

Ministers and Churches.

Our Toronto Letter.

The Presbytery of Halifax is holding a special meeting on the 20th of this month to consider the call addressed to the Rev. Alfred Gandier, of Fort Massey church, Halifax, by the St. James Square congregation of this city. The wish is freely expressed that Mr. Gandier may come. He is well remembered as a former member of Presbytery, and by his frequent visits in connection with Foreign Mission work, with which he has the deepest sympathy.

Rev. A. B. Winchester, has not yet signified his intention with regard to the call from Knox church. Although his resignation is in the hands of the Foreign Mission Committee, Mr. Winchester will remain in charge of the Chinese work on the coast till the end of the present year. As the call is sent directly to himself, because of his unique relation to the Presbytery within which he labors, he will doubtless communicate his mind directly to the Toronto Presbytery at no distant date.

The Presbytery of Paris will not consider the call addressed to Rev. R. M. Hamilton till the next meeting of the Court in January. This is a long time for the congregations of Markham and Zion church to wait, but it is the regular course to pursue. We had hoped that this course might have been shortened in this instance as the call was presented just too late to be considered at the last meeting of the Paris Presbytery.

There are rumors of other calls in the Presbytery, but as the vacant charges still number five there is room for surmise, and we hope some of the rumors may be verified. Queensville, Sutton, Port Credit, all offer good fields for vigorous work.

The appointment of the Rev. J. W. Bell to the congregation of Kew Beach for two years, is very satisfactory to the people there and to the Presbytery where Mr. Bell is so well known. He is a preacher of great ability, and is welcome in the best pulpits of our cities when a supply is needed. During the past summer he supplied the pulpit of St. Andrew's, Lindsay, while the pastor was spending his vacation, and his services were much appreciated. Mr. Bell will be welcomed back as a member again.

It is sometimes said that ministers are, as a class selfish, and that they will rather escape a service to their brethren than give it. That this is not true any minister who has passed through trouble could abundantly testify. We have received the following from the Rev. J. C. Tibb, who has been laid aside with typhoid fever for some weeks past: "I desire to thank, through you, the brethren who have so freely offered and given their services during my illness, as supply for my pulpit and for my prayer meetings in both congregations. I have been made to feel perfectly free from responsibility by their kindness, nor is this the only occasion on which it has been shown." Might it not silence the cavil abt selfish ministers if more of their kindness to one another were made known?

The Students' Missionary Society of Knox College, held its thirty-third public meeting in Convocation Hall last Friday evening. The president gave his inaugural address, choosing for his subject "The Rational Basis of Missions," which Mr. Bremner handled very well indeed. The address of the Rev. A. L. Geggie on "The Power and Passions of Missions" was greatly appreciated. Mr. Geggie is rapidly making himself one of the best known speakers in the city. He seems to have an unlimited capacity for work, and his work is usually good. By the way would it not be a good idea for the Students' Society to compile a list, with a brief historical sketch in each case, of the congregations that have been fostered by them till they have grown to receive charges and finally to self support.

The November F. M. Tidings gives the following list of new life members: Mrs. Hugh Clark, Agincourt Auxiliary; Miss M. Turnbull, Russell; Mrs. John Young, St. John's Auxiliary, Hamilton; Mrs. John Blake, Thedford Auxiliary; Mrs. D. B. Dewar, St. Andrews Auxiliary, London. In September list typographical errors occurred in the following: Mrs. Ferguson, Everesley Auxiliary; Miss Jessie M. Machan, Knox Church Auxiliary, Mitchell; Mrs. Aylward, Parkhill Auxiliary.

THE DOMINION PRESBYTERIAN

Ottawa.

At a meeting of the Ladies' Aid of New Edinburgh church last week, Mrs. Elliott presided; and it was decided to purchase a chandelier for the Sunday School hall.

Mrs. George Hay, one of the most efficient workers connected with the W. F. M. Society, addressed the Carleton Place Auxiliary on Wednesday evening of last week.

The anniversary services of the Glebe church will take place next Sunday. Rev. Dr. Herdridge will preach in the morning. On Monday evening the ladies of the congregation hold their annual social, when an attractive programme will be presented, and tempting refreshments provided.

At a business meeting the members of Erskine church decided to accept the trusteeship of their former church site. The trustees appointed are Messrs George Rochester, George Dalgleish and Alex Younger. The trustees were also authorized to pay to the present owners the value of the Concession street property, and to purchase any part of the furniture of the hall which they might consider desirable. Rev. D. M. Ramsay is moderator of session during the vacancy.

Last Sunday evening Rev. D. M. Ramsay preached a helpful sermon to young men from the text, "Those that seek Me early shall find Me." Divine truth is here personified as a beautiful maiden who is ready to give her hand to any of the sons of men that earnestly seek her, and so these words may be directed to men groping in the darkness of skepticism. The words promise that if men seek earnestly for divine truth they shall find it with its light and joy.

Rev. Dr. Moore, on his return from Toronto, where he had been attending a meeting of the Executive of the Foreign Mission Committee, stated to a Citizen reporter that much routine business was transacted. The missionaries in India were all reported to be in good health. He also said that judging from the reports presented of the missionary outlook in China it did not seem likely that the church would be able to send missionaries into that country for a year at least.

Montreal.

The ladies of Knox church held a very successful day of work last week.

The library of McGill University is about to inaugurate a system of travelling libraries. Each one will consist of twenty-five books, carefully selected, upon miscellaneous subjects, or, if desired, upon a special topic. One or more of these libraries may be taken entire, but individual books cannot be taken from different libraries.

