

MINISTERS AND CHURCHES.

THE Presbyterians of Portage la Prairie have added to their Sunday school a library case which will hold about five hundred good-sized books.

ON the 23rd ult. the children belonging to the Presbyterian Sabbath school at Napanee, with their teachers and other friends, held a very pleasant picnic at Lorne Terrace.

MR. JOHN MCINNES, teacher in the Hamilton Collegiate Institute, has resigned his position as teacher in order to enter the ministry of the Presbyterian Church. He will enter Princeton College, New Jersey.

THE Presbyterian Sabbath school children of Picton, with a large number of their friends, had an excursion and picnic on the 30th ult. The sail to Stella Point and back by the steamer "Hero" was much enjoyed.

IT is said that the Presbyterian congregation of Yarmouth, N.S., is likely to call Rev. Anderson Rogers, a graduate of Dalhousie College, who has just returned from Scotland, whither he had gone to complete his theological studies.

REV. MR. MALCOLM is supplying the pulpit of the Presbyterian Church at Minnedosa, Man., in the absence of the pastor, Rev. Mr. Wellwood, who has had an attack of sickness, and is now on a visit to Ontario with the view of hastening his restoration to complete health.

THE Rev. R. Wallace, of the West End Presbyterian Church, Toronto, has returned from his holiday tour to Portland. During his absence his pulpit was supplied by Mr. Boyle, a student of Knox College, whose zeal and earnestness made his stay very acceptable to the people.—COM.

THE Mount Forest "Confederate" records the death of Mr. Archibald McMullen, father of Mr. James McMullen, lately elected M. P. for North Wellington. Mr. McMullen was a native of Ireland, emigrated to Canada in 1843, and settled at Fergus. Recently he has lived with his son James at Mount Forest, at whose house he died on Sunday, the 6th ult. He was all his life a devoted member of the Presbyterian Church. Mr. McMullen leaves two sons—the Rev. W. T. McMullen, who for the past twenty years has been pastor of Knox Church, Woodstock, and Mr. James McMullen—and three daughters: Mrs. T. Rodgers and Mrs. T. W. Bowie, of Mount Forest, and Mrs. Grant, wife of the Rev. R. N. Grant, minister of Knox Church, Orillia.

SEVERAL items have recently appeared in our exchanges, from which it may be gathered that the interchange of pulpits between city and country ministers is becoming—doubtless to the benefit of all parties concerned—of more frequent occurrence than formerly. The following, from the Huron "Expositor" of the 25th ult., is a sample of the class of items referred to: "Rev. Mr. Parsons, of Knox Church, Toronto, preached in the Presbyterian Church (Rev. N. Patterson's), Bayfield, on Sabbath last. Mr. Parsons is an able and fluent speaker, and the large congregation assembled were delighted with the eloquent teachings, the warnings and encouragements as presented by the worthy speaker. Rev. N. Patterson officiated in Knox Church, Toronto, the same day."

THE Orillia "Times" of the 24th ult. says: "On Friday evening last a large number of the members and adherents of the Presbyterian Church assembled at the Gravenhurst manse to welcome the return of the Rev. Mr. Dawson and family, after a holiday absence of five weeks. Mr. D. Brown with his carriage was waiting their arrival at the station. Early in the evening the ladies had taken possession of the manse and prepared a splendid tea, and after the whole party had taken supper a large supply was left for cellar and sideboard. It was a right hearty welcome, with many a real 'Glad to see you back again' and 'Welcome home.' Everyone present seemed to spend an exceedingly pleasant evening. It must be very encouraging to both pastor and people when such a cordial spirit exists in any congregation."

