospel this venerable court has instituted a distinct branch of missionary effort, the Governors venture to deem themselves entitled to the confidence of the General Assembly, and to a larger measure of sympathy and assistance than has heretofore been rendered. Neither during the days of the first honored Moderator of this Court, Prin. Dr. Cock, was Morrin College burdensome to the Church, nor does it now aspire to occupy a position so irksome. Simply the Governors cherish the belief that their efforts to develop the ideas contemplated by its founder merit recognition, and they are not without hope that such recognition, in practical ways, will not be withheld by the highest Court of the Church. It is their firm determination, in humble reliance on the Great Head, to spare no toil to render the Institution under their charge a successful means of promoting the cause of education, and also of ministering to the advancement of the temporal and spiritual interests of the community amid which it is situated, and of the Dominion at large.

MONTREAL.

The Board of Management express their gratitude to the Great Head of the Church for the continued prosperity of the institution.

The number of students in actual attendance last Session was 80, of whom 18 completed the course necessary for license.

The Board are gratified to state that they have again been able to end the year without indebtedness in the Ordinary Fund. Upwards of \$1,000 were expended in connection with certain necessary repairs to the buildings. Owing to a legacy of \$1,000 (\$1,000, less ten per cent. Government tax) received from the executors of the late Mr. A. C. Leslie, of Montreal, this special expenditure has been defrayed, and there remains a balance to the credit of the Ordinary Fund of \$127.75.

The Endowment Fund has been slightly increased during the year, and now stands at \$191,656.11, which is invested according to the statement of the Treasurer. The Board are gratified in again being able to report that they have never yet had to foreclose a mortgage, and that there is not a single dollar of interest in arrears, all of the College investments being in every respect first-class.

The generous friend who, during the last five years, at his own expense, met in full the salary of one of the Professors, has kindly agreed to continue doing so for another year, in the hope that before its expiry the Chair may be endowed. The term for which the special subscriptions received from friends in Montreal and elsewhere, for the past five years, for the support of the Chair of Exegesis, having expired, the Board are seeking a renewal of these for another term of five years, and trust that this effort will be crowned with success. This is, however, a somewhat precarious source of revenue, and it is earnestly hoped that upon the return of business prosperity this Chair may be endowed by the friends of the institution.

The Rev. Principal MacVicar availed himself during the year of the leave of absence kindly granted him by the General Assembly of 1893. He spent the greater part of the past summer and winter in Britain and on the Continent of Europe. It is a subject of general rejoicing, not only to the members of the Board and to the students, but to all the friends of the College, that the Principal has returned strongly invigorated, and it is earnestly hoped that he may be spared for many years to administer the affairs of the institution. The Board desire to place upon record their appreciation of the valuable services rendered by the Rev. Dr. Barclay, of St. Paul's Church, Montreal, who, in the absence of the Principal, conducted the classes in Systematic Theology last Session.

KNOX.

The Board of Management has much pleasure in presenting its fifty-third annual report.

The graduating class of 1897 numbered twenty-two, and the total attendance of students during the past session has been 113. In addition to these enrolled students it may be mentioned that a number of young men now attending the University of Toronto have announced their intention of entering theology in the College on the completion of their course. The total number of students having in view the ministry of the Presbyterian Church in Canada, at Toronto, cannot be fewer than 140.

The Board desires to express its great satisfaction that the last Assembly acceded to its oft-repeated request for the appointment of additional professors, and has gladly welcomed the gentlemen selected by the Assembly to take charge of the important subjects of Old Testament Literature, and Church History and Apologetics. The Rev. Prof. George L. Robinson, Ph.D., and the Rev. Prof. James Ballantyne, M.A., entered on the duties of their respective Chairs at the beginning of the session, and have fully realized the anticipations of the Church as to their fitness for their important positions. The Board feels, however, that Prof. Ballantyne has been over-burdened with the care of two departments, and trusts that at no distant date he may be relieved by the appointment of a new professor in one of the subjects assigned to him.

The Board has at the last session of the Legislature of the Province of Ontario, obtained an amendment to the Act of Incorporation, enabling the Senate to confer after examination the degree of B. D. on ordained ministers of the Church, who have not previously obtained a degree in Arts. It is hoped that this may prove an inducement to many of our ministers to pursue their literary and theological studies still farther after leaving College. The same high standard of attainment will be required from them as is now maintained in the case of University graduates.

