## Farewell Service Held in The Auld Kirk on Sunday How They Relieve

Large Congregation Attended Very Impressive Service in the Historic Edifice---Which is Soon to Make Way for a New Structure---Choir Reinforced by Former Members---Eloquent and Appropriate Sermon by Rev. Dr. Smith.

Babbath morning broke with ideal! perience, come first in life. There are weather. It was the first real sum- different aspects of the order in which mer morning of the season. This no we rejoice. In one sense childhood is doubt accounted in some measure for the happiest period, for our days are the unusually large congregation in free from care. But in a much fuller the Auld Kirk. It was the last occas- sense the day of great achievement is ion upon which the people would as- the happiest day because it touches semble for worship in the building experiences undreamed of in childwhich, since 1832, had been associated hood. The final word of satisfaction is with the spiritual life of the church. not found in absence of care, but in The audience was an interesting blend- victory in the midst of conflict. In early days of faithful service. Our poing of the old and the new. People this sense the dark days come first. came from far and near to take part There are two reasons for this. One in the services. Many whose parents is that the field in which we must work worshipped there but who had united is a hard field and every man must in with other communions, returned to a real sense cultivate his own sphere the place of their childhood. Many of of action. When our forefathers came other churches who had been occas- to this country and began to lay the ional worshippers during the ministry foundations of society, they had hard of Dr. Brooke and Dr. Mowatt also work. The trees were felled by hand, joined in the service. The old people the ground tilled, log houses built, and dark days give place to bright days in of the congregation occupied the cen- roads opened largely by individual eftre aisle, which had been specially re- fort, before they entered into a state The sower is the rejoicing one. He served for them, while the seating ca- of ease or social comfort. So in all pacity was taxed to its utmost.

Upon the platform was a choir com- hard, because we must cultivate diffithe service of praise before the new of the human heart, the power of evil church was built. Among these were in the world, the organization of wick- thrust upon them which they do not noticed Judge Wilson, Mrs. George Mc- edness which thrives by plunder, the merit or achieve. It is so superficial Farlane, Mrs. P. M. McDonald, William treachery of the enemy, these and oth-McKay, Archie Jewett and L. C. Mac- ers made the victory of real success The only values which abide are those nutt. The selections of praise were difficult. Each begins with the limited which spring out of character, and from those largely used in the Auld knowledge, limited experience, faces character is made in the soul, not pass Kirk, Psalms 23, 100 and 121, with great obstacles and learns how to fight one Paraphrase, "O God of Bethel," and win. The other reason is that and one hymn, "O God, our help in there is a sense of the hopelessness of ages past." A mixed quartette ren- the task. The elements of uncertaindered "From every stormy wind that ty overshadows all. This sense of diffi-

The Sermon.

of the sermon

forth and weepeth bearing precious seed, shall doubtless come again with rejoicing bringing his sheaves with ed, is there a real basis for the final finity.

This is a most inspiring message. It joyful harvester, and it unites them shared in these general characteristics.

The Underlying Principle.

the strenuous, even dark days of ex-vest.



THE AULD KIRK.

sition today rests upon their labors.

Sowing and Reaping.

In the second place, there is the assurance that the days of toil will be followed by the days of success mingled with the song of the reapers.

Notice the connection between the sowing and the reaping. It is not that a temporal sense, but in a casual sense rejoices because he faithfully sowed. life. The making of the kingdom is Cause and effect are at work in the development of all true and abiding posed of many who had assisted in cult territory. The ignorance and sin prosperity. There is such a thing as individuals having position and wealth as to be worthless in real greatness

ed along to favorites of men. It is most cheering to behold God at work in the world. He has joined seed time and harvest. The farmer sowed the seed and God's great laws produced the harvest. The connection is hidden, weeping. There is the sense of anxiety mysterious, powerful. So with noble and grief, of care and of doubt, or at achievements. Men and women have Rev. Dr. W. H. Smith conducted the least uncertainty. The soul pours out faithfully sowed the principles of truth, service. The following is a synopsis its service in tears, the picture of faith- honor, faith, righteousness, and God service with a heavy heart. It is a sees to it that the harvest comes home. Text—Psalm 126, 6: "He that goeth copy of universal experience. Only He does not say it will come necessarwhere one recognizes the greatness of ily in this world, but it will come for eternity is only time projected to in-

