

## MINISTERS AND CHURCHES.

THE Rev. Alex. Young, of Napanee, is lecturing on the "Evidences of Christianity." In his hands the treatment of this important subject will doubtless be interesting and useful.

SPECIAL services were recently held in connection with Caven Church, Bolton, with encouraging results. They were conducted for four weeks on four nights of each week. Several most clear and interesting cases of conversion have occurred; and all the members who found it convenient to attend speak very highly of the benefits received.

THE Presbyterian congregation of Cayuga held a soiree on Wednesday, the 20th ult., the proceeds of which are to go towards defraying the expense of certain improvements on the church. Mr. Jas. Mitchell occupied the chair, and addresses were delivered by Rev. Messrs. Vincent, Burns, Black and Grant, and Mr. J. G. Montgomery. The amount realized was about \$70.

ON the evening of the 22nd ult. Mr. and Mrs. Acheson were agreeably surprised to find the members of the Bible class, at Wick, call at the manse laden with baskets filled with good things. When seated around the tea-table Mr. Acheson was presented with a purse of money. At the same time Mrs. Shedden, Mrs. D. Leask, and Mrs. A. Leask presented (through the Bible class) Mrs. Acheson with a beautiful crystal and china tea-set. These presents were accompanied with addresses expressive of the donors' good wishes and esteem for their pastor and his wife to which Mr. Acheson replied in suitable terms.—COM.

THE Annual Soiree of the Presbyterian Church, Alton, was held on the 19th ult., got up in splendid style by the young people of the congregation, T. Russel, J. P., in the chair. The speakers were the Revs. D. J. McInnes of Erin, R. Fowle of Hillsburgh, Walter Amos of Aurora, J. H. Culwell (congregational) of Alton. The Alton Union Choir, led by Mr. Holden of Alton, rendered excellent music, the church was crowded, the speaking was humorous and interesting, the provisions were first-class and abundant, so much so that a Social was held on the 21st—in short it was a decided success, the proceeds amounting to \$54, in aid of the building fund.—COM.

ON Sabbath, the 24th ult., a very neat and commodious frame church, to be known as Knox Church, was dedicated in the prosperous village of Leamington in the county of Essex. Service in the morning and evening was conducted by the Rev. John Gray, of Windsor, and in the afternoon by Rev. Wm. Forrest, late of Tilbury. At each service the church was filled to its utmost capacity, and the most earnest spirit seemed to prevail. On Wednesday evening a tea-meeting was held when the church was again literally packed. Addresses were delivered by the resident ministers, Forrest and Gray. At the close of his address Mr. Gray made an appeal to those who were present, for subscriptions to liquidate the debt still remaining upon the church, which was responded to to the amount of \$451. This, with Sabbath collections, amounted to the very considerable sum of \$576.89. The field is almost entirely new and the congregation small, but we sincerely trust that with their new church they may enter upon a very prosperous and blessed work.

ON Thursday evening, the 19th of Feb., a large number of the congregation and parishioners of the Rev. William Aitken, of Vaughan, took forcible possession of the manse, which is situated near Richmond Hill Railway Station. It is a pleasing sort of burglarious attempt to have one's house seized, and made the repository of all the good things that pertain to a surprise party of the first water. The friends of Mr. and Mrs. Aitken took the garrison by storm, and having laid the cups and saucers and all the miscellaneous refreshments, it was then seen to be a question of time how long the good things would stand out against such a siege. How the thing was managed report sayeth not. Whether it was Santa Claus making his last round after Christmas, or the more astute patron Saint Andrew of Scotland, whose generosity has passed into a proverb, some one at all events of that ilk brought to the door a cutter of lovely build, and from its capacity suitable to the proverbially large and growing family of a man: e. Notwithstanding the warmth of the season, the saint in question, mindful of what the Canadian winter may be in the years to come, brought

