

## MINISTERS AND CHURCHES.

THE Ladies' Aid Society of Knox Church, Dundas, gave a concert on the evening of the 18th ult.

MONO CENTRE, Camilla and Orangeville are being supplied by Knox College students for the winter.

REV. THOS. ALEXANDER, of Mount Pleasant, has met with a serious accident, resulting in the breaking of an arm.

THE Rev. D. D. McLeod, of Dumfries street Church, Paris, has been invited to visit Winnipeg and preach in Knox Church there.

REV. J. ROBERTSON, Superintendent of Presbyterian missions, Manitoba, will moderate in a call by the congregation of Nelsonville on the 9th inst.

THE new Presbyterian church on the Thames Road, Osborne, is so far advanced towards completion as to allow service to be conducted in the basement.

REV. H. H. MCPHERSON, who has accepted the call of St. John's Presbyterian Church, Halifax, N.S., will preach his farewell sermon at Nassagaweya next Sabbath.

A CONCERT held in the town hall of Dundas on the evening of the 18th ult., under the auspices of the ladies of Knox Church, in that town, was very successful.

A YOUNG PEOPLE'S ASSOCIATION has been formed in connection with the Presbyterian congregation at Newmarket, numbering about twenty-four members to begin with.

THE Rev. W. A. Hunter, of Parkdale, entertained the members of his congregation at his residence on the evening of the 24th ult. A pleasant time was spent by all.

FAVOURABLE symptoms are reported in the case of the Rev. T. Goldsmith, of St. John's Church, Hamilton, who has been ill for some time, and his physicians entertain hopes that he will recover.

AT the regular monthly meeting of the Temperance Association of St. Paul's Church, Hamilton, on the 17th ult., the Rev. Thos. Scouler, of Erskine Church, delivered an address on his experience of mission work in Glasgow.

A PLEASANT meeting of the Juvenile Total Abstinence Society of Knox Church, Hamilton, took place on the evening of the 21st ult. in the Sabbath school room. A number of the little folks gave very appropriate recitations, dialogues and music.

THE Rev. H. J. Borthwick was recently inducted into the permanent pastoral charge of Mountain City, Manitoba. For five years Mr. Borthwick has laboured as a missionary in that section of the country, ministering—part of the time without assistance—to the spiritual requirements of a field embracing about one-fourth of the Province.

A PARLOUR social in aid of the funds of the Presbyterian Young People's Aid Society of Deseronto was held on the 22nd ult. A recitation from Rev. R. J. Craig, instrumental from Mrs. Craig and Miss Augustine Humberstone, and vocal selections from Mrs. Aylesworth and Messrs. Keiler, McRae, McRoby and Malcolm, constituted the programme, refreshments of course accompanying.

ON the 20th inst., two admirable sermons were preached in Knox Church, St. Thomas, to fine congregations, by the Rev. J. R. Smith, M.A., of Galt, the occasion being the fifth anniversary of the Rev. Mungo Fraser's pastorate. The evening following, a splendid tea-meeting was given by the ladies of the congregation, in the City Hall. Appropriate addresses were made by the Rev. G. G. Ballard, rector of Trinity Church, and Rev. E. Harris, pastor of Baptist Church. A humorous reading was rendered by Prof. B. Smith, of Alma College; and Rev. J. A. Murray, of London, made a very excellent speech. The evening closed up with a universal feeling of satisfaction. Mr. A. McLachlin, chairman, added much to the pleasure of the evening, and the ladies who so kindly furnished music, some of them outside the congregation, conferred a very great favour.—COM.

THERE was a well-attended meeting in the College street Presbyterian Church on the evening of the 22nd ult., the occasion being the anniversary services and social commemorating the opening of the enlarged church. At the commencement of the ministration of the Rev. Mr. Gilray, the present pastor of the congregation, the membership was fifty; it is now 370.

The Rev. Mr. Gilray has now been in charge during six years, and the progress of the congregation has been most gratifying. The Sabbath school, under the superintendence of Mr. James Mitchell, is flourishing. There are 315 names on the roll, and the average attendance is about 250. The school has been in a better condition during the past year than ever before. There is also a Young People's Association, which is in healthy co-operation with the church. The condition of the church is altogether of a sort that gives the congregation great encouragement. At the meeting refreshments were partaken of, after which Rev. Mr. Gilray presided, and addresses were delivered by the Rev. Dr. Wardrope and the Rev. D. J. Macdonnell. The topic discussed by the speakers was the work of the Church. The church was completely filled, and the whole proceedings were of an exceedingly pleasing nature.

SPECIAL services were held last Sabbath in connection with the opening of the new lecture hall and Sabbath school building of the First Presbyterian Church, London. Rev. Professor McLaren, of Knox College, Toronto, preached in the morning, afternoon and evening. At the morning service his remarks were based upon Acts xvi. 14, 15, 25-34. The theme was "Personal religion." The "London Advertiser" gives a condensed report of the sermon, as follows: "The speaker commenced by referring to the three views commonly held upon this subject. First was the Sacramental view, which would answer the cry, 'What shall I do to be saved?' by telling the sinner to come to the Church of the apostolic succession, with her sacraments and ceremonies, for peace and salvation. In the second place was the formalist theory, according to which religion is locked upon simply as a civilizing, educational influence, tending to improve morals. It tacitly denies the original depravity of man, and to the supplication, 'What must I do to be saved?' replies, 'Lead a moral life, and God is too merciful to condemn to everlasting punishment.' In the third place is the scriptural or evangelical view of personal religion, which assumes the depravity of man and his liability to become worse. It embraces belief in ruin by the fall, regeneration by the Spirit, and redemption through the blood of Jesus Christ, in whom the sinner must believe and in whom he must have a personal interest. The speaker dwelt at length upon the varied types of experience realized by different individuals on coming into possession of personal religion, beautifully illustrating his remarks by reference to the conversion of Lydia, as compared with that of the jailer mentioned in the text. Ordinarily, God works in men by His Spirit according to their natural temperament, disposition and mental constitution, but to effect His Divine purpose God may give to the individual whatever type of experience He chooses. Different means are employed in bringing about conversion. The points of agreement, however, are more important. All are saved by grace. Both the heart of Lydia and that of the jailer were opened by the Lord; both attended to the truth and believed in Christ, and having believed, confessed Him honestly and openly. Lastly, they loved the people of God, and rejoiced in their society. The sinner must first believe in his need of salvation from sin, and then repose faith or trust in Christ. In conclusion, the preacher warned his hearers against the delusive dream of the formalist or the false hopes of the sacramentalist."

