

Ministers and Churches.

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The sacrament of the Lord's supper was dispensed on the 3rd instant in St. Andrew's Church, Brighton, by the pastor, the Rev. A. K. McLeod. The service was attended by a most orderly and attentive audience, the centre seats being entirely taken up by communicants. Forty-five new members were added to the roll of the Church, as the product of a series of evangelistic meetings, which was recently conducted under the charge of the Rev. J. M. McIntyre. It has been a time of great spiritual blessing. "The Lord hath done great things for us, whereof we are glad."

A CORRESPONDENT writes: I see by a late issue of THE CANADA PRESBYTERIAN that favourable travelling rates for commissioners to the General Assembly have been secured by the C. P. R. from points in Quebec and Ontario. Why, might I ask, for Quebec and Ontario only? Why not, while at it, secure rates for commissioners from all points along the whole line from Quebec to Vancouver, B. C. This, I believe, would secure uniform and more favourable terms all around. Surely commissioners from poor missionary Presbyteries along the line westward of Winnipeg to the Pacific, who, unlike many of the more favoured brethren from Eastern Presbyteries, shall have to bear their own expenses, are entitled to at least equal consideration in this matter. Besides the earliest information is of great importance in order to complete necessary arrangements for a long and expensive journey in the interest of the work of the Church.

A GENUINE old folks' surprise party, consisting of the farmers and their wives from the north branch of the Churchill congregation, took place at the manse one evening last week. On the pastor's return home he found several farmers unloading oats in his granary. As soon as this was accomplished, and the manse opened, their wives were summoned from a neighbouring house, where they awaited the return of the pastor. After partaking of a bounteous repast provided by the ladies, several of the gentlemen explained that the object of their visit was to show in some practical way their very high appreciation of the unwearied efforts of their pastor in regard to their temporal and spiritual welfare. He had also very nobly, thus far very successfully, contended for their right to worship in a central place. If possessing the entire confidence and active co-operation of both old and young in every good work is any indication of future prosperity, Mr. Duncan's labours in this field will be abundantly successful.

THE tenth anniversary of the rebuilding of the First Presbyterian Church, Branford, was observed on Sabbath, April 3. The Rev. P. McF. McLeod, of Central Presbyterian Church, Toronto, preached to large and deeply interested congregations both morning and evening. Mr. McLeod's discourses were interesting, earnest and eminently practical, and will not soon be forgotten. He also addressed a mass meeting in the Sabbath school in the afternoon, to the great satisfaction of the teachers and scholars. Mr. Hossie, president of the Brant County Sabbath School Association, also gave a good and useful address. Instead of the usual anniversary tea meeting, held from time immemorial, a free-will offering was asked from the people. The response to this was so spontaneous and liberal as to more than justify the wisdom of the change, inasmuch as it certainly is the true scriptural way of raising money for church purposes. The offering amounted to nearly \$200. On the following Friday evening a free social gathering was held. It was entirely informal in its nature, and every opportunity was given to people to get acquainted with each other. Refreshments were served, and a short programme of music given, after which an address was read to the pastor, Rev. Dr. Beattie, who had just returned from Montreal that day, where he had had the degree of D.D. conferred upon him. Along with the congratulatory address he was presented with a very handsome pulpit gown by the congregation. Dr. Beattie replied in a few words of grateful appreciation of the generous kindness of the people. The year just closing marks the most prosperous one in the history of the congregation. It also closes the fifth year of Dr. Beattie's pastorate, and the outlook for the future is very hopeful in every way.