The financial year of the College opened with a deficiency of \$6,576.31, and as the year advanced this adverse balance was largely augmented by the increased expenditure occasioned by the appointment of new professors and other charges, until at one time it amounted to fully \$15,000. The Board is thankful to be able to report that from the collection of arrears of interest by the Treasurer on various securities, the liberality of friends of the College, and the receipt of a legacy of \$2,000, from Mrs. Jacqueline Lesslie, an old friend of the College, the deficiency has disappeared, and the Treasurer is permitted to close his account with a balance of \$219.59 in favor of the College. The Treasurer's statement hereto appended, affords full information as to the various items of receipts and disbursements in connection with the different departments of the College work.

While the year closes so favorably, the Church must not overlook the fact that the result has been brought about not through the ordinary sources of revenue, but by subscriptions from private individuals, varying from \$1,000 downward, and by the bequest of Mrs. Lesslie. The estimated requirements of the College for the year 1897-98 will be about \$21,000, and the Board can rely only on the two ordinary sources of College revenue, namely, the interest from investments and congregational subscriptions. From this it will be seen that congregations cannot relax their efforts, and must strive to increase their contributions. The continual fall in the rate of interest and the abnormal decline in the value of securities, combined with the difficulty of finding suitable investments, greatly reduce the income from the Endowment Fund. In fact, the addition of \$100,000 to this fund, would be required from the fall of the rate of interest alone, to bring the revenue from that source to the amount received some years ago. The Board observes with regret that upwards of three hundred congregations contribute nothing for College purposes, and many more remit exceedingly trifling amounts. Were these congregations to include the College among the objects of their liberality, there would be little difficulty in securing adequate support for this institution and the other Colleges of the Church. As mentioned in the last report of the College, a Society was established for the purpose of stimulating the interest felt in the College and raising funds by extended effort

for the improvement of the financial condition of the College. This Society has had several meetings and has organized a scheme of operations, but the general depression which prevails in the country, combined with the urgent appeals made by the representatives of other Schemes, for funds to reduce the deficiencies in their revenues, have seriously operated against much progress being made in the work contemplated by this new Society. The Board resolved some time ago, instead of seeking for new investments for money paid on account of existing securities, to apply these funds towards the reduction of the mortgage debt on the College. This mortgage originally stood at \$26,500, but has now, from the moneys received at the time of the Semi-Centenary of the College, and from payments made on investments, been reduced to \$5,000. The Treasurer is now in funds to pay this amount, and has given to the mortgagees the required notice prior to payment.

The Board has had under its repeated consideration the matter of the College Residence, and contemplates making changes which will conduce to the comfort of the students, as well as reduce the annual outlay in the management of this department. The Board hopes to be able to make arrangements for securing the services of a resident dean who will exercise a general superintendence over the students living in the College.

The Rev. George Logie, B. D., who has for some years taken charge of the Preparatory Course in the College with much acceptance, was relieved of his duties in order to permit him to pursue his studies in Edinburgh and Germany. The Board has instructed the Senate to make provision for the conduct of the class during the coming winter, which it is hoped will be satisfactory.

Since the last report the Board has made much needed improvements in the ventilation of the class-room by the use of electric fans. This change has already greatly conduced to the health and comfort of professors and students alike. The Auer light has been introduced into the students' rooms, and it is expected that in addition to the great increase in light, a very considerable reduction will be made in the expenditure for gas.

MANITOBA

The Board of Management of Manitoba College begs to submit the Report for the past year.

During the winter session, just closed, the number of students in the Faculty of Arts and the Preparatory Department was 177, and there are now in attendance in the Faculty of Theology 23 students, making a total of 200, being 6 fewer than in the previous year. At the University examinations of 1896 there were 3 medals and 11 scholarships won by students of the College. At the examinations just closed 103 students of the College have been writing, 11 more than last year; of these, 32 are candidates for the degree of B. A.

The total receipts for the Ordinary Fund, including the balance in hand of \$799.24, has been \$21,918.21, as compared with \$20,590.65 of the previous year. This includes \$8,835.09 for fees and board of resident students, being \$223 more than during the previous year. The expenditure has been \$20,823, leaving a balance in hand of \$1,095.21.

The legacy from the late Warden King, mentioned in last report, has been paid during the year, \$5,000, less \$500, the succession duty. This money will be invested as soon as opportunity offers; with it the Endowment Fund is now \$51,215.

