

Ministers and Churches.

DR. COCHRANE has received £200 sterling for Home Missions from the Free Church of Scotland.

THE Presbytery of Columbia has nominated the Rev. D. M. Gordon for Moderator of the General Assembly.

THE Executive Committee on Home Missions have appointed Rev. A. McLaren, of Springfield, Man., to Comox, British Columbia.

THE Rev. C. McKillop, of Lethbridge, having been appointed inspector of schools for the district, has resigned his office as trustee.

THE Rev. Dr. D. McTavish, of Lindsay, preached vigorous and telling discourses in St. James Square Church, Toronto, on Sabbath last. In the morning he preached on Foreign Missions, and in the evening a special sermon to young men.

IN the absence of the Rev. Mungo Fraser, M.A., the pastor of Knox Church, Hamilton, who was filling the pulpit of Knox Church, Galt, the Rev. George Sexton, M.A., Sc.D. LL.D., preached to large congregations both morning and evening.

AT the annual meeting at Fort Massey Church, Halifax, the Rev. R. F. Burns, D.D., pastor, the following contributions for congregational and general purposes were reported: Sabbath offerings, \$4,461.28; Schemes of the Church, etc., \$1,692; debt extinction fund, \$3,413.69; total, \$9,566.97.

NEWS has been received of the death of Mrs. Black, wife of Rev. J. S. Black, formerly of Erskine Church, Montreal. The deceased lady was well known and highly respected in that city, where she leaves a large number of friends to mourn her loss. Mr. Black was for ten years the pastor of Erskine Church, but resigned his charge in 1884, on account of his wife's ill-health. The death took place at Colorado Springs last week.

THE anniversary of Knox Church, Harriston, was observed last Sabbath, when the Rev. J. Mutch, M.A., of Toronto, preached two excellent sermons to large congregations. The tea meeting on Monday evening was addressed by Revs. J. Mutch and J. Campbell, of Listowel, A. S. Allan, M.P.P., and J. McMullan, M.P. The pastor, Rev. M. C. Cameron, occupied the chair. The proceeds of the anniversary amounted to \$140.20.

THE questions on "The State of Religion," just issued from Dr. Reid's office in Toronto, when filed up, should be sent to the Presbytery's Convener on the State of Religion, and not to the Rev. J. A. R. Dickson, Galt, to whom some are being sent. The Synodical Reports alone are to be sent to him. Sessions should return answers at once to the Convener of their respective Presbyteries, so that they may be able to prepare full and satisfactory reports.

THE Rev. Mr. McConnell, Presbyterian minister, Craigville, was the subject of a brutal assault last week. The rev. gentleman was returning from the Presbytery, Barrie, and had just left the train to go to his house which is only a short distance from the station, when he was followed by a man, who knocked him down and kicked him about the body so that he is badly bruised, and it is believed one of his ribs is fractured. Mr. McConnell was picked up and taken to the house of Mr. Crow, close by, and was followed by his assailant, who tried to break in and renew the attack.

THE annual meeting of St. John Presbyterian Church, St. John, N.B., was held on January 25. The reports from all branches of the work were most encouraging. During the five years of the Rev. T. F. Fotheringham's pastorate, the communion roll has increased from sixty to 140, and the attendance from a number indefinitely small to an average of 350. The amount raised by weekly offerings, etc., last year was \$2,323, as against \$2,106 the previous year. The total for all purposes was \$2,993, being an average of \$21 per communicant, or \$35 per family. The financial affairs of the Church were never more prosperous, and the spiritual condition is most hopeful.

THE Rev. R. P. McKay presided at the sixty-second public meeting of the Knox College Metaphysical and Literary Society, which was held last week in Convocation Hall. The subject of debate was, "That morality increases with civilization." Messrs. A. A. Mitchell, B.A., and H. E. A. Read, B.A., spoke in the affirmative, and Messrs. Pettinger and M. C. Rumford, B.A., in the negative. The chairman gave the victory to the affirmatives. Mr. E. R. Hutt was the reader of the evening, and Mr. T. R. Shearer, the essayist, his subject being "The Oldest Book in the World."