PRESBYTERY OF OWEN SOUND.—This Presbytery met in Division street Church on the 15th ult. Several members were absent, owing to the all but impassable state of the roads. Several records of sessions were laid on the table, and committees appointed to examine them, and on the report of the committees they were attested as correctly kept. Presbytery ordered that all records not examined be laid on the table at next meeting. Mr. Stevenson reported that he had not visited Johnson and Daywood to make arrangements for the Rev. Jas. Ferguson, inasmuch as he had learned that Mr. Ferguson had been appointed to Bruce Mines, and supposed that he would accept the Assembly's appointment. The explanation was received, and the committee instructed to attend to the duty entrusted to them and to report at next meeting. Mr. Rodgers pressed the resignation of his charge of Meaford and Griersville, and asked the Presbytery to take the usual steps in the matter. Moved by Mr. Stevenson, seconded by

Mr. Scott, and agreed, "That the congregations and sessions be cited to appear for their interests in regard to the resignation, at an adjourned meeting to be held in Division street Church on the 13th December, at half-past one o'clock p.m., Rev. Mr. McLaren to preach in Meaford and Griersville on the 27th November and read the citation." The Presbytery then considered the petition from Woodford anent establishing a mission station there. It was found that Johnson and Daywood sessions had not been notified of the petition. It was therefore agreed that these sessions be notified, and a committee, consisting of Messrs. Somerville, Scott, and D. Ross, be appointed to visit Woodford, hold a public meeting, examine the list of petitioners, and explain fully the conditions on which a mission station is established, said committee and sessions to report at the adjourned meeting. The committee appointed to visit Sarawak and North Keppel was enlarged as follows: Messrs Stevenson, Scott, A. McLennan, Dewar, Malcolm and Douglas, and instructed to give what counsel they deem necessary for the proper working of the field. Messrs. Stevenson, Dewar, and Mordy were appointed to frame regulations regarding expenses of members in doing committee work for the Presbytery. The Presbytery agreed that the next regular meeting be a visitation of Division street Church on the third Tuesday of January, 1882; also that remits from Assembly be then considered. The Presbytery then adjourned, to meet in the same place, December 13th, at half-past one o'clock p.m., and was closed with prayer.—JOHN SOMERVILLE, M.A., Pres. Clerk.

## BOOKS AND MAGAZINES.

HARPER'S MAGAZINE. (New York: Harper & Brothers.)—The December number begins the sixty-fourth volume of "Harper." A glance at the table of contents gives assurance of the usual abundance and variety of instructive and entertaining reading.

OUR LITTLE ONES. (Boston: Lee & Shepard; Toronto: N. Ure & Co. Price \$1.50.)—We have already more than once directed attention to the literary and artistic merits of "Our Little Ones" as a monthly publication. It comes before us now in the shape of an annual—the twelve parts bound together, and forming as handsome a volume as ever little boy or girl rejoiced over.

THE ATLANTIC MONTHLY. (Boston: Houghton, Mifflin & Co.)—Some of the most noteworthy articles in the December "Atlantic" are "Socialists in a German University," written by one of themselves, Willard Brown; "British State Assassins and the Defence of Insanity," by James W. Clarke; "The Habitant of Lower Canada," by Edward Farrer; and the second paper on the "Origin of Crime in Society," by Richard L. Dugdale. The serial story, "Dr. Breen's Practice," is continued, and there are several short stories.

FOUR-FOOTED LOVERS. By Frank Albertsen. (Boston: Lee & Shepard; Toronto: N. Ure & Co. Price \$1.)—This is a book for children, charmingly written and beautifully illustrated. It is occupied with the adventures and exploits, the joys and the troubles, not of children alone, but of calves, squirrels, dogs and cats, as well. The bold, clear type, the superior quality of paper, and the gorgeously illuminated cover, all combine with the interesting nature of the matter and the beauty of the illustrations to make it a most attractive holiday gift book.

MY FIRST HOLIDAY; OR, LETTERS HOME FROM COLORADO, UTAH, AND CALIFORNIA. By Caroline H. Dall. (Toronto: Willing & Williamson. Price \$1.50.)—The author of this book, though an invalid, has given a pretty lively account of her travels. In a note at the end she apologizes for the persistency with which she has "criticised the climate of San Francisco and California generally." The principal faults appear to be fogs and sudden alternations of temperature. Notwithstanding these and some other drawbacks, she has everywhere found something from which to extract enjoyment for herself and her readers.

SONGS OF PRAISE. (New York: A. D. F. Randolph & Co.)—This book contains over 350 hymns and chants, with nearly half as many tunes. It is intended for use in the Sabbath school and social meeting. So far as we have examined it, we have no