with the cutter a beautiful robe. After the service of tea, the friends crowded around the pastor and his wife and family, and by the following address signed by Mr. James Malloy, showed there was a goodly number of patron saints who knew the secret of the cutter and robe: "Rev. Sir,—We the members and adherents of your church, do hereby show our gratitude to you, by presenting you with a cutter and robe as a small token of respect for your zealous and ardent labors amongst us for so many years, trusting that you will receive it with pleasure, and praying that you may be spared many years to enjoy its use, while laboring amongst us for our well-being and spiritual good. Accept the gift, dear pastor, as an expression of our sincere desire that your labors may be crowned with success, and as a mark of our great respect for Mrs. Aitken and family." The address concluded with an assurance that the kindness and good will ever shown by Mr. Aitken towards all classes of the community would never be forgotten. This cordial address drew from Mr. Aitken a warm and appreciative reply, expressed in graceful terms. And the friends having enjoyed a happy evening, returned to their homes feeling all the better for their kindly remembrance of their pastor, and leaving Mr. and Mrs. Aitken with the proud consciousness of being loved and appreciated by their friends and neighbors.

PRESBYTERY OF TORONTO.—This Presbytery met on the 4th and 5th current. Rev. J. M. King, moderator. Present with him, thirty-five ministers and thirteen elders, besides two corresponding members. The following were the more noticeable matters transacted by the Presbytery.—A draft minute was read from a committee, previously appointed, with regard to the late Rev. Dr. Inglis of Brooklyn, N.Y., who had been called to be co-pastor by Knox Church congregation, Toronto. The minute was adopted, and ordered to be engrossed in the Presbytery record. Rev. J. Campbell reported moderating in a call from the congregation of Newmarket, to Rev. Wm. Frizzell, probationer. The call, signed by 105 members and concurred in by fifty adherents, with a promise of \$800 as salary, was sustained and put into the hands of Mr. Frizzell, who afterwards declared his acceptance of it. A committee was appointed to assign him trials for ordination; and in hope of the trials proving satisfactory, his ordination was appointed to take place on the first Thursday of April at 2 p.m., Rev. A. Gilray to preach, Principal Caven to preside and address the congregation, and Rev. J. Carmichael of King, to address the minister. Rev. A. McFaul reported moderating in a call from the congregations of Mono East; Mono Mills, and St. Andrew's Church, Caledon, to Rev. A. Tait, probationer. The call was found to be signed by eighty-nine members, and concurred in by fifty-six adherents. The salary promised is \$700. The Presbytery sustained the call, and ordered the same to be transmitted to Mr. Tait. A paper was read from the congregation of Alton, engaging to contribute as part of Rev. A. McFaul's salary \$300, that so they may enjoy his pastoral care, in union with his present congregation at Charleston. It was then resolved that Rev. Dr. Robb, Rev. J. McIntyre, and Mr. George Smith proceed to Alton on the 12th current, and at 2.30 p.m., of that day meet with the people there, and introduce him into the pastorate over them. The following were appointed commissioners to the next General Assembly, of ministers—by rotation, Rev. Dr. Reid, Rev. J. Dick, Rev. R. Wallace, Rev. R. P. McKay, Rev. W. Amos, Rev. J. R. Gilchrist—by ballot, Revs. Dr. Topp, Dr. Caven, D. J. Macdonnell, Professor Gregg, and Professor McLaren; of elders, Hon. J. McMurrich, Messrs. Jno. Barclay, Wm. Adamsom, Thomas W. Taylor, Alex. Duff, David Elder, James McLennan, Q.C., William Barber, Wm. Hood, Hugh McKay, and A. McMurchy, M.A. The case of the congregation of Stouffville was brought up from former minutes; and after finding that \$150 at least, might be relied on yearly from said congregation, it was resolved to apply to the General Assembly's Home Mission Committee for a grant of \$5 per Sabbath, and provide the services of a student missionary during the summer. Rev. J. Gilchrist reported that the members and adherents of our Church at Honeywood, have recently secured a place of worship, and wish to be duly organized and furnished with supply of preaching. On motion made, Rev. J. Gilchrist, and J. M. McIntyre were appointed to organize them, and it was also agreed to make application for a grant to them of \$2 per Sabbath. On report of a