THE annual meeting of Melville Church, Brussels, was held on Monday, January 30, Rev. John Ross, B.A., in the chair. The revenue for the year, for congregational purposes, was \$1,519.50, while contributions to the Schemes of the Church amounted to \$472.47, making a total for all purposes of \$1,991.97. The trustees elected were W. R. Wilson, Alexander Stewart and Duncan McLaughlin; William Taylor, Dr. Graham. P. Richie, Alexander Stewart, Jr., J. M. Martin, James Grieve, W. R. Wilson, O. Smith, A. McKay, W. Innis, and A. Good, managers; Alexander Stewart, W. R. Wilson, Mr. Graham, Mrs. Martin and Mrs. Skene, Missionary Association; J. M. McIntosh and John Shaw, auditors.

THE annual meeting of the York congregation—now East Toronto—was held on the evening of the 17th ult., and the various reports showed everything to be in a flourishing state. The advances made during the past year were very encouraging, and the outlook was bright for the future. The following gentlemen were appointed into offices for the ensuing year: Mr. J. M. McCulloch, re-elected secretary; Mr. R. Davy, treasurer; and Messrs. McCulloch, senr., Monteith, Cameron, Matthews and Lindsay as managers. The report of the Sabbath school was also very encouraging, the one great drawback being the want of a library. An effort, however, will be made at an early date to supply this great need, and furnish the school with all the advantages possible.

THE monthly social, held the first Thursday in every month by the congregation and Young People's Association of St. James Square Church, took place last Thursday night as usual, the honorary president, the Rev. Dr. Kellogg, presiding as the host of the evening. The social was very largely attended, and was carried out in the nature of an "At Home," all the parlours of the church being thrown open, and a large refreshment booth, handsomely decorated, constructed in the centre of the main parlour. Every one helped to make the "At Home" a most enjoyable and sociable event, and the conspiracy was a decided success. The programme was taken part in by Miss Lily Woodbridge, Miss Dunn, Miss Aggie Johnston, Misses Kerr, Mr. Ross, and the Spadina Avenue orchestra.

THE tea meeting and entertainment held in the Presbyterian Church, Ivy, last week, was a grand success. The ladies of the church provided an excellent tea, which was served in the Orange Hall. After justice had been done to the sumptuous spread, the party returned to the church, where the programme of the evening was proceeded with. Addresses were given by the Rev. Messrs. D. D. McLeod, and W. H. Barnes, of Barrie; R. McCulloch, Cookstown; Stuart Acheson, Cloverhill; and Thomas McKee, P.S.I., South Simcoe, which were highly appreciated. The Guild Choir, of Christ Church, Barrie, rendered some of their fine music, which was well received. The pastor of the church, Rev. J. J. Cochrane, acted as chairman on the occasion, and seemed more than pleased at the success of the tea meeting and entertainment.

THE Canadian Auxiliary of the McAll Mission held its annual meeting Thursday Feb. 2, in the Young Men's Christian Association ladies' parlour. The officers elected for the year were: Mrs. E. Blake, president; Mrs. W. S. Finch, Mrs. Duncan Clark, Mrs. MacVicar, Mrs. Howitt, Miss Copp, vice-presidents; Miss Cavan, treasurer; Miss Carty, secretary; Mrs. J. Kerr, Mrs. Dr. Aikens, Mrs. J. Campbell, Mrs. J. Gooderham, Mrs. Lister, Miss Ogden, Miss Inglis, Miss McCallum, Miss Carty, committee. There had been raised during the year \$1,053. The McAll Mission now supports 100 halls in France, besides Sunday schools, weekly classes, industrial schools and circulating libraries. It was reported arrangements had been made to support two halls, one at Rochefort and one at La Rochelle, at an annual cost of \$1,000, and although this amount was double that subscribed last year the money had been raised.

