

MINISTERS AND CHURCHES.

THE Rev. D. J. Macdonnell has returned from his European trip, seemingly greatly invigorated by the change.

THE annual social meeting of the congregations of Saltfleet and Binbrook was held on the evening of the 14th inst. The financial result was \$107.

PROBATIONERS having appointments in the Maitland Presbytery are requested to correspond regarding the same with the Rev. R. Leask, St. Helen's.

THERE was a bazaar lately held by the ladies of Chalmers Church, Woodstock, which turned out a great success. The proceeds will be nearly \$600.

AT the close of the prayer meeting on Tuesday evening, the 20th inst., at Ballinafad, Mr. Mowat was presented with a purse on his leaving for Scotland.

REV. T. LOWRY, late pastor of the Presbyterian Church, Brantford, was, on the evening of the 23rd inst., presented with an address and a purse of \$350.

THE Presbyterians of Rat Portage have been organized as a mission station in connection with the Presbytery of Manitoba. The prospects of a strong and vigorous congregation are most encouraging.

WE understand that the congregation of St. John's Church, Halifax, has extended a very harmonious call to the Rev. H. H. McPherson, M.A., of Nassagaweya. It is not as yet known whether Mr. McPherson will accept the call.

AT a late meeting of the Manitoba Presbytery, held at Winnipeg, leave was granted Knox and St. Andrew's Presbyterian Churches to moderate in calls to pastors, both pulpits being vacant. The salary of the first will be \$3 000 and a manse, and the latter \$2,500.

REV. MR. WARDEN has arranged with Grand Trunk authorities for tickets at reduced rates to members of Home Mission Committee attending at Toronto, on 11th prox. Certificates mailed to all concerned. If any have miscarried, a duplicate will be forwarded on application to Mr. Warden.

ON the evening of the 18th inst., Dr. McKay, of Formosa, addressed, with his usual power, a very large audience in Knox Church, Harriston. The collection amounted to something over \$50. It is expected this will be increased to at least \$100 by private contributions. The Doctor's visit to Harriston has been the means of awakening the people, and will no doubt bear abundant fruit in the near future, to the praise and glory of the Master.

THE Sabbath school children of Chalmers Church, Guelph, had their annual picnic on the 19th inst. Although it had originally been intended to have it on the previous Saturday, the rain preventing, the children turned out in force on Monday with appetites that seemed to have been sharpened on account of the postponement. After they had played different games till about five o'clock, over 100 sat down to partake of the cakes and fruit placed before them. Some exciting races took place in the cool of the evening, after which the party dispersed about seven o'clock, well satisfied with the afternoon's fun.

THE congregation of Knox Church, Beckwith, have sustained a serious loss in the removal by death of Mr. Alexander Stewart, who was called away on the 29th August last. Mr. Stewart was for many years one of the leading members of the congregation, having long filled the office of treasurer, and for thirteen years that of ruling elder. In these stations he gave himself freely to the Lord's work, and aided in no small degree in promoting the welfare of the congregation. His life—marked by uprightness, humility, faithfulness as a Christian, patience under trial—had an influence for good upon those among whom he lived. For many years in poor health, he well knew that his time on earth might be soon brought to a close; but he rested his all on the merits of the Saviour, and feared not the prospect of the grave, and when, during the last few months, he was evidently sinking, he was able to express his unbounded confidence in the Redeemer, and had perfect peace in the assured hope of eternal life. He knew whom he had believed, and was persuaded that he was able to keep that which he had committed to Him against that day.—COM.