committee, previously appointed, and chiefly in view of favorable testimonials from our ministers in London regarding his conduct since he went there, the Presbytery agreed to remove the suspension from Rev. Evan McAulay. A letter was read from Rev. J. Adams, resigning his charge at West King—on the ground of failing health—and asking leave to retire from the ministry. Whereupon it was moved and agreed, to appoint Professor Gregg to preach to the congregation of West King on the step taken by their minister, to cite them to appear for their interests at next ordinary meeting, and also to confer with them, anent a retiring allowance. An extract minute of the Presbytery of Guelph was read, setting forth a protest taken by said Presbytery in having organized a congregation at Ballinafad, and giving notice of a complaint thereanent to be made to the Synod of Toronto and Kingston. It was moved and agreed to appoint Revs. Dr. Robb, E. D. McLaren, and J. Alexander to represent the Presbytery before the Synod, and defend the action thus to be complained of. A memorial was read from Cooke's Church congregation, Toronto, asking leave from the Presbytery to erect a new church (if deemed fit), on a site not farther north than Carleton Street, not farther west than Yonge Street, and not farther east than Jarvis Street. Commissioners and other parties interested in this matter were heard; and after some discussion, the prayer of the memorial was granted. Rev. D. Mackintosh, on behalf of the congregations of Mount Albert and Ballantrae, stated that these congregations are desirous of a pastor, and propose to raise a salary in the meantime of \$500. The Presbytery agreed to apply for a grant of \$200, conditional on a pastoral settlement. A committee was appointed consisting of Revs. J. M. Cameron, J. Smith, R. P. McKay, and R. D. Fraser, and Mr. Wm. Rennie, to prepare a report for the Synod on the State of Religion, said report to be drawn from the returns of the Sessions throughout the bounds, and to be submitted to next ordinary meeting. A committee was also appointed to confer with students as to Home Mission work during the summer, and to make arrangements thereanent; the committee being Professor McLaren, Dr. Robb, and Rev. A. Gilray. Considerable time was spent on Remits from the General Assembly. As to the Remit of Regulations, anent Ministers', Widows', and Orphans' Fund, a motion and two amendments on the 1st Regulation were put to the vote, the second amendment carrying, to wit, "That one fund be created for the whole Church, provided the same can be effected upon equitable principles." It was also resolved, "That in regard to the remaining Regulations, the Presbytery finds that it has not sufficient information before it to come to an intelligent judgment, and therefore recommends to the Assembly to re-appoint the committee, with instructions to secure for the Church information on the following points: 1st. The exact state of each of the existing funds—including the amount of capital, the number of persons upon them, and the rates paid in each. 2nd. The exact legal bearing of 'the Act of the Province of Quebec, 38 Victoria, lxi., relating to the Ministers', Widows', and Orphans' Fund of the late Presbyterian Church of Canada in connection with the Church of Scotland, upon the possibility of an amalgamation of the various funds." The Presbytery would further suggest that the committee of the Assembly be authorized to secure the services of an actuary, to aid them in maturing a scheme for a common fund, provided that it is found practicable. The Remit, anent a common fund for the maintenance of the Theological Colleges in Montreal, Kingston, and Toronto, was disposed of by the following motion, "That while recognizing the many advantages of a common fund, the Presbytery is nevertheless of opinion that it is not expedient for the General Assembly at present to establish such a fund for the support of the Theological Colleges of Montreal, etc." The Remit on Ecclesiastical Procedure was reported on by a committee; and the committee were re-appointed to carry on their work and report again at next ordinary meeting. The next ordinary meeting was appointed to be held on the first Monday and Tuesday of May, at 11 a.m., with the understanding that Assembly's Remits not yet disposed of shall take precedence of other business; also that any delegates from a distance having business for the Presbytery should appear in the forenoon of Tuesday; and further, that on the evening of that day the reports of visitors to Sabbath Schools within the bounds be heard and disposed of.—R. MONTEATH, Pres. Clerk.