THE annual meeting of the Kirkwall auxiliary of the Woman's Foreign Mission Society was held on Tuesday, January 10. There was a large attendance of the women of the congregation. The annual report showed that meetings had been held regularly on the second Tuesday of each month, with an average attendance of twenty-five. In the month of September a large bale of clothing valued at \$55 was contributed to the Indian mission on Piapot's Reserve. During the year one of the members, Miss Wight, gave herself to mission work and is now labouring successfully among the Sioux Indians in the neighbourhood of Portage la Prairie. The membership is now forty-three. Nearly all the members take the monthly *Letter Leaflet*. Last year \$97 were contributed to the general fund. This year's contribution—\$144—shows a gratifying increase, all of it raised by monthly contributions and mite boxes. Mrs. Ewart, president of the general society, was present at the meeting, and organized a mission band and addressed the meeting. The following officers were elected for the current year: Mrs. Carruthers, president; re-elected; Mrs. Menzies, first vice-president; Mrs. Elwin Gray, second vice-president; Miss Julia Stuart, secretary; Miss Cowie, treasurer, re-elected.

THE annual meeting of St. Paul's Church, Peterborough, was held on January 25, and the different reports were of a very encouraging nature. There are connected with the congregation 320 families, and 1,660 communicants, a net increase of eight families and thirty communicants during the year. There are 450 names on the roll of the Church Sabbath school, and one hundred on the rolls of two other Sabbath schools connected with the Church. There are nineteen elders, five new ones having been ordained during the year. The contributions, for strictly congregational purposes, amounted to \$6,324, of which sum, \$4,600 was raised by weekly offerings, the rest consisted of special contributions for the reduction of the debt. The contributions for the Schemes of the Church amounted to \$2,187, of which sum \$365 was given to Home Missions, \$790 to Foreign Missions, \$200 to French Evangelization, \$170 to Augmentation, \$559 to Colleges (ordinary and special), \$84 to Aged and Infirm Ministers' and Widows' and Orphans'. In addition to this, \$790 was raised for other religious and benevolent objects. There is every prospect of the debt on the church being still further reduced during the coming year, as several large subscriptions were promised for this purpose at the meeting.

THE annual meeting of the congregation of Chalmers Church, York Town Line, held on the evening of the 19th ult., showed everything to be in a very satisfactory condition. The secretary-treasurer and managers were unanimously re-elected. The superintendent and treasurer of the Sabbath school were also re-elected. Mr. William Latham was appointed librarian and Mr. Andrew M. Heron, secretary. The Sabbath school entertainment in connection with the Christmas tree—held some time previously—was a pronounced success. All the speeches, recitations and music was exceedingly well rendered, and about \$28 realized for the good of the school. The congregation took advantage of the opportunity then given to present the organist—Miss Helen Thompson—with a handsome ice pitcher, and Mr. Robert Brown with a gold pen and case as tokens of appreciation for service they had rendered. Subsequently the congregation presented the Rev. T. T. Johnston, minister in charge, with a well-filled purse and Mrs. Johnston with a beautiful set of dishes as evidences also of their appreciation. The associated congregation—East Toronto—has not been backward either in its tokens of good-will and esteem toward the minister and his family, so that their lines have evidently fallen unto them in pleasant places.

THE annual meeting of the West Presbyterian Church was held on Tuesday evening, January 17. In the Session's report we are told that on Nov. 6 last the pastor, Rev. R. Wallace, stated that he was inducted just twenty years before, and that during that time he had received 1,800 into the membership, 409 of these during the last two years; there are now 740 on the communion roll; there had been thirty-two deaths during the year, eighty infants and two adults were baptized. The attendance had been very large both at the church service, and Sabbath school. There are 705 names on the Sabbath school roll, and nearly 150 more in the large Bible class held at the same time. The revenue reported by the managers was \$5,441.61; revenue of Sabbath school, \$545.19; Ladies' Aid Fund, \$167.05; \$75 of this handed to the managers, and included in their account; balance, \$92.05; Mr. Chiniquy received, apart from the \$184 given him by the managers, \$370; Burnt Auxiliary and Young People's Association, \$94.74; Mission Sabbath School collection, \$47; by other objects, about \$40; total, \$6,630.57. The whole amount given to the Schemes of the General Assembly was \$6,570.04, and of this \$260 were contributed through the Sabbath school. This was largely in advance of 1886, and it is expected that a very much larger amount will be received during this year. The revenue under the control of the managers was on an average some \$13 per Sabbath more than the preceding year, thus leaving a balance on hand of \$522.91, the most encouraging report ever presented. The pastor's salary was increased to \$2,000, and the salaries of Miss McGregor, organist and leader of choir, from \$200 to \$400 and that of Mr. Kipoch, caretaker, from \$200 to \$300.

