

EASTERN ONTARIO.

The congregations of Washago, Severn Bridge, and Ardrea have decided to extend a call to the Rev. A. Thompson, of Watford.

Owing to illness, Rev. A. Henderson was unable to take his pulpit duties at Appleton on Sunday, 13th inst. Mr. Wm. Paul conducted the service.

The Rev. Hiram Clark, from Honan, China, will visit the Peterboro Presbytery during April, and will no doubt give a great impetus to the work of missions.

Rev. E. A. Duncan of Beaverton has been appointed to the charge of Bancroft, North Hastings, for the next two years by the Home Mission committee of the Presbyterial Church.

Mr. Duncan McMartin, of Montreal, who was present at the opening of the new St. Andrew's church at Martin's town a couple of weeks ago, generously handed the committee a cheque for one thousand dollars.

There was a large attendance at the regular quarterly communion service in Knox church, Vankeek Hill, on 13th inst. The pastor, Rev. Chas. Ferguson, was assisted by Rev. Allan Morrison, of Kirk Hill, who took charge of the Gaelic service.

Peterboro Presbytery elected the following commissioners to the General Assembly, which meets at Halifax, N.S., in June: Ministers—Rev. D. D. McDonald, Keene; Rev. Dr. D. B. Marsh, Springfield; Rev. Wm. Beattie, Cobourg; Rev. Wm. Johnston, Millbrook. Elders—R. Fairbairn, Lakefield; W. Madill, Peterborough; A. Sanderson, Springfield; R. Lees, Peterboro.

The charge of Pontypool, Janetville and Ballyduff in the Presbytery of Peterborough has for the past two and a half years been ministered by Mr. Gilbert Gomm, student of Knox college, Mr. Gomm has done splendid work on this field, which is now in a position to call a minister. The moderator, Rev. Dr. Marsh, Springfield, Ontario, will be glad to hear from ministers who will visit the field in view of a call.

Rev. J. G. Sterling, of Havelock, whose serious illness necessitated his removal to the Toronto General Hospital. Rev. Mr. Keith, of Peterboro, went up to Toronto to see after his comfort, and the following were appointed to arrange for pulpit supply, etc., during his absence: Revs. J. G. Potter, H. J. Keith, and Mr. J. C. Shook. Since the above was written the death of Mr. Sterling took place at the Nicholl's hospital, Peterboro, after a short illness from cancer.

At last meeting of Peterboro Presbytery handsome reference was made to the congregation of Harwood and Roseneath for the generous treatment of their minister in voluntarily and cheerfully abandoning aid from augmentation, and deciding to pay the full minimum alone. The pastor, Rev. J. R. Black, has proved that a man of ripe experience, and years of service in the ministry can be as active, forceful in preaching, and faithful in pastoral work as the most active politician or physician in their spheres of activity.

The Rev. Mr. Beattie reported for Mr. Pogue to Peterborough Presbytery the results of the simultaneous evangelistic campaign held last November. From every quarter of the Presbytery came the message of great delight at the complete blessings the meetings had been to the congregations, and it was recommended: (1.) That the Presbytery expresses its appreciation of the help which was rendered in the recent Evangelistic campaign by the General Assembly's Committee, and also thanks to the many ministers of our church who at so much sacrifice so assisted in the movement. (2.) That the Presbytery heartily endorse the simultaneous idea in Evangelism as best commending itself to our Presbyteries and congregations and most likely to remove unreasonable prejudices, which often exist against evangelistic services.

At last meeting of Peterborough Presbytery Rev. Mr. Potter reported for the Social and Moral Reform Committee, when the following recommendations were adopted: (1.) That in communities where there are a number of licenses that efforts be made to reduce them to a minimum. (2.) That the Presbytery undertake to press the signing of the Total Abstinence pledge throughout the bounds of the Presbytery and as far as possible get an enrollment of all pledged members. (3.) That the subject of gambling be discussed publicly, because of its great national character, and that the entire Presbytery be aroused to the terrible hold the awful vice has upon many of the public men of Canada, and that because of the growing and dangerous tendency in the use of cards for profit or prize, our ministers be enjoined to discourage such use of card playing in Christian homes. (4.) That the work of the Lord's Day Alliance in its fight against the desecration of the Lord's Day be encouraged and supported.

A very successful Laymen's Missionary banquet was held last week in the Orange Hall, Kilmours, when a bountiful repast was served by the ladies of Torbolton Presbyterian Church. The attendance was good; Mr. H. Saunders presided most efficiently, and suitable speeches were given by Dr. McMillan and Mr. T. W. Gray and seconded by Mr. J. Milford. was adopted: "That this meeting of Christian laymen heartily approves of the aims and objects of the Laymen's Missionary Movement in its efforts to evangelize the world in this generation, and resolves that an inter-denominational committee of laymen be appointed to promote the cause of missions, and to arrange for the appointment of a committee in every congregation to promote the cause of missions in every manner that is possible. A vote of thanks to the ladies for the very excellent supper served so tastefully was moved by Mr. Charles Gray, and seconded by Mr. Gisborne and heartily passed, after which the audience sang, "Bringing in the Sheaves," and the proceedings were concluded by Rev. J. W. S. Lowry pronouncing the apostolic benediction.

