

MINISTERS AND CHURCHES.

THE anniversary services in connection with St. Matthew's Presbyterian church, Osnaburck, were held on Sabbath, August 1st. The Rev. R. H. Warden, of Montreal, preached morning and evening to overflowing congregations. Both sermons were able, earnest, and thoroughly practical. One hundred and sixty-five new members have been added during the year. The Rev. D. L. McCrae, the pastor, has been presented with a handsome sum of money to enable him to enjoy a holiday at the seaside. He is at present sojourning at Metis.

It is gratifying to notice how many ministers are at present away on their holidays. Congregations are finding out that it is for their own interests as well as for the comfort and health of their pastors that such yearly furloughs from labour should be had. Things prosper all the better both spiritually and financially when these reasonable arrangements are taken simply as matter of course and it is a token for good to note how increasingly this is the case. We are sure the brethren would not thank us for giving the names of those who are at Orchard Beach, Muskoka, California, Constantinople, etc., etc. It is better that each should enjoy himself as and where he pleases, without any record being made of his movements. Sufficient that all have rest, without the particulars being proclaimed from the house tops.

ON the 29th ult., the corner stone of a new Presbyterian church was laid at Chateauguay (Basin) in presence of an unusually large gathering. The church is to be of stone and will cost about \$4000. This is a necessary and courageous undertaking for the thirty-five families of the congregation. The order of programme was singing, reading scripture, prayer, reading an historic sketch of the congregation by the pastor (Rev. T. Bennett), and a sketch of the work of the Building Committee, by Mr. R. Lang, which together with the other usual documents were deposited in the corner stone; laying the corner stone, and a special address by the Rev. Dr. Macvicar; a free lunch, and short speeches by the Revs. Dr. Muir, C. Mackeracher, G. Coull, J. Mitchell and by Dr. Laberge, M.P., and Mr. R. Sellar, of the "Huntingdon Gleaner."—COM.

ON Tuesday, 3rd inst., according to appointment of Presbytery, the Rev. Evan Macaulay was inducted into the pastoral oversight of the congregation of West Puslinch. The only members of Presbytery present were Revs. Dr. McKay, of Duff's Church, East Puslinch; J. K. Smith, M.A., of Knox Church, Galt; and Robert Torrance, of Guelph. Mr. Smith preached an impressive, appropriate, and earnest sermon, describing the Church in her spirituality, liberty, fruitfulness, and unity. Mr. Torrance narrated the steps in the call to Mr. Macaulay, put to him the questions of the formula appointed for such occasions, inducted him into the pastoral charge of the congregation, and all the rights and privileges pertaining thereto, and then addressed him on the qualifications to be possessed, exhibited, and cultivated by the Gospel minister, and the duties he was required to discharge. Mr. Rodgers, of Collingwood, who was present, at the request of the Presbytery next addressed the people in English, and afterwards Dr. McKay addressed them in Gaelic on their obligations under a settled pastor. Mr. Macaulay was introduced to the people at the door of the church as they retired, by Mr. Smith, and to the session by Dr. McKay. Mr. Meldrum was also present and took part in the services, leading in prayer in Gaelic. The meeting was large and apparently deeply interested in the service. Mr. Macaulay enters upon an important field of labour.

AT a special meeting of the Toronto Ministerial Association held in the parlour of Shaftesbury Hall last week, the following resolutions relating to the Island services were unanimously adopted: "That whereas it has been brought to the notice of this Association that the Island ferry boats are running on the Lord's day, contrary, as we understand, to an ordinance of the city, if not in defiance of the law of the land; and whereas, we fear this is only part of a concerted effort on the part of certain parties to degrade the Lord's day from its proper position as a day of sacred rest and religious observance, into a season of amusement and dissipation; and, whereas, we believe this to be not only contrary to the teaching of the Word of God, and inimical to the interests of religion,

but also fraught with danger to the men employed in running the boats, and of society in general; and, whereas, it has come to our knowledge that the religious services which have recently been conducted by certain of our number on the Sabbath afternoons at the Island have been urged as a justification of the running of these ferry boats, therefore, *Resolved*.—1. That while we should heartily rejoice in any legitimate and proper means that could be devised for supplying the people residing on the Island with religious services, and would cheerfully lend our aid to any scheme of this kind, we should most seriously deprecate anything which would even have the appearance of giving countenance to the running of ferry boats on the Lord's day, or any other form of Sabbath desecration. 2. That while we fully recognize the right of every minister of Christ to preach the Gospel wherever and whenever he can, by proper means, get a congregation disposed to hear him, and while we have no reason to doubt that the esteemed brethren who have conducted religious services at Hanlan's hotel on the Island on certain Sunday afternoons recently have acted from the purest and best of motives, yet, in view of the effect that it would be almost sure to have on the general question of Sabbath observance, and especially on the question of the running of ferry boats on the Lord's day, which we can only regard as an iniquity and calamity, we are decidedly of opinion that the continuance of the Sabbath afternoon services on the Island, by the ministers of the city, would be unwise and mischievous so long as these services are made a pretext and excuse for Sabbath desecration."

