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Ministers and Churches.

The Rev. M. N. Bethune, of Gravenhurst, has been unanimously called by the congregations of Beaverton and Gambridge.

Westminister church, Winnipeg, has sent a unanimous call to Rev. C. B. Pitblado, of Santa Rose, Cal., to become their pastor.

The congregation of St. Andrew's church, Lanark, have decided to extend a call to Rev. G. W. Mills, B.A., of New Westminister, B. C. Mr. Mills was formerly a resident of Lanark county.

The Rev. D. MacEachern, of Napanee, commenced last Sabbath evening an instructive course of lectures. "Polished Palaces" was the subject; and the address was especially intended for young women.

The Rev. Alex. Moge, of Aylmer, Que., was recently presented with a valuable fur coat by the ladies of his charge. The presentation was accompanied by kind words expressive of the good wishes of an attached congregation.

The Picton Gazette says: Rev. Dr. Gray, of Orilla, was recently the guest of his brother, Mr. James Gray, this town. On a Sunday while here, the reverend doctor preached during the forenoon service in the Presbyterian church. His discourse was a model of scriptural exposition of divine truth and was calculated to greatly edify his hearers.

The annual meeting of the congregation of Grace church, Tottenham, was held on Wednesday evening, Jan. 11th. The usual reports were submitted. The present membership is 101, the additions during the year being five on profession of faith and three by certificate. The contributions for congregational purposes have been \$745 and for extra-congregational objects \$138. The auxiliary to F.M.S. contributed \$29 to the foreign mission fund, besides clothing sent to the Northwest.

The annual meeting of the congregation of Beeton Presbyterian church was held on Thursday evening, Jan. 12th. The report of the session showed a membership of 126, with eight additions on profession of faith and seven by certificate during the year. For congregational purposes, the contributions have been \$975 and for extra-congregational objects \$173. The auxiliary to F.M.S. contributed \$25 to the foreign mission fund, besides clothing sent to the North West.

The Rev. Mr. Smith, before leaving Centreville, was presented by his congregation with an address expressive of their high esteem for him as a Christian minister, and admiration for him as a man of excellent parts. The address was accompanied by an expensive fur coat and robes and a beautiful silver cake basket and butter dish. Mr. and Mrs. Smith have been residents of Centreville where they were greatly esteemed for nearly 14 years.

The Rev. W. T. Herridge, B. D., of Ottawa, recently conducted the services in Calvin Church, Pembroke; and the Standard remarks of him: "We venture to say that a more eloquent preacher never was heard in Pembroke. Gifted by nature with a commanding presence and a powerful voice, add to these a well-endowed intellect, and behind all a desire to preach the unsearchable riches of Christ, and you have the qualities which have made Mr. Herridge, young as he is, the pastor of the largest Presbyterian Church in the Capital, and one of the most eloquent preachers in that Church in Canada."

The Presbyterian congregation of Grafton and Vernonville recently held their annual meeting, and the reports presented indicate prosperity in every department of church work. This small congregation of only 80 families has raised the past year the respectable sum of about \$2,000. Of this amount \$500 was devoted to missionary purposes and \$150 was raised by the auxiliaries of the W. F. M. Society. The mission bands support a missionary in the home field. The church has a membership of 200,—70 having been added during the short pastorate of the present able minister, Rev. C. S. Lord, B. D.

The anniversary services of St. Andrew's Beachburg, were conducted by the Rev. D. J. McLean M.A., Arnprior, on Sabbath Jan. 29th. The attendance at both the morning and evening service was large. On Monday evening a tea-meeting was held when addresses were delivered by the Revs. D.J. McLean, Arnprior, T. A. Nelson, Bristol, Que.; W. A. Hanna, Methodist, Beachburg, and by Mr. W. H. Bone, editor of the Pembroke Standard. The choir of Calvin church, Pembroke, under the able leadership of Mr. G. W. Fluker, furnished the music, and contributed largely to the evenings' entertainment. The proceeds amounted to \$135.

The annual meeting of St. Andrew's, Beachburg, was held on the 24th Jan., the pastor, Rev. R. McNabb B.A., in the

chair. The various reports presented were of an encouraging nature. The W. F. M. S. raised during the year \$78.00 and the Mission Band and Sabbath school \$42.00. The total amount contributed to the schemes, including amount from Westmeath, was \$417, an increase of \$83.00 over any previous year. The report of the building committee showed that the new church, built at a cost of about \$5,700, and opened a year ago was all paid except \$490 which is fully covered by subscription. The total amount raised for all purposes by the united charge is, Beachburg \$3,719; Westmeath \$378; total \$4,097.

The annual meeting of the Melville Church, Brussels, was held Feb. 6th, Rev. John Ross in the chair. During the year 24 were added to the membership, which is now 248. The receipts for ordinary purposes were \$2,011.35, which met all obligations, reduced the debt on the manse \$300, and left a balance of \$66.80. For missionary and benevolent purposes \$474.47 were raised, making the total for all purposes \$2,485.80. The officers for 1893 are the following: Board of Management, Elder Stewart (Queen st.), Walter Innes, John Robb, sr., A. M. McKay, Wm. Knechtel, John B. McLaughlin, Thos. Davidson, Jas. Duncan, Wm. Taylor; Sec., Daniel Stewart; Treas., J. G. Skene; Missionary Association, Elder Stewart, Elder McLaughlin, Mrs. Barnhill, Mrs. Shaw, Mrs. Tufts; Auditors, Walter Innes and J. Stewart.