Notice the further principle that in We may well believe that the be- social relations one soweth and anshows us the weeping sower and the ginning of Presbyterianism in this city other reapeth, but in the great harvest home, all will rejoice together. together. Sad days give place to glad There was the sowing of the seed, the Here is the message of great inspiradays, dark hours to bright hours, and anxiety attending beginnings, the for- tion. Think of what the army of workheavy burdens to glad sons and the ward vision filled with the sense of re- ers has done in foreign missions, home day of toil to the evening of reward. sponsibility and the tears of the faith- missions, in social and moral reform, Gathered as we are this morning for ful watering the seed in faith and love. in political circles, for a clean citizenthe farewell service in this church, It was the day of small things, in which ship. This is a social ilfe in which which has been the place of worship the pioneers faced a situation which many individuals share and in which since 1832 in connection with the New their descendants cannot fully appre- success comes but slowly, so slowly, Kirk since 1888, it is fitting that we ciate. We may believe that these first that the workers rarely see the day take a broad view of the way we are days were days of toil and self-denial. of victory, having been called home As each generation came it found the before the work was crowned with suc conditions improving until now the con- cess. Millions have taken part in tem gregation finds its field will supplied perance reform and missions who In the first place, there is a great with workers, vastly increased re-never saw the glory coming among principle underlying our life by which sources and enjoying a bountiful harmen. They fell with their face to the

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the kingdom would come.

We are assured that a great consum nation is coming in which the whole glory will be shared by the whole united family of the redeemed. This one ness is a prominent feature of the Epistle to the Hebrews which seeks to show that those who died in defence of the faith would be present with thos who in recent days maintain its values

This is an assurance of supreme helpfulness. We may well believe that the departed share with us whatever of joy fills our hearts. We may rest assured that both sower and reaper will equally rejoice in the finished work of God. May it not be that to day we are surrounded by a cloud of witnesses who in this old church once led the songs of Zion, testified to the power of redeeming love and sat round the communion table? The spiritual world is very near, and I can see no reason for doubting that heaven is here and the departed, having entered into their higher state, abide in their new heaven. The oneness of the life of the spirit makes our work one, its toils and glories one also.

The Fullness of Joy.

Notice further that this message calls attention to the fact that it takes time to come into the fullness of the joy of our work. It takes time to get any harvest, and nature's processes are simple compared with the more complex nature of man based upon free will. If it takes generations to grow an oak into perfection, it will take longer to get society walking in the truth. This is not to be forgotten, for it gives the workers strength and hope.

It is a principle of life that the best develops and matures most slowly. The great things of the human spirit are won after strenuous effort. We may evangelize a people in a generation. This is the beginning. It requires generations to give the higher reaches of life in literature, song, art, education and scientifie achievement In this old building many have com menced the life of the spirit. They were struggling upward as others struggle, and have passed in through the gates into the city. Down through the century thousands have in this building started upward. The way has been marked by painful experiences, but we do well to remember that it takes time to make a saint.

This church has stood for about 85 years as the nursery of Presbyterianism in this city. The little beginnings have become a mighty stream. It has taken time. Decade after decade has witnessed an ever broadening vision of the Christian life. At the beginning the missionary movement was feeble, the social movement was feeble, the movement for the education of the young was feeble, the temperance movement was feeble, but they were vital. As each decade passed these movements arose in power, until today the church is facing her great opportunity as a leavening factor of all life, private, public, social, political and national.

It has taken time, but God's kingdom comes. The next generation will witness even greater power and vision, and the day is coming when the man of God will be known not so much by his individual attitude to personal questions, as by his responsibility as a Employment Committee of the commi member of the brotherhood of human-

Heritage for the Faithful.

The final consideration is that this great rejoicing is a sure heritage for the faithful. This is the verdict of the ages. The good seed will certainly grow. Every truth will yield its harvest. Every true idea will become the possession of the free in spirit.

Those investing their time and money in the cause of righteousness need have no fear of ultimate rejoicing. At times the fight seems to go against the truth-but wait, truth alone stands and every false work will fall to pieces in its rottenness and vindicate the eternal power of truth.

In the third place, it is well to notice that winning factors in the final joy. There is a certain elevation of spirit which is unmistakable. It is to be precious seed, the standard of eternal truth. The real power of this congregation has been the truth it preached nad lived. The blessed results in the soul, the home, the city, the province, have flowed out from the clear springs of eternal reality. The weak-

(Continued on page six)

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