

## MINISTERS AND CHURCHES.

THE congregation of Picton, left vacant by the translation of Rev. John McMechan, have given a unanimous call to the Rev. Alexander Young of Napance. The induction took place on the evening of Monday, 16th inst. Much earnestness was manifested.

THE annual pic-nic of the Sabbath school in connection with the Presbyterian congregation at Blyth was held on Monday, the 16th inst. After refreshments were served, Rev. A. McLean delivered an excellent address to the children. They afterwards amused themselves in various ways, and the band accompanied them home in the evening.

REV. D. ANDERSON, Rothsay, arrived by steamer "Phœnician," of the Allan Line, on Wednesday, the 18th inst. The voyage was protracted on account of head winds which continued all the way. Mr. Anderson has not been in Scotland for twenty-three years previously; and he only went at last in order to the re-establishment of his health, which had been much impaired by a long and serious illness last winter. His health is now much improved.

ON Tuesday, the 3rd inst., Mr. Hugh Taylor, Licentiate, was ordained by the Presbytery of Brockville, and inducted into the pastoral charge of Morrisburg and Iroquois. The call which Mr. Taylor had received was unanimous, and was accompanied by a promise of \$750 a year of stipend. A very pleasant social took place in Meikle's Hall in the evening, and towards its close, a purse of \$25 was given to Mr. Taylor. The Iroquois section of the congregation have a neat brick church, opened in 1875; and the Morrisburg section are now building one. Present appearances promises that this church will be quite worthy of its place in the pretty and thriving town of Morrisburg. Mr. Taylor's pastorate begins amid auspicious circumstances.—COM.

A PRESBYTERIAN Church has been erected at Maganetawan this summer, and was formally opened on September 15th. Services were held afternoon and evening, both being well attended. The church is a neat, commodious frame building. Ninety-eight dollars help has been received from outside, made up as follows: Per Dr. Caven, \$10; per Geo. Dickson, B.A., (Hamilton,) \$30; per Mr. Smellie, (Hamilton,) \$20; per Mr. James McMeneny, \$10; per Rev. Mr. Laidlaw, (Hamilton,) \$6; per David James and Wm. McLaren, (Hamilton,) \$22. About \$300 has been contributed by settlers themselves. It will require \$200 or \$300 more before this building is fully finished and made comfortable for winter service. Will not some of our wealthy congregations assist in its completion?

THE death of Mr. John Keith, of Elora, which took place recently, is deeply regretted by the congregation and neighbourhood to which he belonged. Mr. Keith was one of the early settlers and Presbyterian pioneers of Western Ontario, and was for forty years an elder of Knox Church, Elora. We copy the following short sketch of his life from a local paper: "Deceased was a native of the Parish of Old Deer, Aberdeenshire, Scotland, emigrated to Canada in 1834, in company with the late Mr. Emslie and Alexander Watt, Esq., all of whom purchased land in the Bon Accord Settlement, Township of Nichol, where the late lamented gentleman continued to reside until he removed to this village some eight years since. A few days prior to leaving his native land, the subject of this obituary was married to Miss Christina Watt, sister of Alexander Watt, Esq., of Nichol, who survives him. Their first born, Mrs. Thomas Connon, of this village, was the first white child born west of the Grand River. At the time of which we write this portion of the Western Peninsula was in its primitive state, and its trackless wastes were traversed only by the red man of the forest, who was contented and happy in a hunting ground which produced abundance of game for the wants of his family. Two score and one years ago Mr. Keith was one of the nine who formed Knox Church congregation, and he lived to see it grow and flourish until now it is the largest religious body in the community, and worships in one of the most costly edifices west of Guelph. Within twelve months after the formation of the new society, Mr. Keith was appointed an elder, the duties of which position he faithfully continued to discharge up to the day of his decease. His circle of friends and acquaintances was large, amongst whom he was respected and esteemed for the many sterling qualities of which he was pos-

sessed. He was generous to a fault, hospitable and kind, slow to anger, of a forgiving disposition, strictly honest, and a man of more than ordinary industry, which qualities so endeared him to the community at large that the announcement of his death produced quite a shock, many of his more intimate friends being unmannered for the time being. Deceased was in the sixty-eighth year of his age when the angels beckoned him to leave the sorrows and temptations of this troublesome world and go home to that reward which awaits all those who truly love the Lord."

PRESBYTERY OF BROCKVILLE.—The Presbytery of Brockville held its last meeting at Kemptville, beginning on the evening of the 7th inst. This was the first regular meeting since the formation of the new Presbytery of Lanark and Renfrew, by which the Brockville Presbytery was reduced in extent. There are now fourteen settled charges, thirty vacancies, and one mission station within the bounds. There was a fair attendance of members. The former clerk of Presbytery is one of those separated to the new Presbytery. It was therefore necessary to appoint a successor. Mr. McKibbin had been acting as *interim* clerk and treasurer since the meeting of July 2nd; his appointment was now made permanent. A letter was read from Mr. Brown, tendering the resignation of his pastoral charge. The resignation was received, and the congregation will be cited to appear for their interests at an adjourned meeting, to be held within St. John's Church, Brockville, on Friday, the 25th of October. A memorial from the session of Lyn and Yonge, prayed for a decision of the court as to whether or not a majority of the session could fix the number of services to be held per Sabbath, irrespective of the pastor's consent. The decision was, in effect, that pastor and session, conjointly, can regulate the number of services, and, further, that the number of diets of worship which obtain at the period of induction, must be considered as unchangeable, unless with the consent of both the pastor and the majority of the other members of session. An application was received from the Rev. Geo. Blair, M.A., Inspector of Public Schools for the County of Grenville. In this he asked to be taken "into fellowship as a minister of the Presbyterian Church in Canada." The finding was to the effect that while the documents accompanying Mr. Blair's application are in themselves proofs of his high character, yet he can only be received with the permission of the General Assembly. A very interesting discussion arose respecting the extension of mission-work within the bounds. A decided step was taken and good results are looked for. A Presbyterial certificate was granted in due course to Mr. John Reid, a student of McGill College, Montreal, who proposes to prepare for the holy ministry. Arrangements were made for the annual missionary meetings throughout the bounds; and a motion, brought in by Mr. Clark, duly seconded, and agreed to, prepares the way for a very promising application of the principle of presbyterial visitation. A pleasant and useful meeting was closed in due form, and members, returning home, bade adieu for a time to Kemptville and its kind people.—W. M. MCKIBBIN, *Pres. Clerk*.

