

MINISTERS AND CHURCHES.

A LARGE number of the young people of London East Presbyterian Church, went on Wednesday evening (Dec. 22nd), to the home of their pastor, Rev. J. K. Wright, bearing substantial tokens of esteem and good will, in the shape of groceries and provisions of various kinds. An enjoyable evening was spent, at the close of which Mr. Wright thanked the friends in suitable terms for this and the many other kindnesses shewn to Mrs. Wright and himself since their settlement.

THE regular fortnightly meeting of the Young People's Association in connection with the St. James Square Presbyterian Church, was held in their room, on Monday evening last at eight o'clock. About sixty members were present, and a varied programme consisting of songs by Miss M. McIntosh and Mr. W. Douglass, the study of a portion of Tennyson's "In Memoriam," conducted by Mr. W. Johnston, M.A., and impromptu speeches by several of the members, was very successfully carried out.

AN old-time social "swaree" was held in the Rockwood town hall on Friday evening, the 17th inst., under the auspices of the Presbyterian church of that village. There was a large attendance, comprising a number from Guelph, who accompanied the St. Andrew's Church choir. A capital spread of eatables, prepared by the ladies, was heartily partaken of. Afterwards a programme of music, and addresses by ministers was carried out. During the evening happy and timely addresses were given by Revs. J. B. Mullan, Fergus; J. C. Smith, Guelph; H. H. McPherson, Nassagaweya; D. B. Cameron, Acton; J. W. Freeman, and W. Fitzsimmons, Rockwood. Rev. Mr. Strachan, pastor of the church under whose auspices the soiree was given, occupied the chair. The affair passed off to the full satisfaction of every one concerned.

ON the 17th inst., a most successful soiree was held by the Presbyterian congregation at Baltimore. A very excellent tea was provided by the ladies in the temperance hall; and after this was over, an adjournment was made to the church, where a very instructive and enjoyable programme was provided. The Rev. F. R. Beattie, M.A., pastor of the church, occupied the chair. The Rev. Messrs. Beattie, of Port Hope; Ballantine, of Cobourg; Smith, of Grafton, and Dr. Mackay, missionary to China, addressed the meeting; and the Rev. T. R. Johnston gave a reading. The choir also gave valuable assistance during the evening in rendering a number of selections in a very creditable manner. The meeting was a very enjoyable one, and several remarked that the addresses were better than are often heard on such occasions. On Monday evening following, a social was held, which also passed off very pleasantly. The proceeds of the gatherings were over \$80.

THE social announced to be held in connection with St. Andrew's Church, Pickering, came off on the evening of the 15th inst. Financially, socially, and numerically, it proved a complete success. St. Andrew's Hall, in which it was held, presented a very attractive appearance, its walls being handsomely decorated with evergreens, and adorned with mottoes appropriate to the occasion. Short and spicy addresses were given by Rev. Messrs. Westney (Episcopalian), and Brown (Methodist). A spirited recitation by Mr. Robertson, and a humorous reading by Principal Bryant, of Pickering College, were keenly relished, and added very much to the interest of the entertainment. The refreshments, got up in the most approved style by the ladies, were all that could be desired, both as regards quantity and quality, and were heartily enjoyed, while the meeting was enlivened throughout by choice selections of music by the choir. On the following evening a children's social was held, which was largely attended. The attraction of the evening was the Christmas tree, which, laden with gifts and illuminated by tapers, occupied a conspicuous place on the platform. The distribution of gifts by Santa Claus was the occasion of great delight to the children, as was manifested by the happy faces with which they bore away their much-coveted prizes. The sum of \$50 was realized, part of which is to be devoted to the replenishing of the Sabbath school library.

THE annual congregational social of Chalmers'

Church, Guelph, was held on Monday, the 20th inst., in the basement of the church. There was a large attendance on the occasion, of both old and young. The tables were most bountifully supplied with the best that could be afforded, and the ladies who presided at the tables handed out a most exhilarating and refreshing tea. After all had done the most ample justice to the repast, the Rev. Dr. Wardrope, pastor of the church, took the chair, and began the intellectual part of the entertainment, which was equally interesting and attractive. The Rev. Mr. Mullan, of Fergus, gave a very entertaining sketch of his recent trip to Britain. The Rev. Mr. Dickson gave an earnest address on the duties of Church members. Rev. Mr. Maxwell followed with a humorous address, and Rev. Mr. McGregor also said a few kindly words. The musical portion of the programme was a prominent feature in the evening's entertainment. Mr. Maitland had his choir trained to perfection, and the anthems rendered were worthy of all commendation. The instrumental piece was highly appreciated, and admirably performed. Mr. Maitland himself sang some favourite solos in his own admirable style. Miss Addison's two solos were feelingly rendered and much appreciated, and Miss Mary Grant's performance on the piano was admirably done on short notice. Mr. James Maitland did his best in playing the accompaniments. After the usual votes of thanks, this pleasant reunion was brought to a close with the benediction.