At the first meeting of the new congregation of Westmount, Rev. Prof. Ross in the chair, it was unanimously decided to name the church St. Andrew's. Messrs. R. Harvie, A. C. Hutchison, A. Macintosh, J. A. Macmaster and William Minto were appointed trustees. The following officers and managers were elected to hold office until next January, viz: President, Mr. Robert Harvie; vice-president, Mr. J. A. Macmaster; secretary, Mr. H. C. Russell; treasurer, Mr. William Minto; board of managers, Messrs George Wood, E. M. Campbell, G. H. Cornell, J. Armstrong, R. Sharp, G. W. Hutchison, F. S. Cooper and Alex Macintosh.

Northern Ontario.

The next meeting of Owen Sound Presbytery will be held at Owen Sound on 18th December, at 10 a.m.

On the evening of the 9th inst., the C. E. Society of Chalmers church, Flesherston, held an enjoyable "At Home" in the basement of the church.

The Presbytery of Owen Sound at its last meeting, "heartily recommends to ministers and elders within the bounds of its Presbytery the holding of special services for the deepening of spiritual life in the believer and the awakening of the unconverted, and reappoints the committee, viz: Messrs. Smith, McNabb, Little, Waits, Armstrong and Ledingham, with instructions to correspond with sessions, and to co-operate with them in holding services with the above object in view."

Ayrshire has not been for years a purely Scottish county. Of its population some twelve thousand were actually born in Ireland, and probably four times twelve thousand are of Irish descent, or else half Irish and half Scotch.

Western Ontario.

Rev. B. B. William, Guelph, has been preaching at Maple.

Rev. Gilbert R. Wilson has declined the call to Drummondville.

Rev. J. W. Bell has been appointed to Kew Beach, for two years.

Rev. J. W. Mitchell, M. A., has been appointed to Blackheath for a year.

St. Andrew's church, Arthur, is extending a call to Mr. Allison, Woodbridge.

The Rev. R. M. Hamilton, Presbytery church, Brantford, has been called to Markham.

Rev. J. C. Smith has been called to Lucan and Fraser, and asked time for consideration.

The Presbytery of Huron will hereafter meet quarterly instead of six times a year, as formerly.

Rev. R. Henderson tendered his resignation of the congregations of Manchester and Smith's Hill.

The Morriston congregation has been celebrating the tenth anniversary of Rev. Wm. Robertson's pastorate.

Rev. Mr. Dickie, Orangeville, conducted highly successful anniversary services last Sunday in Division St. church, Owen Sound.

Miss Nettie Martin, on the eve of her leaving Exeter for Toronto, was presented with a purse in appreciation of her services as church organist.

Huron Presbytery has approved of the Assembly's remit on synodical powers, and expressed disapproval of that on Sabbath school field secretary.

Rev. Robert Laird, M.A., Brockville, has been giving a series of useful addresses on "The Church; Its Work." His subject on the first was "Prayer and the Prayer Meeting."

Rev. Alexander McMillan, of St. Enoch's, has been giving his popular lecture on the "Homes and Haunts of Sir Walter Scott," to our young Anglican friends in St. Peter's, Toronto.

Rev. J. R. M. Glassford, Guelph, is preaching a course of sermons specially directed to young men and women. The first dealt with "Doubt" from the text: "O thou of little faith, wherefore didst thou doubt?" and was listened to by a large congregation.

Mr. W. Macdonald, who has removed from Guelph to take a position on the Hamilton Post, was presented with a gold-headed cane by friends in Knox church; and he was also tendered a supper at which he was presented with a purse and an address.

The Ladies' Aid of the Alma church, recently held a successful entertainment, the proceeds of which amounted to \$36, to be devoted to repairing the gable end of the church. Dr. Wallace made an ideal chairman and submitted an attractive programme.

Rev. W. J. Clark, London, is announced to preach anniversary sermons in St. Paul's church, Bowmanville, on the 25th inst. There will be a tea-meeting on the following evening, after which Rev. J. J. Ross, Oshawa, will lecture on "Some People I have Met."

At a recent meeting of the Brantford Ministerial Association Rev. Dr. Y. Ross, M. A., of St. George, gave an interesting and scholarly paper on Literature in the Time of Moses. He commended his paper to the judgment of his hearers by the impartial presentation of the subject, and was the recipient of well-earned words of commendation.

At the residence of Mr. Alex Hill, Guelph, Mr. A. J. Little, who recently removed to Toronto, was made the recipient of tokens of the goodwill and esteem of officers and members of Chalmers church. These took the form of an address, accompanied by a well filled purse. A pleasant evening was spent, and the hospitality of Mr. and Mrs. Hill greatly appreciated.

The Presbytery of London has sustained the call from Dunwich and South Ekfrid to Mr. D. T. Ellison, and in case of acceptance the moderator and clerk were authorized to appoint subjects for ordination trials, the presbytery to meet at Duff's church on Tuesday, Dec. 11, at 10 a.m. to hear the trials, and should they be sustained, proceed to ordination at the same place at 2 o'clock p.m.

In the matter of the General Assembly remit re Sunday schools, it was moved in Stratford Presbytery, that in the matter of (a) visitation by sessions and Presbytery that they take no action; (b) Sunday school extension, that they take no action; (c) of a Sunday school and field secretary it was resolved, on motion of Mr. Panton and Dr. Hamilton that it be held over until next meeting.