PRESBYTERY OF OTTAWA.—This Presbytery met on the 3rd inst., in St. Andrew's Church, Ottawa. Mr. Maguire, of Wakefield, was appointed Moderator for the next six months. A call from North Gower unanimously in favour of Mr. James A. Anderson, with a guarantee of seven hundred dollars as stipend and a manse, was sustained. Also another call from Richmond in favour of Mr. T. S. Glassford, with a guarantee of five hundred dollars as stipend, a manse, and ten acres of land. In this case an application for one hundred dollars from the Home Mission Fund as supplement for one year at least was put in along with the call. This call was also sustained. Both calls were ordered to be forwarded immediately. Attention was called to the necessity of having arrangements made to collect contributions in mission fields early in the season for the Home Mission Fund. It was also understood that congregations would endeavour to raise about the same amount as was raised last year for Home Missions. Mr. McDiarmid gave an interesting and encouraging report respecting Canaan and North Indian in the Bearbrook district. It was agreed to send in a deputation to ascertain the number of families in the field and also to canvass for subscriptions with a view to placing an ordained missionary in charge of the field composed of Bearbrook, South Indian, North Indian, and Canaan. Mr. Clark read a circular from Mr. McEwen, Assembly's Convener of Sabbath School Committee. The subject to which the circular related was deferred till adjourned meeting in September. Mr. McClelland was appointed interim Moderator of the session of Osgoode. The Clerk was instructed to write again to those in arrears to the Presbytery and Synod Funds. It was agreed to levy twelve cents per family for the maintenance of these funds during the current year, and that this amount be called for at the November meeting. The report of the Commission of Presbytery to meet with the Aylmer congregation was read and approved. Standing committees for the year were appointed on State of Religion, with Mr. Whillans as Convener; on Sabbath schools, with Mr. Clark as Convener; Home Missions, with Mr. Farries, Convener; French Evangelization, Dr. Moore, Convener; Statistics, Mr. Caven, Convener; also examiners for license and ordination. A committee was also appointed on the examination of students, with attention called to sections 135 and 144 in the Rules and Forms of Procedure. Of this committee Mr. Armstrong was appointed Convener. The names of students within the bounds and to whom subjects were prescribed for written exercises are Archibald Lee, Geo. Whillans, Robert Gamble, William Geddes, A. McLaren. The Clerk, in the absence of Mr. Armstrong, was instructed to forward subjects to the above named students. Mr. McNaughton gave notice of his intention to introduce an overture on the Probationer's Scheme. A scheme for conducting missionary meetings was adopted.—

PRESBYTERY OF OWEN SOUND.—This Presbytery met in Keady for ordinary business and Presbyterial visitation on 20th July. The Clerk was instructed to send the books of the late Presbytery of Owen Sound to Knox College for safe keeping, and members of Presbytery were instructed to send any documents bearing on the early history of Presbyterianism to the Clerk for transmission. The Presbytery agreed to certify Mr. Snyder to the Senate of Knox College. Members of Presbytery were appointed to attend to the schemes of the Church within the bounds of Presbytery: Mr. Mordy, for Colleges; Mr. Cameron, for French Evangelization; Mr. Somerville, for Home Mission; Mr. Scott, for Foreign Missions; Mr. Stevenson, for Aged Ministers' and Widows' Fund. In accordance with the notice given at the meeting in March, Mr. Dewar moved for a consideration of the deliverance anent the visitation in Lake Shore and Leith. The Presbytery agreed to strike out the clause recommending the congregation to extend their limits in the direction of the Gravel Road. The Presbytery took Mr. McLaren on trial for license. The examination in all the branches prescribed was satisfactory, and he was duly licensed to preach the Gospel. The Presbytery then proceeded with the visitation. The Presbytery considering the replies to the questions addressed to the congregation of Keady, resolves as follows: "1. To express its gratification at the prosperity in the spiritual and temporal affairs of the congregation. 2. While pleased at the special interest manifested by the young in the prayer meeting, it would urge upon the heads of families the duty of attending more generally. 3. That in view of the large debt, increased efforts be made to have it liquidated. 4. The Presbytery desires to express its gratitude to God for His continued goodness to the congregation." On the morning of Wednesday the Presbytery met with the congregation at Peabody. After examination it was agreed as follows: "The Presbytery takes pleasure in recording its satisfaction with the general financial and spiritual condition of the congregation, but would specially draw the attention of the session to the propriety of establishing a prayer meeting, and of dividing the congregation into Elders' Districts. The Presbytery is glad to find that the congregation acknowledge the fairness of paying \$20 per annum to Keady congregation to help with the manse fund. The Presbytery would implore the divine blessing to descend upon them, and finally commend the congregation to God and to the Word of His grace, which is able to build them up and give them an inheritance among them that are sanctified." The Presbytery agreed on the following deliverance anent the visitation held in Desboro' congregation on Wednesday evening: "It is with great satisfaction the Presbytery has made their visitation of Desboro' congregation. The beautiful house built for the worship of God is worthy of notice and praise, and should be held up for imitation to all our country congregations. It is also pleasing to notice the tokens given that the cause of God is on the whole prospering, notwithstanding the great drawback of service only once a fortnight. The Presbytery would kindly suggest to the congregation that it would be only right that the Desboro' section should make their annual stipend equal to that paid by Peabody, that is \$175, so as, thereby, to remove misunderstanding and complaint, and to save the pastor from a possible loss of the difference between that sum and the sum now paid by Desboro'. The Presbytery would also kindly and faithfully press on the Session and congregation the duty of establishing a weekly prayer meeting, and the duty also of dividing the congregation into districts, so that each elder may know the families under his charge. Taking a general view of all God has done for His cause, let the Presbytery and congregation set up their Ebenezer saying, 'Hitherto hath the Lord helped us.'" Much interest was manifested in the meetings, there being full congregations in the churches to meet the Presbytery. A petition was presented from the congregation of Euphrasia and Holland praying the Presbytery to moderate in a call to a minister. The Moderator of the session was authorized to do so at a convenient time before the next meeting of Presbytery. The Presbytery Treasurer's books were audited and found correct, and Mr. Stevenson was re-appointed with a hearty vote of thanks for past services. Session records were ordered to be laid on the table at next meeting of Presbytery. Mr. McDiarmid reported that Crawford station had been organized. The report was received, and the name of the station added to the roll of Presbytery.