The Missionary Association of Queen's College, Kingston, had their annual meeting last week, and their report showed substantial progress. This year they are sending out six men to mission fields under the Presbyterian Church, and are also lending some support in the foreign field. The new president is Mr. A. D. Cornett, B.A.; the secretary, R. N. McTavish, and the treasurer, F. C. Casselman.

Winnipeg Presbytery was interviewed by students of Manitoba college, who asked that the allowance for expenses be raised from \$5 to \$8 and that the work of going out to supply pulpits be given to students preparing for the ministry. Often it appears others who are in lucrative callings go out and take these supply calls and the students think that this is an injustice. Messrs. Burns and Wilkie addressed the presbytery in support of the petition. They were cordially received and a special committee will consider the matter.

The unanimous call to Rev. J. S. Caldwell, B.A., of Woodlands, to Hawkesbury has been accepted, and his induction will take place early next month.

At the last meeting of Peterboro Presbytery the duplex envelope was recommended, and sessions were urged to provide for an intelligent study of missions from time to time.

Life is often difficult; it is never impossible for the man that has to live it. If the trial be very sore, if it shake your strength and strain your patience almost to the breaking point, if the agony of conflict surprise you, then that only shows that you are stronger than you took yourself to be. Had you been unfit for it this post of danger would never have been assigned to you.

WESTERN ONTARIO.

Rev. James Barber, of Embro, is called to Niagara Falls, Ont. Stipend, \$1,200, with manse.

Rev. W. M. McKay, of Knox church, Harriston, and Rev. W. Cooper of Mount Forest, exchanged pulpits last Sunday.

After an absence of three weeks in New York at the Pasture Institute, Rev. J. C. Reid, B. A., B. D., of Atwood, has returned and occupied his own pulpit on Sunday.

Rev. Dr. Farquharson, of Durham, slipped on the icy sidewalk in Durham last week and fractured one of the bones of his forearm near the wrist. The injury was very painful, but he is improving nicely.

Rev. N. D. McKinnon, of Milverton, having accepted the call to Caledonia, the pulpit will be declared vacant on the 27th inst., and the Rev. D. W. S. Urquhart of Kilpen, will act as interim moderator.

Rev. Archibald McLean, D. D., Goderich, assumed the duties of clerk of the Presbytery of Huron in April, 1869, and resigned in January, 1910. At the last meeting of the Presbytery a suitable resolution recognizing his long and faithful services was placed on the minutes.

At the recent meeting of Chatham Presbytery, Rev. J. W. Currie, M. A., B.D., of Blenheim, was nominated for the chair of Old Testament Literature at Halifax College. Rev. Mr. Currie is a son of Mr. John Currie, of Notawana; and there are three or four ministers in the family.

Commissioners to General Assembly from the Presbytery of Paris are Revs. R. G. MacBeth, D. H. Johnston, Alfred Bright and W. Neilly, with Elders Mr. T. L. Wood (Brantford), Alex. Smith (Embro), Johnson (Woodstock), and the elder from Princeton.

Rev. T. A. Rodgers, of Knox church, Owen Sound, has been addressing meetings for men in the town hall, which have proved not only intensely interesting but highly useful. Rev. G. A. Woodside, of Division Street church, has also been taking an active part in this laudable work. His address on "Life's Opportunity," given on the evening of 13th inst., will not soon be forgotten.

Rev. Dr. Wallis had a startling experience in his church at Drummond Hill. A despatch from Niagara Falls gives the following particulars: "Just before the anniversary services commenced at Drummond Hill Presbyterian church lightning struck the edifice, nearly causing a panic among the congregation, severely shocking Professor Robertson of Knox College. So severe was the bolt that it burned out all the fuses, throwing the church into darkness, and fired a drive shed in the rear. Rev. Dr. Wallis, who was near Dr. Robertson, was not effected by the current. The organist was playing the prelude when the church was struck. Dr. Robertson was walking to the pulpit when a loud crash and violent explosions along the electric wires terrified the worshippers. The doors were immediately thrown open. Further consternation was created when the affrighted worshippers saw the drive shed in flames, with lightning playing around it. A loud crash of broken glass and falling plaster in the basement added to their fears, and a panic might have resulted had not Dr. Wallis walked down the aisles calling on the people to be calm. The congregation was quickly dismissed; and the fire in the shed was extinguished."

A press despatch says:—The sufferings of the successive generations of Queen's students and friends, who have been squeezed and packed into the old benches of Convocation Hall, are at last at an end. The attic and the cellar have claimed the old offending seats, and new folding chairs, like those of Grant Hall, have been installed. The old hall now looks quite spruce and smiling, and when Dr. Symonds preaches the Baccalaureate sermon on April 24, he will speak to a much more comfortable congregation.