PRESBYTERY OF MAITLAND.—This Presbytery met in Huron Church, Ripley, on March 15. Session records were examined. Commissioners to the General Assembly were appointed: Ministers, Messrs. Davidson, Muir, Ballantyne, McRae, Ross and McDonald; elders, Messrs. Millar, McLennan, J. McDonald, McPherson, W. Davison and Smilie. Remit on ecclesiastical co-operation was approved of with this amendment, That the arrangement of the whole matter be left with Presbyteries and district meetings. The remit on the marriage question was carried, several members dissenting. Messrs. Murray, MacNabb and Leask were appointed to superintend the studies of students. Messrs. McQueen, Ross and Anderson were appointed to arrange for the supply of Lucknow congregation. Mr. McPherson reported regarding the disposal of St. Andrew's Church property, Kincardine. Messrs. Leask, McQuarrie and Ross were appointed to revise the standing orders of the Presbytery, and report at next meeting. Messrs. Anderson and Gordon were appointed on Synod's Committee on Bills and Overtures. Messrs. Leask, D. G. Cameron and their Presbytery elders, with Mr. Harrison, were appointed to consider the advisability of preparing an atlas of the Presbytery, and report. The Rev. Dr. Burns, of Halifax, was nominated Moderator of the next General Assembly. Excellent reports were read on the following subjects: State of Religion, by Mr. Davidson; Sabbath Schools, by Mr. Stevenson; Temperance, by Mr. Murray. The report

of the Presbyterian Woman's Foreign Society was read by Mrs. Leask. It was moved by Mr. Sutherland, duly seconded and agreed to, That this Presbytery express gratification with the report now read by the Secretary of the Presbyterian Woman's Foreign Mission Society, and would note the marked success of the society during the past year in the increase of its auxiliaries, and largely increased contributions of the societies as a whole; also this Presbytery expresses their earnest desire that the Divine blessing may rest more and more upon the society, and that all its efforts may be crowned with abundant success. A reference from the Walton congregation was read. A commission, consisting of Messrs. Leask, McQuarrie, Anderson, Wilson and Strachan, were appointed to visit Walton. The claims of aid-receiving congregations were considered.—R. LEASK, *Pres. Clerk*.

PRESBYTERY OF PETERBOROUGH.—This Presbytery met in Peterborough, on the 22nd of March. The Rev. J. Cameron is Moderator for the next six months. There are no vacancies within the bounds of the Presbytery. At the meeting on the 22nd of March there were twenty-two ministers and nine elders present. Very interesting reports on the State of Religion, Sabbath Schools and Temperance were read and adopted. Much attention was given to the state of the mission fields and augmented congregations. Messrs. D. Spear and A. Thompson were recommended to the Home Mission Committee for employment during the summer. Leave was given to the congregation of Cobourg, to dispose of the former Old Kirk property in Cobourg, if it be found that they have the legal claim to the property. The union of Oakhill and Garden Hill was found to be impracticable. The usual steps were taken to obtain leave for the Rev. Dr. Beattie, of Campbellford, and the Rev. James Cleland, of Mill Street, Port Hope, to retire from the active duties of the ministry, and to have their names placed on the list of Aged and Infirm Ministers. The following ministers, all by rotation, were appointed as delegates to the General Assembly: Messrs. Cooke, Jamieson, Carmichael, Craigie, Thompson, Mitchell and Hay. The elders appointed, all by open vote, were Messrs. N. F. McNaughton, Cobourg; G. Morrison, Omemee; John Carnegie, Peterborough; W. E. Johnstone, Grafton; W. L. Roxburgh, Norwood; D. McIntosh, Cold Springs, and J. F. Clarke, Port Hope. In connection with the appointment of the ministerial delegates the following resolution was adopted, That the commissioners to the General Assembly be requested to notify the Clerk in the event of their inability to attend the Assembly at Winnipeg, and that he be hereby empowered to commission the next in order till the full number of commissioners be secured. The Rev. Dr. Burns, of Halifax, was nominated as Moderator of the next meeting of Assembly. The remit on ecclesiastical co-operation was not approved of. The next meeting of Presbytery was appointed to be held in the hall of the First Church, Port Hope, on the first Tuesday of July, at ten o'clock a.m. Mr. Cleland reported regarding the state of the Presbytery Fund. The treasurer's books were reported by the auditors as carefully and correctly kept. On motion of Mr. Bennett, it was agreed to hold a conference at next meeting on the subject of "Systematic Benevolence." Notification was given by Presbyteries of their purpose to ask leave of the Assembly to receive the parties whose names are mentioned underneath as the ministers of this Church. The Presbytery of Montreal—John Adam Birrell, of the Presbytery of Jedburgh, Scotland; the Presbytery of Orangeville—W. E. D'Argenti, of the Presbytery of Pembina, Dakota; the Presbytery of Sarnia—N. Smith, a minister of the Canada Methodist Church; the Presbytery of Owen Sound—R. Hunter Craig, a minister of the Congregational Church.—W. M. BENNETT, *Pres. Clerk*.

