

THE annual congregational meeting of St. Paul's church, Kilwarthy, was held on Wednesday, 25th of September, in the church. There were present representatives from all the families connected with the congregation. The meeting opened with a programme of sacred music by the choir, after which the following reports were received:—Mr. McPhee reported on behalf of the session that there were thirty names on the communion roll, seven having been added this summer. There have been six baptisms and five deaths. Mr. M. Clippin, the treasurer, reported an advance in the Sabbath collections, also in the total amount raised for the year. Miss Wright reported that the Mission Band was doing good work both in making articles for the Northwest Indians and in collecting for the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society. The thanks of the congregation were tendered to the organist, Miss Franklin, for her faithful services. It was moved and carried that the student, Mr. William Wallis, be invited to return for another summer.

THE anniversary services of Knox church, Waterdown, took place on the 6th and 7th inst. On Sabbath the Rev. J. G. Shearer, B.A., of Erskine church, Hamilton, preached morning and evening to large congregations. On Monday evening following a tea-meeting was held in the Waterdown town hall and an excellent programme rendered, in which the Rev. Dr. Abraham, of Burlington; Prof. Johnstone, of Hamilton; Mrs. Martin, of the Toronto Conservatory of Music, and others, took part. The offerings on the Sabbath were \$45, and proceeds of tea-meeting about \$30. In point of enthusiastic co-operation, favorable weather, large crowds, powerful preaching, excellence of programme, financial success, and satisfaction generally, the affair was one of the most successful in the history of the church. On the 13th the sacrament of the Lord's Supper was observed, when six new members united on profession of faith. Things seem to be prospering generally at Waterdown. There has not been the first discordant note during the present pastorate, while every communion season adds to the membership.

THE Rev. John McLean, of Knox College, was ordained and inducted as pastor of Erskine church, Claremont, Tuesday, Sept. 24th. Almost the entire Whithy Presbytery was in attendance, and Rev. J. Abraham acted as moderator in the absence of D. Ormiston, LL.B. The proceedings commenced at 2.30 p.m. and lasted with a slight intermission until 11.30. The speeches were necessarily of a high order to secure the attention of all for such a long time. The ordination services were very beautiful and impressive. Rev. J. Abraham conducted the ordination with more than his usual earnestness. The induction followed immediately. Rev. McLeod, Newcastle, preached the sermon. Rev. McAuley, Pickering, delivered the charge to the minister and Rev. McLaren, of Columbus, performed the same duty for the congregation. A bountiful supper was provided by the ladies of the congregation, and was served from 5 to 7.30 p.m. At 8 o'clock Rev. Mr. McLaren took the chair, and a splendid literary and musical treat followed. Just before closing the exercises Rev. McLaren, who moderated this call, was presented with a purse of money by the members of the Erskine church. The rev. gentleman was quite taken by surprise, but proved equal to the occasion and responded in graceful terms to the warm words of praise of pastor McLean who made the presentation on behalf of the congregation.

At a meeting held in the school-room of St. James' square Presbyterian church on Friday night, Oct. 4th, "farewell" was said to Miss Dow, who is about to leave for Honan, China, to engage in missionary work there. There was a very large attendance of members and adherents of the church. The pastor, Rev. Mr. Jordan, occupied the chair, and delivered a short address. Addresses were also delivered by Mr. Joseph Henderson, on behalf of the Missionary Association of the congregation; Dr. McFadden, and Mr. Hamilton Cassels, for the Foreign Missionary Society of the Church body. All gentlemen spoke highly of Miss Dow, who has been a member of St. James' square Presbyterian church for the last six years, and of her energetic and consistent work in all branches of Church work. Miss Dow made a brief but fitting reply. At the close of the meeting refreshments were served by

the ladies of the congregation, and a pleasant hour was spent in social chat. Miss Dow was born near Fergus, and was designated to the missionary field in the church at that town. She is sent out by the Montreal Woman's Missionary Society, and will take up the work of the late Dr. Lucinda Graham. She leaves the city on Tuesday morning next, and will sail for China from Montreal. Miss McIntosh, of Honan, who has been in Canada on furlough, will accompany Miss Dow.

Communion in the Gaelic Congregations of the Eastern Townships.

THE fall communions were held in the congregations of Winslow, Hampden, and Lingwick, on Sabbath, September 22nd, 29th, and October 6th, respectively. Large numbers attended the services in connection with each of these communions. The ministers in charge were helped by the Rev. Messrs. M. McLennan, Kirkhill; M. McLeod, Scotland; R. McLeod, Dunvegan, and J. McLeod, Vankleek Hill.