THE Stratford "Beacon" of the 23rd inst. says of Knox Church, Stratford: "The re-opening of this church will take place on Sunday, the 2nd of October. The work is drawing near to completion, and though

the full effect of the alterations cannot be rightly appreciated until the work is finished, we believe the enhanced appearance of the interior will meet the expectations of the most sanguine. The removal of the side galleries has not only increased the influx of light, but has completely relieved the heavy and crowded appearance of the building. The number of sittings in the area of the church has been increased by 100, and the seats are all so comfortably situated as to leave but little choice between one and another. Those in the rear of the audience room are raised above the level of the others, and protected by a screen from draughts and all discomfort, and will, in many respects, be the most desirable seats in the church; while the new gallery, which has accommodation for about 200 people, will be preferred by many as the most pleasant place of all. The old pulpit is removed, its place to be supplied by a simple but elegant desk at the front of the platform, the rear of which will be occupied by the choir. Professor McLaren, of Knox College, Toronto, whose reputation as a preacher is well known and well deserved, will preach morning and evening on the day of the re-opening; and at the grand festival which the ladies give on the following evening, the assembly will be addressed by Rev. F. McF. McLeod, of Toronto, recent pastor of the congregation; Rev. Dr. Wardrope, of Guelph; Rev. H. H. McPherson, M.A., now under call to St. John's Church, Halifax, and others. The choir is preparing some choice music for the occasion, and a most enjoyable time may be anticipated."

AT the meeting of the Presbytery of St. John, on the 20th inst., a letter was read from Rev. Wm. McCullagh, of St. Andrews, stating that he is in very bad health, and virtually tendering his resignation, as the sea air was too strong for his throat. He was willing, however, to hold on till November, and asked the Presbytery to supply the pulpit till then, on alternate Sabbaths, as by that date he would be in a position to know the result of the medical treatment he was now undergoing. Supply was granted. Rev. Mr. Crockett reported having taken steps to have elders ordained at Campbell settlement. The Presbytery authorized Mr. Crockett to ordain elders at Waterford, and requested the Mission Board to send probationers there. Rev. Dr. McRae reported that he had visited the Cross Roads, where he preached and ordained ten elders. On the next day he preached at Black River, and on Sabbath administered communion at Quaco, where he had a congregation of 300. Last week he visited Gaspereaux station and Clarendon; preached there, and did what was in his power to induce the people to connect themselves with some one denomination. On the Saturday following he preached at Nerepis, and at other places afterwards. Of Nerepis, he could not give a very favourable report, as the lack of continuous services had the effect of driving their young men and women into those other Churches that furnished steady services. At Black River the people are all warmly attached to the Church, but to build up the denomination around Quaco again, regular services were necessary. Rev. Mr. Burgess reported that he also had visited Clarendon, and preached twice. He had urged the Home Mission Board to give a better supply, but they could not for pecuniary reasons. He thought the Presbytery could get 100 men who would give \$8 each a year to pay a travelling missionary to visit the outlying stations, and to perform baptism and other rites of the Church. In the course of a discussion anent the refusal of the St. John and Maine Railway Company to meet the Presbytery's Committee regarding the running of trains on the Sabbath, Judge Stevens expressed the opinion that if any other action was called for it could only be in the direction of applying to the Dominion Parliament for an Act to stop Sunday trains.

PRESBYTERY OF HAMILTON.—This Presbytery met in Hamilton on September 20th. The dispute regarding the manse property at Waterdown was, by the generosity of Messrs. Wilson and Waldie, who guaranteed the amounts necessary on the part of the Waterdown and Nelson congregations respectively, amicably settled. Mr. S. C. Fraser was, at his own request, transferred to the Presbytery of Guelph. The congregations of Merriton and Haynes Avenue, St. Catharines, were separated and made distinct charges, which promise to raise \$500 each for stipend. The Home Mission applications for grants were considered, and it was resolved to apply for the continuation of the present grants and for \$200 each for Merriton

and Haynes Avenue in case of settlement. A call to the Rev. W. D. Rees, from E. Seneca, Blackheath and Caistor, was reported signed by twenty-six members; it was sent back for additional signatures. A call from the congregation at Cobourg to Rev. S. Bruce, was laid on the table, and it was resolved to cite the congregation at St. Catharines to appear at a special meeting, to be held in Hamilton, on Tuesday, October 18th, when the call will be disposed of. Mr. Craigie being laid aside from active duty by a serious ailment, and Dr. James having lost a beloved daughter, the Presbytery gave expression to their sympathy with these brethren. The various schemes were put in charge of the following members of court, who will see that contributions are made to them, viz.: Home Mission, Mr. Bruce; Colleges, Mr. Fletcher; Aged and Infirm Ministers' Fund, Dr. McDonald; Widows' and Orphans', Mr. Porteous; French Evangelization, Mr. Goldsmith; Foreign Mission, Mr. Lyle; Statistics and Finance, Mr. Chrystal. A committee was appointed to arrange for holding a Sabbath school conference.—JOHN LAING, *Pres. Clerk*.