The Board fully concurs in the opinion expressed in the Report of the Senate, as to the value of the services of Professor McLaren, gives for the fourth time, and of those of Professor Dr. George Adam Smith and Dr. Beattie. The Board is also of one mind with the Senate that steps should be taken, without unnecessary delay, to secure an addition to the teaching staff of the College. This is in full accord with a resolution passed by the Synod of Manitoba and the North-West Territories at its last meeting. The making of such an addition will, of course, necessitate an increase in the annual income of the College.

CHURCH AND MANSE.

The report of the Board of Management of the Church and Manse Building Fund for Manitoba and the North-West Territories:

During the past year the operations of the Board have not been so extensive as in some previous years of its history, the state of the fund having prevented the making of grants in several instances. Assistance has been given towards the erection or extension of 14 churches and 12 manses. The amount advanced by way of loan has been \$3,800, while grants amounting to \$440 have been made. Of

these, 9 churches are in the Synod of Manitoba and the North-West Territories, with 5 churches and 2 manses in the Synod of British Columbia. A more detailed statement of these loans and grants is afterwards given.

In the report presented to last Assembly it was said that, owing to the state of the fund, grants could no longer be made except out of interest, and even then only under exceptional circumstances. This policy the Board has had to pursue during the past year. It is with great regret that it has done so, but no other course was open to it, unless the capital of the fund was to be seriously impaired.

Of the moneys advanced by J. T. Morton, Esq., and of which mention has been made in the reports of former years, there has been repaid \$4,125.55, leaving a little over \$10,000 still due to him.

Through the Rev. Dr. Robertson, who has spent the past six months in Great Britain, various sums have been received in aid of the fund, amounting in all to \$3,885.78. This amount, it is believed, has been obtained from individuals and not from congregations, but the Board is not yet in possession of any detailed information on the subject. It, however, desires to express most grateful thanks to the Christian friends who, on having the great work this Church is carrying on in the North-West brought under their notice, recognized the claim resting upon the Motherland to share in the work of providing for her children and sons settling there, and generously responded to it.

DISTRIBUTION OF PROBATIONERS.

Your Committee are pleased to be able to state that their work has been throughout more pleasant than for some years past—that confidence in the Scheme appears to be increasing, and that it is hoped will increase after some additional improvements in its regulations, or as those are more correctly and generally known and more faithfully enforced. For the most part, or in very many instances, Presbyteries do not seem to be acquainted with its provisions, and this is particularly the case with the Moderators of Sessions in vacant congregations, and the Committees of Supply in these when such are appointed. One of the recommendations with which the Report concludes bears on such.

Your Committee think that it was a wise action on the part of the last General Assembly to allow some measure of discretion as to admission to the roll of Probationers. It will surely not be disputed that the roll should be composed of such as are eligible and likely to be called. If vacancies desire to hear only candidates from whom they may be guided to seek a pastor, those sent by the Committees should be such as are likely, one or other of them, to meet their expectations and present an acceptable appearance. Necessity has been felt in the course of the year to act upon the discretion granted, and to refuse one or two who were certified by Presbyteries, but whose work within their bounds was not such as to encourage the anticipation that they would be successful in other quarters. It was also judged prudent in the interests of the Scheme and of vacancies to drop a name from the list. Two whose names had been formerly on the list and had received appointments for the period allowed, namely, two years, applied to be replaced, but their request was not granted. In this it is thought the Assembly will concur.

Eighty vacancies were reported during the year, some of these since the arrangement of the Scheme for the quarter now current. Of these, 41 were settled at the dates and by the persons recorded, and 39 are still under supply.

The number of Probationers on the roll whose services were at the disposal of your Committee was, 24. Of these, 4 obtained stated charges; 3 accepted appointments as Ordained Missionaries; 1 was dropped from the roll; and 1 withdrew, leaving 15 on the roll at the present date.

Your Committee would commend the Scheme or Act to the approval of this Assembly, and ask that it give the influence of its authority in favor of its faithful and impartial operation.

RECOMMENDATIONS:—I. That the Presbyteries be required to report all vacancies when they occur, or exist, in their bounds to the Committee, for some supply, either full or partial.

II. That the names of interim Moderators of Sessions in vacancies be sent by the Presbytery Clerks to the Convener of the Committee, that he may furnish them with a copy of the Regulations, and help them in the fulfilment of their duties.

III. That the Presbyteries on the licensure of students to preach the Gospel recommend them to place their services at the disposal of the Committee for employment in the regular way.

IV. That the attention of Presbyteries be called again to the regulations in force guarding pulpits of vacant congregations from the undue preponderance in supply by ministers in settled charges or students.

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.)

GENERAL.