THE annual meetings of the congregation of Dunbarton and Melville Church, Scarborough, were held on Tuesday and Wednesday, January 10 and 11 respectively, and notwithstanding the financial depression the reports indicate the most successful year in the history of this united charge. From the reports, as published at length in the *Pickering News*, we gather the following facts: The pastor, the Rev. R. M. Craig, occupied the chair at these meetings. The Session's report shows that there are at present 197 members on the roll, of whom twenty-four were added during the year. The Sabbath schools are in a flourishing condition, whilst the prayer meeting is fairly attended. The financial reports have surpassed the expectations of even the most sanguine. The revenue and expenditure of the Dunbarton congregation for strictly congregational purposes is \$2,054, and for the Schemes of the Church is \$214, being an average of upward of \$47 per family; whilst Melville Church reports a revenue of \$2,294, with an expenditure of \$2,092 for congregational purposes, \$152 to the Schemes of the Church and a balance of \$50, the expenditure being at the rate of \$56 per family. Two handsome new churches have been opened since last report at a cost of upward of \$11,000, and capable of seating 500 people, and with the exception of about \$590, the total cost of both has been met. The report speaks in very complimentary terms of the work of the Ladies' Aid Society, which has raised upward of \$550 toward the furnishing of the Dunbarton Church. The secretary's report closes as follows: "It is pleasing to know that these congregations are prospering financially, but more so to know that they are prospering spiritually. There is spiritual life and consequently spiritual growth and fruit." "He that abideth in Me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit."

ON the 22nd of January was opened for public worship at Corbett the handsome brick church which had been in course of erection since June. Without being ostentatious, this house of prayer is a neat, tasty structure that will cost about \$2,000. The site was given free by Mr. Corbett, a liberal friend of the Episcopal Church. The pews are very comfortable, and well arranged with a seating capacity of 250. To the satisfaction of whomsoever may be called to preach there, the pulpit is a most commodious one, and the echo such that it presents no difficulty to the speaker or hearer. The audience room is lighted with good windows, and two powerful chandeliers afford plenty of light for all evening services. This is the first Presbyterian Church that ever was built in this comparatively new part of the country, and when we consider that it is not yet two years since missionary work was first begun in this vicinity, the congregation deserve credit for their activity and liberality in the beginning of their history. On the morning and evening of the opening services, the Rev. James Pritchard, of Forest, preached two appropriate and stirring sermons, and in the afternoon Rev. John S. Lochead, of Parkhill, preached with eloquence and acceptance. The attendance at the three services was overflowing, the collections amounting to \$72.66. On Monday evening, Jan. 23, a tea meeting was held, presided over by John Waters, M.P.P., when addresses were delivered by several clergymen and others. Excellent music was furnished by the Presbyterian choir of the neighbouring town, Parkhill, thus rendering the programme very interesting. The proceeds of the evening were: By ticket, \$139.90; by gifts of a few friends, \$100; total for both days, \$312.56. The debt of the church is almost covered by subscriptions payable in two years. This congregation was organized under the pastorate of Rev. S. A. Carriere, who is the present pastor of the congregation. It is sincerely hoped that the present activity and prosperity may long continue, and that the new church erected to the service of the great Godhead may be the means of bringing many souls to Christ.

PRESBYTERY OF SARNIA.—This Presbytery held an adjourned meeting in St. Andrew's Church, there, on Tuesday, 17th ult. Mr. Scott, a minister of the Chatham Presbytery being present, was asked to take a seat with the court. Mr. Cuthbertson, in terms of his instructions, reported that he had organized the mission stations of Marthaville and Brooke, and laid on the table a roll of communicants from those places. It was agreed to approve of Mr. Cuthbertson's conduct, declare these stations to be known as Marthaville and Brooke, as constituted by the roll submitted by Mr. Cuthbertson, and that these be under the