THE Rev. Allan Findlay was inducted on the 24th ult. into the united congregation of Bracebridge, Monck, and Smith's Falls. Mr. Moodie presided, Mr. Grant preached, Mr. Craw addressed the minister, and Mr. Fairbairn the people. There was a good attendance and considerable interest manifested in the services. In the evening a service was held in the

town hall, at which addresses were delivered by members of Presbytery, the Rev. Mr. McMullen, of Woodstock, and the local ministers. Mr. McMullen preached the following Sabbath in the forenoon and afternoon, and the newly inducted pastor in the evening. At the close of the induction services a meeting of office-bearers was held, and steps taken to build a manse. Mr. Findlay has rendered seven years of faithful service in the great mission field of Muskoka, and it will be difficult to fill his place. He has rendered the Church excellent service, but how the Presbytery is to carry on the work is the question exercising the Parrie brethren just now.

MAITLAND PRESBYTERY.—This Presbytery met in Lucknow on Aug. 22nd, Rev. J. L. Murray, Moderator. Calls from South Kinloss congregation in favour of Rev. A. McKenzie, probationer, and from St. Andrew's Church, Lucknow, were taken up. Both calls were unanimous, and were sustained and ordered to be transmitted. The call from Kinloss was signed by 43 communicants and 226 adherents. Stipend promised is \$700 with a manse. The call from St. Andrew's Church was signed by 54 communicants and 43 adherents. Stipend promised is \$600 with a manse. Mr. Leask was appointed to prosecute the call from St. Andrew's before the Lindsay Presbytery.—R. LEASK, Pres. Clerk.

PRESBYTERY OF LINDSAY.—The Presbytery of Lindsay met in St. Andrew's Church, Lindsay, on Tuesday 29th August, Rev. W. Lohead, Moderator. Mr. Lohead's term being expired, the Rev. A. Ross, M.A., was appointed Moderator, and the thanks of the Presbytery were tendered to Mr. Lohead for the efficient manner in which he had discharged the duties of the office during the year. Various reports were received and routine business attended to. Messrs. Ballantyne, McLaren, Dewar, and Smith, students, delivered discourses, and were certified to college. The congregation of Cambray was separated from Glenarm, and from the charge of Rev. D. McDonald. A call was laid on the table from St. Andrew's Church, Lucknow, to the Rev. J. McNabb, Beaverton. The Presbytery adjourned, to meet at Wainwright on Tuesday, 12th September, at 11 a.m.—J. R. SCOTT, Pres. Clerk.

GOSPEL WORK.

MR. MOODY IN THE COUNTRY TOWNS.

At Galashiels, Dumfries, Kilmarnock, and the other towns about to be visited by Mr. Moody, preparatory prayer meetings have been held, and the evangelist is looked for with much interest, though regret is expressed that his visits are to be so very brief, being limited in each case to a single day. At Kilmarnock the Laigh Kirk, the largest in the town, has been granted for the meetings. At Dumfries special services are being held this week, including a noon-day prayer meeting in Wesley Chapel. On Monday evening there was an evangelistic meeting in George Street Free Church, at which Dr. Wilson, of Barclay Church, Edinburgh, and Major Mossman delivered stirring addresses. The Free Presbytery of Dumfries have agreed to hold an evangelistic conference in September. The all-day evangelistic meeting, conducted in the Kinnaird Hall, Dundee, by Mr. Moody, began with a conference on "How to Study the Bible." Mr. Moody said some people did not believe in the supernatural, and those that did not, he held, must throw away the Bible, which is full of the supernatural. The Bible was true or it was not; and if it was not true, then the sooner it was thrown away the better. The second hour was devoted to the answering of questions. Among the questions asked was one, "How long should a sermon be?" To this Mr. Moody replied that various answers might be returned. For instance, some sermons might be compressed into five minutes, and even this period was sometimes really too long. He, however, thought that a man should be able to say all that he had to say in half an hour. At St. Andrews Mr. Moody addressed a large meeting in the Town Church. Several of the local clergy took part in the proceedings. The Fifehire "Journal" says: "Mr. Moody's countenance betokens a considerable amount of intrepidity and resolution, and if he had been met with on the Broomielaw of Glasgow, or on the wharf of some other seaport, he might reasonably have been mistaken for the pushing captain of some large vessel. He is neither an elocutionist nor a rhetorician in the sense that his language