Rev. H. D. Leitch of Strathroy, who has for the past two months occupied the pulpit of the Gordon Free Church, St. Elmo, was, on May 31, ordained and inducted as pastor of the church. The ordination services were largely attended.

Onslow Presbyterian congregation, Colchester, N. S., is now 81 years old. During this long period it has had but three pastors. The present minister, Rev. J. H. Husa, has been laboring 28 years in Onslow, and for over 20 years has been the efficient clerk of the Turo Presbytery.

Rev. John McLeod, B.A., of Van-kloek, as Moderator of Presbytery, presided; Rev. John McKinnon, B. D., of Dalhousie Mills, preached an excellent sermon from 1. Cor. 1: 22, 23; Rev. A. J. McCallum, B. A., of Ste. Anne de Prescott, addressed the minister; Rev. Dr. Cormack, B. A., of Maxville addressed the congregation.

The following recent graduates of Knox College, who had passed their final examination on May 1st, before the Licensing Committee of the Presbytery, were licensed by the Presbytery: Messrs. John Bailey, B.A., J. J. Brown, LL.B., George P. Duncan, W. B. Findlay, John Griffith, B.A., E. B. Horne, M.A., R. Martin, F. D. Roxburgh, B. A., M. P. Floyd, and C. R. Williamson, B. A. The Rev. Dr. Bell, late Bursar of Queens' College, was received by Certificate from the Presbytery of Kingston, and his name placed on the Appendix to the Roll.

Rev. John McEwan was appointed hospital visitor.

An open air service, conducted by the Rev. W. G. McCaughan, of St. Andrew's, Toronto, will be given in Mr. Barnett's Grove, corner Queen E. and Birch avenue, on Sunday, 13th June, at 3 p.m. This is an ideal spot for an open air meeting, cool and shady. The singing, conducted by Mr. W. J. A. Carnahan, and choir of Emanuel Church, will be excellent. The collection goes to repairs of the church, on which a good deal of money had to be expended this season.

In the will of the late Mr. Robert Turnbull, who left an estate valued at between \$50,000 and \$60,000, and which has been made public. The following are some of the bequests: To the Home and Foreign Mission Boards of the Presbyterian Church in Canada, \$10,000 each; to the Galt Y.M.C.A., about \$5,000; Presbyterian Church French Evangelization fund, \$5,000; his beautiful house and grounds in Galt to his sister, Mrs. John Patterson.

The Anniversary Services of Knox Church, Owen Sound, were of a most interesting character. Rev. W. J. Clark of the First Presbyterian Church, London, preached two eloquent sermons to a large congregation. The morning discourse from the text "Whatsoever thy hand findeth to do, do it with thy might."—Ecclesiastes, 9: 10. The evening sermon was like that of the morn-

ing, full of helpfulness. The text was Titus, 2: 14. The financial results of the services amounted to \$300.

PRESBYTERY OF TORONTO.

This Presbytery hold its regular monthly meeting in Knox church on Tuesday June 1st. The Moderator, Rev. J. W. H. Milne, presided. The Presbytery appointed Rev. John McEwan visitor to Presbyterian patients in the General Hospital and in the other public hospitals in the City. The appointment is made for one year, and at the salary of \$300 per annum. Mr. McEwan's address is 526 Church St., Toronto, and ministers would confer a favor if they would communicate with him when a patient from their congregations is sent to one of these hospitals. The salary will be raised by a direct apportionment upon each congregation in the Presbytery. Ten candidates received license, their examinations being sustained, and their trial discourses approved. Presbytery set apart one sederunt for hearing the trial discourses, and for licensure. The names of the new licentiates are: John Bailey, B.A.; J. J. Brown, A.A.; George B. Bancan, W. B. Findlay, John Griffith, B.A.; E. B. Horne, M.A.; R. Martin, F. D. Roxburgh, B.A.; M. P. Floyd, and C. R. Williamson, B.A. The Rev. Dr. Bell, late Bursar of Queens' College, was received by Certificate from the Presbytery of Kingston, and his name placed on the Appendix to the Roll.

WANTED—Agents for "Queen Victoria, Her Reg'n and Diamond Jubilee." Overflowing with latest and richest pictures. Contains the endorsed biography of Her Majesty, with authentic history of her remarkable reign, and full account of the Diamond Jubilee. Only \$1.50. Big book. Tremendous demand. Bonanza for agents. Commission 50 per cent. Credit given. Freight paid. 08111 1/2. Duty paid. Write quick for outfit and territory. THE DOMINION COMPANY, Dept. 7, 356 Dearborn St., Chicago.

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