The Rev. Mr. Smith, late of Centreville, was inducted into St. Paul's church, Middleville, on Thursday the 9th ult. There was a large congregation present. The Rev. Mr. Grant of Almonte, Moderator of the Presbytery, presided, the Rev. Mr. McNair of Carlton Place, preached. The Revs. McLean of Blakeney, and Cromble of Smith's falls, addressed the congregation and pastor respectively. Mr. Smith received a cordial welcome from the people in the evening at a social and tea given in his honor. There was excellent music, the choir of the church being augmented by those of the Congregational and Baptist in the town. The new pastor presided and delivered an excellent speech. Addresses were given by Revs. McNair, McLean and McIlwraith of the Presbyterian church and McAuley of the Congregational. Mr. Smith enters upon his labors in his new field with every prospect of success.

The annual report of the First Presbyterian Church, Brockville, Rev. W. A. Mackenzie, B.D., pastor, indicates a highly prosperous condition of church work in all its branches. During the past year 46 were added to the membership, making a total of 403 communicants on the roll. In the Sabbath School there are 290 on the roll, 30 teachers and 7 officers. Twenty-two of the scholars have been presented with Bibles for committing to memory the whole of the Shorter Catechism. The receipts from collections amounted to \$3,501.24. Besides this there was raised for various charities and special objects the further sum of \$1,006.59. The W. F. M. Society contributed \$215.46; the Juvenile M. Band, \$22.30; the Young Ladies M. Band \$56.25. There is also in connection with the Church a flourishing Christian Endeavor Society, at the weekly meetings of which there is an average attendance of 63.

The Presbytery of Stratford met in Lis towel on the 3rd ult., for the ordination and induction of Rev. J. A. Morrison, B.A. After hearing his trial discourses the Presbytery sustained his examination and proceeded with the ordination. Mr. Ferguson of Burns church and Brooksdale, preached; Mr. Henderson of Atwood, presided, and narrated the steps taken, after which he put the usual questions and offered prayer, by which and the laying on of the hands of the Presbytery, Mr. Morrison was ordained to the office of the holy ministry and in the usual form inducted to the pastoral charge. Mr. J. W. Cameron of North Mornington, addressed the minister and Dr. MacVicar, of Montreal, the people. The Presbytery then adjourned to meet in Tavistock on March 13th, at 7.30 p.m. In the evening a public meeting was held and addresses given by the Methodist, Congregational and Baptist resident ministers, the members of the Presbytery and Dr. MacVicar.—A. F. Tully, clerk.

The annual meeting of the Orillia Presbyterian Church was largely attended; and the proceedings were of the most harmonious character. The Rev. R. N. Grant occupied the chair. A year ago the membership was 518; 71 have been added to the communion roll during the year, 38 by profession of faith and 33 by certificate from other congregations; 18 certificates of removal have been granted, and there were three deaths, making the total membership to date 568. The total receipts for general purposes amounted to \$3,688.97. There were other sums collected which will increase the contributions of the congregation to \$5,705.65. The W. F. M. Society, with a membership of 51, collected the handsome sum of \$212.79; the W.H.M. Society has maintained a missionary in

the Parry Sound District, at an expense of \$129, and \$50 were sent to the Pointe Aux Trembles school. The Juvenile Mission Band, with a membership of 30, raised \$51.16. The Sabbath School has an average attendance of 366; receipts \$387.95. The Bible Class, conducted by the pastor, had doubled in attendance during the year; a native missionary in Formosa is supported by the class, which also raised the sum of \$111.27. The Christian Endeavor Society and the Ladies' Aid Society are both in a flourishing condition. The following are the managers for the current year: Messrs. Geo. Thomson, Wm. Thomson, Duncan McNab, Dr. A. R. Harvie (re-elected) and W. J. King.

The annual congregational meeting of Knox Church, Rat Portage, was held on Tuesday evening, 31st January. The pastor, Rev. R. Nairn, B. A., after having concluded the opening devotional exercises, was elected by the congregation to act as chairman. There was a good attendance, and very satisfactory and encouraging reports were read which showed progress in all departments of church work. The total sum raised was \$2,686.56. The Session report showed that 22 had been added to the membership during the past year, 107 members being now on the roll. The Sabbath School report indicated increase in numbers—average attendance, 104; money raised by scholars, \$481. The Bible Class raised \$59—given to Home and Foreign Missions. The Ladies Aid reported the raising of \$464.40. The Christian Endeavor reported \$60 given to Foreign Mission work; \$16.50 for other religious and charitable purposes. The membership of the Christian Endeavor Society is 70. Children's Mission Band of Willing Workers gave to Foreign Missions \$14.71; W. F. M. Society \$30.60; Norman, for Missions and congregational purposes, \$204; Thanksgiving collection for Augmentation, \$8. The Managers' report was read by Mr. D. T. Ferguson. He said that the Managers had been enabled, through the liberality of the congregation to meet the claims made upon them. They had raised during the year \$1,407.35. At the close there was some talk of building a new stone church; but nothing definite has been decided on as yet. The retiring managers, James Sharpe and Jacob Hose, were re-elected.

The Presbytery of Barrie met at Barrie on Tuesday, 31st Jan. Present 15 ministers and eight elders. Mr. J. A. Ross B.A., was elected Moderator for the next six months. Intimation was received from the Presbytery of Kingston that the call from Hillsdale and Craighurst to Mr. Smith, sustained by the Barrie Presbytery on 27th September, was declined. The Presbytery expressed sympathy with the congregations in their disappointment after being kept so long in waiting for an answer. Mr. J. R. Craigie intimated that he declined the call from Elmvalle and Knox church, Flos. A communication from the North Bay congregation expressed some discouragement that their efforts to secure a settled minister had proved fruitless, and desired the aid of the Presbytery to obtain hearing of ministers who may be qualified for their locality, as a railway town, and who are willing to accept a call. The

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