PRESBYTERY OF TORONTO.—This Presbytery met on the 5th inst., with a fair attendance of members and others. On application made, Rev. D. Macintosh obtained leave of absence from his pulpit for six months, in the hope of recruiting his health, his people agreeing to meet the expense of supply for that time. Rev. M. C. Cameron tendered the resignation of his pastoral charge, because it is proposed to effect a union between Knox Church and St. Andrew's Church, both in Milton. The Presbytery agreed, while appreciating Mr. Cameron's generosity in this matter, to cite both of his congregations to appear for their interest at next meeting. A committee, previously appointed, reported through Rev. R. Wallace, that the congregations of Norval and Union Church had resolved to give an honourable retiring allowance to their late pastor, Rev. J. Alexander. Moreover, on the ground of increased bodily infirmity, and in terms of a wish expressed by himself, the Presbytery resolved to apply to the General Assembly for leave to his retiring from the active duties of the ministry, as also to recommend him to the favourable consideration of the Committee on the Aged and Infirm Ministers' Fund. An overture was submitted by Rev. H. M. Parsons anent a limitation of the trials of candidates for license; after some discussion, the overture was adopted, and ordered to be transmitted to the supreme court of the Church. In terms of a good report of a committee—submitted by Rev. William Frizzell—the Presbytery agreed to recommend the people of Ravenshoe and McMillan's, to take steps for meeting each Sabbath as one congregation, still keeping up their connection with Queensville. Some time was spent in hearing delegates from Bethesda Church, York Station, York Townline, and Leslieville, about a proposed re-arrangement of the same. The feeling shown by the delegates was quite commendable; and the sum spoken of for pulpit supply was not disappointing. Eventually, it was moved and resolved to disjoin Leslieville from York Townline, with a promise of \$200 (if necessary) from the Augmentation Fund, and in the meantime at least, it was also agreed to supply the three other places together, that is, by one and the same preacher. The resignation of the Rev. T. Nixon was duly dealt with. Only one commissioner appeared from his congregation, who declared the warm attachment still existing toward Mr. Nixon; but in view of some untoward circumstances, which could not be helped, the people would not

oppose his resignation. Mr. Nixon was heard on his own behalf, when he spoke of progress made since the period of his settlement; but in view of the said untoward circumstances, he preferred the acceptance of his resignation. On motion of Rev. P. McLeod, the Presbytery agreed to loose Mr. Nixon from his charge, and to tender him also an assurance of their cordial esteem, together with their good wishes for him in the future. The Clerk was appointed to preach at Stouffville on the 10th inst., to announce to the congregation the Presbytery's decision, and declare the charge vacant. On application made by Rev. J. M. Cameron, leave was renewed to his congregation to dispose of their present church property, and to purchase another suitable site for a new place of worship, the Presbytery to be informed thereof in due time. There appeared before the Presbytery Messrs. J. Goforth, J. W. Orr, D. A. McLean, C. W. Gordon, B. A., John McMillan, William Mowat, J. Easton Browne, John J. Dobbin, D. G. McQueen, B. A., A. E. Doherty, B. A., James W. Rae, James Argo, R. J. Glassford, A. Manson, J. McGillivray, B. A., and J. A. Macdonald, all of them theological students, who wished to be taken on preliminary trials for license. Accordingly they were examined on the various subjects prescribed by the Book of Forms. Said examination having proved satisfactory, the Presbytery agreed to ask leave of the Synod of the district to take them on the other remaining trials. Letters were read from Messrs. W. B. McMurrich and W. M. Clark, resigning their appointments as commissioners from this Presbytery to the General Assembly, and Messrs. William Frazer and William Hood were duly appointed in their stead. The next ordinary meeting of Presbytery was appointed to be held in the usual place on Tuesday, the 3rd of May, at ten a.m.—R. MONTEATH, *Pres. Clerk*.