PRESBYTERY OF GUELPH.—According to appointment this Presbytery met in Knox Church, Guelph, on the 17th inst., Dr. Wardrope, Moderator. There was a smaller attendance than usual, especially of ruling elders. We shall only give the principal items of business transacted. Mr. Bentley, of Galt, and Mr. Dickie, of Berlin, were welcomed back from their trip to Europe. The Clerk read over the amount which each congregation should contribute to the ordinary expense fund of the General Assembly—the rate being fixed at an average of five cents per member, and he was instructed to send notice to each congregation of the amount to which it was liable. The next Sabbath School Conference was appointed to be held in Knox Church, Galt, and the ministers of that town, with their representative elders, were chosen a committee to make all necessary preparations for the same. The reasons of dissent against the action of the Presbytery, at their last meeting, in granting supply of sermon to the petitioners at Douglas, were read, and a committee was named to prepare answers to them and report at next meeting. The Clerk brought before the Presbytery the names of the congregations that had sent in their contributions to the Synod fund. The steps taken by Andrew Scott of Toronto, to obtain the money coming to the late Mr. Dryburgh from the Home Mission Fund, was reported, and the Clerk

was directed to adopt such measures as may be practicable to secure justice to all parties. A letter was read from Hawksville asking to have refunded \$42.70 of salary paid in advance to Mr. Dryburgh before his death, out of the grant coming from the Home Mission, and it was in view of this that the Clerk was directed as just stated. Mr. Torrance reported from the committee on the superintendence of students, to the effect that there were seven students in the bounds; one of these just entering upon his course of study, three who had completed their second year of the literary course at Knox College, one the second year at Toronto University, and two their second year of the theological course. The report was received, and the Clerk was authorized to forward the requisite certificate to the College Senate. Arrangements were made as to the supply to be sent to mission stations in the bounds. The committee appointed to confer with Mr. Edward Reeve on the change of doctrinal views which he had undergone, reported to the effect that they had attended to the duty assigned them, and that Mr. Reeve still adhered to the sentiments expressed in his letter read to the Presbytery at their meeting in July. Mr. Reeve being present, was heard, and re-affirmed his adherence, addressing the court at considerable length. After deliberation of a somewhat lengthened character, the matter was referred to a committee to prepare a deliverance, which they reported at the sederunt in the afternoon, and was adopted by the Presbytery. The deliverance is as follows: "The Presbytery having further considered their committee's report, find that while Mr. Reeve maintains, as far as known to them, an unblemished moral character, and a good standing ministerially, up to the time of his presenting to the Presbytery his letter of June last, it appears from said letter, to which he still adheres, and from the report of the committee which he, being present, acknowledges to be substantially in accordance with fact, that his views of Divine Truth are totally opposed, on fundamental points, to the teaching of the Word of God, as received by this Church and set forth in her standards, and, therefore, they have no course left but to declare him no longer a member of this Church." From this decision Mr. J. C. Smith departed. Application was made from Douglas to have one appointed to administer the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper to the members of the Church there, who had applied for supply of preaching and been granted the same, or baptism to the children of those of them requiring it. It was agreed that the Rev. A. D. McDonald, of Elora, with Messrs. Wm. Singer and Thos. Cleghorn, be a deputation, with authority to organize the petitioners into a congregation, Mr. McDonald to administer the ordinances. Mr. Thomas McCrae gave in from the finance committee a report of the state of the various funds, and an estimate of expenditure for the current year, showing that six cents per family in the congregations in the bounds would be necessary to meet it—being three cents less than for the previous year. The report was received. Thanks were then given to the committee for their diligence, and the Clerk was instructed to send notice to each congregation of the amount it was expected to pay. Mr. Middlemiss gave in a report of arrangements proposed for preaching missionary sermons and holding missionary meetings; and the same was received and adopted. It was agreed that the item of business "confederation of remits from the General Assembly," be transferred from the meeting in September to that in November, on the ground that the printed minutes of Assembly are not generally in the hands of members at the former date, and that there be an item added to those fixed for the meeting in May to the effect, that reports be given in of the names and standing of students who may be laboring or residing in the bounds. The Clerk was authorized to get one hundred copies of the standing orders, as amended, printed for the use of members. Next meeting was appointed to be held in Knox Church, Guelph, on the third Tuesday of November, at ten o'clock forenoon. The roll having been called and marked the proceedings closed with benediction.

PRESBYTERY OF HAMILTON.—This court met on the 17th and 18th inst. Besides ordinary routine business the following may be noted as of more general interest. Rev. W. P. Walker, of Binbrook, and Saltfield, was appointed moderator for the next six months. The trials of Mr. D. Munro, who has accepted the call from Port Colborne, were heard and sustained. Messrs. D. James and Tibb were certified