

A SUCCESSFUL CHURCH OPENING.

Sabbath, Nov. 10th, will long be remembered by the people of Coulson's Hill, and vicinity, as witnessing one of the most successful church-dedications in West Gwillimbury. St. John's Presbyterian congregation, realizing the need of more and better accommodation, resolved last Spring to raise the old building, and build under it a basement, also to brick-clad, and put on a new roof, to replace the old forms with comfortable seats, and also to put in a new furnace. It was a large undertaking for a small congregation, but the people had a mind to work, and work they did, and with most satisfactory results, a perfect model of a building in every respect, beautiful to behold and most convenient. The Rev. Dr. MacLaren, Professor of Systematic Theology, Knox College Toronto, kindly gave his services for the opening of the building for the worship of God, and two very excellent sermons were preached by the learned divine, which were duly appreciated by all present. In the evening, the Rev. Mr. Jolliffe, at considerable inconvenience, drove all the way from Queensville to preach, and a most crowded house listened attentively to a very suitable and eloquent sermon. On Monday following a tea-meeting was held in the basement, after which the congregation adjourned to the Church, which was crowded to its utmost capacity, when very sweet music, and singing were given by the Craigvale Choir, and addresses delivered by Rev. Messrs. Carswell, Jolliffe, McConnell, and McKee. The Pastor the Rev. F. Smith, occupying the chair, stated that the improvements cost \$1,600 and about \$300 were needed by the Building Committee, to meet all demands. In a little while, under the financeering skill of Mr. Jolliffe, the whole amount was promised, and in all likelihood enough to repair shed, complete the fence, etc.

The collections on Sabbath amounted to about \$73, and the proceeds from the Tea Meeting reached \$100. The sum of \$112 for church furnishing was raised by the ladies placing some 600 names in a quilt, which was on the evening of tea meeting presented to the pastor's wife, Mrs. F. Smith.

Providence favored the congregation with beautiful weather. There was hearty sympathy shown to the church by other denominations, as well as by the associated congregations of Bradford and the Scotch Settlement. We congratulate the Pastor, the Building Committee, and the Congregation, on bringing to so successful an issue, their very worthy undertaking, and we wish for them the greatest spiritual blessing in all their future work.