MONTREAL NOTES.

A generous friend of the College here presented each student of the graduating class with a beautifully bound copy of Brown, Jamieson & Faussett's Unabridged Commentary on the Bible, in six large volumes. At no time are books more needed than when young ministers are settling down to their life work, and so spontaneous and considerate a gift is most highly appreciated by the graduates, who will ever cherish grateful remembrances of the kind donor.

All the members of the graduating class appeared before the Examining Committee of the Montreal Presbytery, on Tuesday last, and underwent an oral and written examination, with a view to license. They will probably all be licensed by the Presbytery next week, at a meeting to be held before the Synod adjourns. The overture of the Presbytery of Toronto, anent the limitation of trials for license, is a step in the right direction, and will, it is hoped, meet with the approval of the General Assembly. As the Synods only meet once a year, and as the meetings are held in some cases within a fortnight of the close of the college, it seems unreasonable to ask students to prepare for and undergo a searching examination—often on subjects they have not been studying for a considerable time—before the Presbytery, when they have just been examined by the College Senate.

Though the session has only just closed, applications are already being received for rooms for next session from many new students, and the prospects at present are that next fall there will be by far the largest attendance there has ever been at the college here. A wing, with accommodation for forty or fifty additional students, will soon be an urgent necessity. Who will provide the requisite means?

Mr. Peter Redpath's latest gift to the college has come to hand. It consists of 164 volumes, and includes the whole of the Bampton Lectures from their institution to this date, the complete works of the Parker Society, and the Appendix to the Codex Sinaiticus.

The annual meeting of the American section of the Presbyterian Alliance takes place in the Scotch Presbyterian Church, on Wednesday, the 20th inst. One of the subjects to be then considered is the programme for the Alliance meeting in London, next year. This programme is already drafted. It has one feature that might with advantage be adopted in our General Assembly; there are only two seditious daily, thus leaving time for committees to meet, and maturely consider matters referred to them.

The congregations of Erskine and Knox Churches are to unite for service during the vacation months this summer, the pastors dividing the work between them, some one of the two being in the city so that cases of sickness can be attended to. This seems to be a good arrangement, and will, it is confidently hoped, work so satisfactorily as to justify the renewal of the plan in succeeding years.

Captain Kerr, one of the oldest members of the Session of Erskine Church, died on Tuesday last. He was a native of Liverpool, though his early years were spent in his grandfather's manse in Burntisland, Scotland. He was a sea-captain for many years, and latterly he occupied the position of Port Warden here. He was ordained an elder in Erskine Church in 1867, and was among the first teachers in the Cote St. Antoine Presbyterian Sabbath School. He was a man of great warmth of heart, of broad sympathies and of sterling Christian character. He will be greatly missed in the Church. He leaves a widow and family of ten, most of whom are grown up. They have the sincere sympathy of very many friends in their bereavement. The funeral took place on Thursday; a short service was held at the house, and another at Erskine Church, taken part in by Rev. Messrs. Jordan, Professor Campbell, Professor Scriinger and Rev. R. H. Warden.

Another old resident died yesterday—Mr. James Dakers, a native of Forfarshire, Scotland, and for many years Manager of the Montreal Telegraph Company. Mr. Dakers was a member of St. Paul's Church, and leaves behind a large circle of attached friends.

The Rev. G. Nergarian, a native Armenian, is at present in Montreal. On Sabbath last he addressed the congregations of Knox and Stanley Street Churches, and on