The services in each congregation commenced on Thursday previous to the communion Sabbath. This day is called "fast day." A sermon was preached by one of the brethren bearing upon the subject of humiliation or such like. On Friday, commonly called "the men's day," one of the ministers present took charge of the services, and, after getting through the preliminaries, he called upon one of the members in full standing to give a verse of Scripture to enable "the men" to have them and the marks of those who are the children of God. In Winslow, 2 Tim. ii. 5, was given out and upwards of ten spoke to the *Ceist*. On Saturday at Winslow the services were conducted by the writer who preached to a crushing congregation from the text Micah vi. 6. On Sabbath the action sermon at Winslow was preached by Rev. M. McLennan to a congregation a large proportion of which could not be seated in the church, and had therefore to listen the best way they could through open doors and windows. Text, 2 Cor. viii. 9. On Monday the services were brought to a close by a sermon from the writer. No one can have an idea what good results from a communion season like the above. Not only are the ministers in charge more than ordinarily helped by the prayers of God's people present, to preach the Gospel with power, but also the prayer meetings and communion of saints help to strengthen many struggling worthy pilgrims on his or her journey homeward. The parting farewell after the services on Monday was very touching as friends said "good bye" to friends, not knowing if they would ever meet again.

At Hampden the Rev. Mr. McQueen was helped by Rev. Messrs. McLennan, Winslow. Mr. McLeod, Scotland, and R. McLeod, Dunvegan. The usual large numbers were present from the surrounding congregations. Services commenced on Thursday by a sermon from the writer, text Ps. xxxii. 1-2. The *Ceist* on Friday was based on 2 Cor. i. 9. Nine of the men spoke. It was remarkable how men who never heard the word exegesis, much less had any college training in the subject, were on this occasion making hairsplitting distinctions between words. Some of these men made more use of the two rules of interpretation, the scope and context than many ministers often do. On Saturday Mr. McLeod, from Scotland, preached from the text, Jeremiah xxxi. 31-33. On Sabbath the action sermon was preached in English to a large congregation in the open air by Mr. McLennan, of Winslow, and in Gaelic by the writer in the church. The services were brought to a close

on Monday by a sermon by the writer from the text John vii. 37. According to announcement the writer found his way on the Wednesday following to Marshboro, where he preached to an appreciative audience. He was glad to find that they were taking steps to secure an immediate pastorate.

At Lingwick the communion services commenced by a sermon from Rev. Mr. McQueen on Thursday from Micah vii. 18. On Friday the *Ceist* was given by the elder John McLeod from John xv. 2. It was quite manifest from the freedom enjoyed by the men that this portion of Scripture was most suitable for the occasion. It was most instructive to us all to hear these good men dwell upon the distinction between the branches which are in the vine and bear fruit and those in it which bear no fruit. It would take men of experimental religion to penetrate into the mysteries of godliness as these were doing. On Saturday, Mr. McLennan, from Winslow, preached with his usual vim from the text Gal. vi. 14. On Sabbath the large church was packed to the door long before the hour of service. Large numbers had therefore to stand in the doorway and opposite the open windows. The action sermon was preached by the writer from the words, "And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, etc." Rev. Mr. McLeod, of Vankleek Hill, preached in the old English church to the English speaking people of whom there were large numbers. On Sabbath evening the writer drove to Scottstown, an important section of Lingwick congregation, where he preached to an interesting congregation. That same evening Rev. Mr. McLeod, from Scotland, preached a most impressive sermon in English in the church at Lingwick. The interesting services of this occasion were brought to a close by a sermon from Rev. M. McLennan, of Kirkhill, from the words, "Harden not your hearts." Thus were the three communion seasons in the eastern townships, above hastily described, brought to a close. Let me at this stage give the readers of the REVIEW my impressions of the work performed by our brethren, Rev. Messrs. McQueen and McLennan, in the congregations of Hampden and Winslow, and the way they are treated by our Church. When these brethren were settled over their respective charges the Presbytery of Quebec demanded of their congregations an advance on the sums paid by them in former times to their respective pastors. They responded nobly, each advancing \$100, thus relieving the Augmentation Fund of our church to the amount of \$200. What did the Committee on Augmentation do? I understand that on the strength of a letter written with malicious intentions by some individual whose name has not been given to the good people of these districts, they went to work and cut down the respective grants of these brethren by \$50 more, thus depriving two of the hardest wrought and most painstaking ministers of our Church of part of their well earned living. The writer took pains to travel through the various sections of these congregations, and to him it is a marvel, considering the numbers of farms deserted, and the poorness of the soil of a great many of these occupied, that the good people of these congregations are paying what they are paying. If these people had a man at headquarters like Dr. Robertson I venture to say that they would be getting from the funds of our Church what they are entitled to, and that is more even than they can now claim. I would not give one farmer in my congregation for ten of them as far as ability to give to the cause is concerned, and yet our Church goes by numbers in her expectations of people to give to the cause of Christ. It would open the eyes of some members of the Augmentation Committee a little as to the claims of these brethren if they were to undertake, for the month of November, the pastoral work of Winslow and Hampden. One section of Winslow requires a whole day's travelling, going and coming, on the worst of roads to visit one sick person, and that is an experience in both congregations of frequent occurrence. To say they ought to be united is fine talk for men who know nothing about the needs of these fields. You could unite all the congregations of a Presbytery under one pastorate and they would give a grand salary, but would it be wise to do so? R. McLeod.