is carefully selected to produce effect; but he tells his tale in a plain, straightforward, and unvarnished way. Mr. Moody is somewhat of a humorist, but his forte is as a story-teller. He speaks to the heart as much as to the head, which is perhaps the secret of the wonderful power he possesses of attracting an audience. Might this not give a hint to some of our clergymen to eschew their dry-as-dust critical and doctrinal disquisitions and adopt somewhat of Mr. Moody's method of addressing the hearts and consciences of men?" The meetings at Campbelltown on Saturday and Sunday were largely attended. Many had travelled great distances, and secured their seats hours before the services began.

GLIMPSES OF LONDON LABOUR.

It was a Sunday, early in July. Leaving my home before seven a.m., I joined the prayer-meeting at Salter's Hall Chapel, in the Essex road. Probably 250 were present. Mr. Spurgeon's evangelists, Messrs. Fullerton and Smith, had concluded a very encouraging three weeks' mission, and these people came to give thanks, their minister, Rev. A. Bax, taking charge of the meeting. Doubtless these missions are the best means for awakening a neighbourhood. From Salter's Hall Chapel I went to the 8 o'clock Communion in St. Jude's Church, Mildmay Park. More than 100 were thus celebrating the Lord's death, including deaconesses, nurses, Sunday-school teachers, and working men, most of whom would be busy at the Lord's work the greater part of the day.

IN THE BIRD FAIR.

Miss Macpherson had asked for another attack on the Sunday bird fair on the borders of Bethnal-green. The Open-air Mission sent out a hasty summons to some of its members two days before, and more than thirty responded; some meeting for breakfast in the Home of Industry first. Thither I hastened, taking a small detachment from Mildmay. After breakfast we joined in prayer, and then sang hymns on our way to the scene of action. One had brought a pulpit, another a "coloured preacher," and another a concertina, while from the Home of Industry a harmonium was wheeled, and from the London Fields Training Home a banner was sent. Hymns and sermonettes were continued at four stations for about two hours. The spirit of hearing struck me as being greater than usual, and as Mr. Edwin Kerwin told of a conversion as the result of our Sunday here three months ago, I was greatly cheered. The case he mentioned was that of an infidel who had cursed God for letting his child die last December. He came on that March Sunday to buy a bird, and was convicted of sin while listening to the preaching, and found peace the same day.

A STRIKING CONTRAST.

Passing down Brick-lane, I came upon a band of Christian Community Workers holding a meeting at the end of Thrawl street. This group of workers—men, women, and children—presented a striking contrast to the crowd which faced them; the one, clean and happy-looking people, all decorated with the blue ribbon; while the other bore many marks of sin, misery, shame, and sorrow. But such a scene spoke volumes for the quiet, humanising effect of the Community's labours. To see such people paying such marked attention was to me very impressive.

SCENES IN POPLAR.

It is now early afternoon, soon after two o'clock. The curate of St. Matthias, Poplar, had a desire to preach in a lodging-house, so we went together. But the lodgers would not come together in one room, so a couple of forms were placed in the narrow court. Still they declined, so the service began, while some stayed in the rooms and others walked out of the court. The curate and I had one form, and as the service proceeded we had sometimes one and sometimes two hearers, on the opposite form, but never more than four in sight. However, it was an interesting experiment, and all open-air preachers have at times to preach to invisible audiences.

While the curate went to take a class in a summer-house in the churchyard, I joined another open-air service at the corner where Cottage street runs out of High street. As I sat on the kerbstone listening to the working-men preachers, I noticed a Chinese lodging-house opposite, and saw a Chinaman enter. Over the door was an inscription, "Wath Yee Towng," and "All Seamen Chinese Company." Presently the Rev. Charles Neil, vicar of St. Matthias, having seen all his Sunday schools at work, came and