THE annual tea soiree of Knox Church, Guelph, was held on the 21st inst., and a good attendance of the congregation and others was present. The tea was served in the basement, after which the usual adjournment to the body of the church took place. The Rev. Mr. Ball acted as chairman, and after the hymn "Nearer, my God, to Thee" had been sung, and prayer offered, he spoke of the happiness he felt at meeting so many old and new faces, of socials as a financial effort, and of the pleasant gossip that usually took place at the tea-table of those social gatherings. Rev. Duncan McLeod, of Paris, was called upon, and delivered an excellent address as to the practical work of the Church, the sympathy each member should shew, and the blessing that would follow. He was listened to with great earnestness, and his remarks appear to have made a good impression. The Rev. Mr. McLeod, of Toronto, followed with an able address, the substance of which was the stirring up of church members in the work of the Master. The reverend gentleman humorously remarked that while his predecessor had given a very excellent address in the matter of church work accomplished by the brethren, he had forgotten that done by the sisters, and whilst the former had sometimes to be stirred up to action the latter were always at the word of command to do whatever was before them. He highly honoured the women for their zeal in God's cause. The anthem-singing by the choir, under the leadership of Mr. Hugh Walker, was very creditable, the anthem "God is the refuge of the people," being very nicely sung, and, perhaps, the best of the evening. The chairman thanked the ladies, in the name of the congregation, for the trouble they had taken in getting up the soiree, the choir for their music, and also the singers from other choirs who volunteered their excellent services. The proceedings were brought to a close by the company singing the doxology and the benediction being pronounced.

JUST a year ago, the Rev. Charles Brouillette, late of St. Louis de Gonzague, was settled as pastor of the Presbyterian congregation of New Glasgow, Quebec. At the time of his settlement, the new manse, which was scarcely finished, was burdened with a debt of over \$700. An effort was immediately made to clear part of the debt, and the result was that over \$300 was subscribed by the people, most of which is now paid. This fall another effort of a different nature was made towards the same end. The young people of the congregation gathered ground pine and cedar in October to make wreaths to sell for decorative purposes, and for eight weeks afterwards they met twice every week to make these wreaths. The result of their labours has been nearly 4,000 yards of wreaths, valued at about \$200, most all of which are now sold. This is a rather hard way of paying off a church debt, yet infinitely better than allowing the debt to remain, or begging money to pay it. Nothing coming in the way to prevent it, another effort of this kind will clear the Presbyterians of New Glasgow of all debt on their

manse and glebe. Apparently so well pleased were the people at the success which accompanied their endeavours, and at the interest which their pastor manifested in the whole work, that they resolved on shewing their appreciation of his efforts in their behalf in a substantial manner, so that on Friday evening, the 17th inst., the Presbyterians of New Glasgow, along with a good representation of Methodists and Church of England friends, took possession of their pastor's house, and after having partaken of an abundance of refreshments, provided by the ladies of the congregation, presented Mr. Brouillette with a well-filled purse and an abundance of most desirable provisions, as tokens of their appreciation of his interest in their behalf. The presentation was made by Mr. John Murray, ruling elder, in a pointed speech, Mr. Brouillette briefly replying, thanking the donors on behalf of his good lady and his own. After an appropriate speech by the Rev. Mr. Lawrence, Methodist minister of New Glasgow, and prayer by Mr. Murray, the people separated, seemingly delighted with what had been done, though none more so, we dare say, than Mr. and Mrs. Brouillette.

THE annual missionary services were held in the Central Presbyterian Church, Hamilton, on Monday evening, the 20th inst. The attendance was not very large, probably owing to making preparations for the holidays. The chair was occupied by Mr. R. M. Wanzer, who, after the usual devotional exercises in opening, delivered a neat introductory address. Rev. Dr. Cochrane, of Brantford, Convener of the Home Mission Committee, was then introduced by the chairman. Mr. Cochrane delivered a most eloquent address on Home Missions in the North-West and Muskoka territories, giving a great deal of interesting statistical information shewing the great rapidity with which those territories are developing, especially the first named. In 1860 there were but 4,000 people and one Presbyterian minister (at Fort Garry) in the whole of the North-West. Now there were over twenty-one ministers and 100 missions, and in Muskoka there were fifty. He contended that, in order properly to support missionary work, there should be, 1st, systematic giving; 2nd, there should be a giving in accordance with the prosperity with which we have been blessed; and, 3rd, there should be an intelligent and discriminating giving. It was true patriotism and loyalty to give freely and give regularly for the support of Home Missions and the spread of the Gospel. Those people who were now settling those territories were bone of our bone and flesh of our flesh, and we should, therefore, take the greater interest in providing for their spiritual wants. In the matter of giving, the Central Church of Hamilton, had at one time stood first, but now it was behind Toronto and Kingston churches, and as to membership it compared unfavourably with many other churches. Erskine Church, Montreal, had 552 members; St. James', Toronto, 482, and the Central, Hamilton, 758. Last year they had contributed to Home Missions in the following proportions: Toronto, \$1,190; Montreal, \$1,090, and Hamilton, \$745. He trusted that this proportion would be changed. Rev. P. McLeod, of Toronto, followed in a most eloquent and interesting address, urging the examples of India and Formosa as those which could be followed with advantage by all. The doctrine of St. Paul was to get the money first and then go forth and preach the Gospel. Rev. S. Lyle said that Dr. Cochrane had forgotten to give the Central Church credit for some contributions. For instance they had given \$100 to the French Evangelization Society last year, for which they had not received credit. They had last year contributed \$2,740, while Toronto had given but \$2,000. Dr. Cochrane said that they must not feel that he wished to convey the idea that they had not done their duty, but that they might have done a great deal better. Miss Barr and Mr. Payne gave "Love divine," from "The Daughter of Jairus" while the collection was being taken up, which Rev. Mr. Lyle announced was \$530, an advance of \$27 on last year, and which he felt sure would be increased \$100. The doxology and benediction closed the meeting.

PRESBYTERY OF KINGSTON.—The quarterly meeting of this Presbytery was held at Belleville, on the 21st day of December. The attendance of members was small. Rev. R. J. Craig, M.A., was appointed Moderator for six months. Attention was directed to the death of the Rev. Henry Gordon, retired minister at Gananoque, at the advanced age of ninety-five