PRESBYTERY OF BRUCE.—This Presbytery held its regular meeting at Walkerton, on the 20th and 22nd inst. It was resolved that all the ministers of the Presbytery give each a Sabbath to the mission stations of the bounds. The following appointments were made for Riversdale and Enniskillen for the ensuing three months, viz.: Mr. Wardrope, Oct. 2nd; Mr. Duff, Oct. 16th; Mr. Wm. Ferguson, Nov. 6th; Mr. John Anderson, Nov. 20th; Mr. Gourlay, Dec. 4th; Mr. Currie, Dec. 18th; Mr. Johnson, student, Dec. 25th, Jan. 1st, and Jan. 8th. And for Balaklava: Mr. Moffat, Oct. 16th and 23rd; Dr. Bell, Nov. 6th; Mr. Blain, Nov. 20th; Mr. Currie, Dec. 4th (afternoon service); and Mr. Tolmie, Dec. 18th. There was read a paper in the form of a call from the congregation of Gore Bay, Manitoulin, to Rev. Hugh McKay. It was agreed to allow the paper to lie on the table in the meantime, and instruct the corresponding member of the Home Mission Committee to lay the matter before the Committee with the view to obtain the necessary supplement. Mr. McKay being present agreed to resume the charge of the mission work on the island at least for the winter. Mr. Patterson was appointed to take charge of the College Fund; Mr. John Ferguson, of the Home Mission Fund; Dr. Bell, of the Foreign Mission Fund; Mr. Gourlay, of the French Evangelization Fund; Mr. Eadie, of the Aged and Infirm Ministers' Fund, and of the Widows' and Orphans' Fund; and Mr. Wardrope, of the Assembly Fund. Congregations making collections for any one of these funds are requested to notify the brother in charge of that particular fund as to the amount raised. Messrs. Scott and McLennan, ministers, and Mr. Angus McKinnon, elder, were appointed a Committee on the State of Religion; Messrs. Tolmie and Anderson, ministers, and Mr. James Rowand, elder, were appointed a Committee on Home Mission; Messrs. Straith and Gourlay, ministers, and Mr. Muir, elder, were appointed a Finance Committee. Messrs. Tolmie and Straith submitted a report of their visit to Sault Ste. Marie and the north shore of Lake Huron. The report was received, and the commissioners thanked for their diligence. It was agreed to secure two labourers for the winter—the one to labour at Bruce Mines and vicinity, and the other at Thessalon River. The following students labouring within the bounds of the Presbytery were certified to the College Board of Knox College, viz.: Messrs. Caswell, Rutherford, Leitch, Campbell, Jaffray, Builder and Johnson.—A. G. FORBES, *Pres. Clerk*.

PRESBYTERY OF LANARK AND RENFREW.—This body met in Calvin Church, Pembroke, on Tuesday, the 20th inst., the Rev. John Burnett, of Almonte, Moderator, presiding. There were present sixteen ministers and three elders, being a considerably smaller number of members than usual. Since the last regular meeting no fewer than five special meetings had been held. The first of these was in connection with the lamented death of the late Rev. Walter Ross, of Carleton Place. The others were all in connection with settlements in the following places, namely, of Mr. Andrew in Middleville and Dalhousie; the ordination of Mr. G. T. Bayne, as missionary for two years in Eganville and its two connected stations; the induction of the Rev. Mr. McGillivray, and the ordination and induction of Rev. Mr. Ross into the pastoral charges of St. Andrew's and Knox Churches respectively, in Perth.