

Ministers and Churches.

THE Rev. James Myles Crombie, of Cumberland, has been elected a Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland.

With our self-denying friends the local treasurers for Knox College Endowment Fund make an effort to close up as much as possible the lists before January, and confer a favour.

Rev. J. M. AULL, of Palmerston, lectured in Melville Church, Brussels, on the 17th inst., on "Inventions and Discoveries." The lecture, which was given under the auspices of the Young People's Christian Association, was eloquent and entertaining, and its good sense, spiced with humour, was thoroughly enjoyed by the audience.

PRINCIPAL GRANT arrived at Kingston on Saturday evening from Winnipeg, after making a tour around the world. He stayed over a few hours in Ottawa, and had breakfast with Mr. Sandford Fleming. A large number of citizens were at the railway station when the train came in, and the Principal upon his appearing was greeted with loud and prolonged cheers. He seems in capital health after his travels. He was escorted by a very influential deputati to the city hall, where he addressed by the city council, the school trustees, and other bodies were made, to which he gave cordial replies.

AN Ottawa journal tells this story. Three members of the Ladies' Aid Society connected with the Bank Street Presbyterian Church, after attending a meeting in the basement, went up stairs into the body of the church to look after things in general. While there the sexton came along and unaware of their presence locked all the doors for the day. The ladies did not discover their position until they started to go home, when they found all means of egress barred against them. Every attempt was made and every scheme resorted to to gain freedom, but all to no use. Time passed and the shades of evening were fast falling when luckily an elderly official of the post office department happened to come along and heard their nervous tapping at the window panes. Dr. Moore, the pastor, was communicated with by the gentleman, and the ladies were liberated after spending a couple of hours in the silent gloom of the empty church.

THE following extract from a postal card from Rev. Donald McGilivray, dated Yokohama, November 16, will interest his many friends. Made passage in seven days, arrived here last Tuesday, and leave next Thursday at noon, for Shanghai, ticket only \$28 in gold, three other missionaries go with me to China, the others remain in Japan. I have travelled a little here, up to Tokio, the capital yesterday; saw heathen temples and worship; saw Miss Preston, one time in Goderich. She is in a very fine girls' school, and going up there again. Went through and through Yokohama, which is the port of Tokio, joined to it by a double track railroad. Have met some Presbyterians here. The bay here has about twelve war ships and steamships at anchor. The voyage to Shanghai is about a week more, I expect to reach Chefoo at December 1. Am boarding here at an missionary's house, full of missionaries always coming and going. Am in excellent health and spirits.

THE new Presbyterian Church at Listowel was opened for divine service on last Sabbath by the Rev. R. P. Mackay, M.A., of Parkdale. The discourses morning and evening by Mr. Mackay were truly excellent. Rev. J. W. Bell, M.A., of Newmarket, preached an appropriate sermon in the afternoon. On the following evening a very successful tea meeting was held at which racy and pertinent addresses were delivered by Rev. Messrs. R. P. Mackay, Parkdale; W. McKibbin, Millbank; A. Henderson, Atwood; J. W. Cameron, Mornington; A. Stevenson, Mossesworth, and the resident ministers. Dr. Nichol, chairman of the Building Committee, and Mr. D. D. Campbell, member of the same, both delivered addresses very suitable for the occasion. Choice music was furnished by the excellent choir of the congregation. The congregations were large and the contributions liberal. The church was occupied on Monday evening by the pastor, the Rev. Isaac Campbell. The church is a beautiful one, erected at a cost of about \$20,000.

AUGUSTINE CHURCH, Winnipeg, held its annual social meeting last week. Coffee and tea were served at eight o'clock. The church is seated with chairs, and this gave the people an opportunity of moving about freely and arranging their seats in groups as they chose. One might have supposed, were it not for the crowded condition of the building, that he was in the parour of a private house. The subsequent proceedings were of a very informal character. There was no chairman, but at intervals during the evening there were speeches by the Rev. Principal King and Dr. Robertson, and music consisting of quartette by the choir and duets and solos by members of the congregation. There was a collection, which turned out to be a liberal one, on behalf of the Sunday School Literary Fund. This entertainment was followed the other evening by a social for the Sunday school children, which was highly enjoyed. There were refreshments, singing by the children and some of their friends, and a series of magic lantern views, which elicited great applause, shown by Mr. G. Fortier.

THE congregation of Charles Street Presbyterian Church, held a very pleasant social meeting on Tuesday evening, the occasion being the fourth anniversary of Rev. Mr. Neil's induction to the pastorate. After some time spent in social intercourse and enjoyment of musical selections rendered by members of the choir the meeting was called to order by the pastor, and the congregation joined together in the singing of a hymn, after which Rev. Mr. Lindsay led in prayer. The Rev. Dr. Reid then stepped upon the platform and informed Mr. Neil that he intended to take charge of the meeting. Referring to the passage in Genesis, where it is recorded that Joseph was presented by Israel with a coat of many colours, as a token of affection, the venerable doctor said that the congregation of Charles Street Church, that they might show their affection for their pastor and give him a token of their appreciation of his work

among them, had made him a coat—not of many colours, but of one good, substantial colour. He then presented to Mr. Neil a handsome Persian lamb overcoat, with cap and gloves. On behalf also of the ladies of the congregation, he handed to Mr. Neil, for his mother, a beautiful fur-lined cloak, as a token of love and friendship. But his duties were not yet completed. So great was the zeal and liberality of the members of the Church, that there yet remained to be presented to the pastor a purse containing a goodly quantity of gold. The popular recipient feelingly replied on behalf of himself and mother.

THE congregation of Knox Church, Galt, met last week. The attendance was the largest ever held for the purpose, although the evening was the coldest and the roads the worst of this season. Nearly every family was represented, many coming several miles, even as many as eight miles. The following ten additional elders were elected: James Rennelsun, James Hasie, A. W. Falconer, A. A. Burnett, John Cant, John Scott, Mark S. McKay, Thomas Christie, Dr. Cameron and J. B. Allen. In every case the election was absolutely unanimous, not a single vote being given against them, although the Moderator gave every opportunity. The election took over an hour, as it was the universal desire of the Session that the utmost freedom should be allowed in every case. The election was preceded by a devotional meeting lasting over an hour, and an address on the unity of the Church and the manifold operations of the Spirit in that unity. The ordination will probably take place on the last Sabbath of the year at morning service. There are at present twenty three elders, and with the new ones Knox Church will have a Session of thirty-three. This large number is absolutely necessary for the efficient carrying on of its work. The ladies have arranged for a reception for Mrs. Jackson, to be held on the first day of the new year, from two p.m. till half-past seven p.m. It will be free to all the members and friends of the congregation. Refreshments will be provided by the ladies.

PRESBYTERY OF BRUCE.—This Presbytery met at Paisley on the 11th inst. fourteen ministers and nine elders being present. Mr. R. Gray was appointed Moderator for the ensuing half-year and took the chair. Communications were received from Dr. Cochrane, Mr. Macdonnell and Mr. J. K. MacDonald, intimating the amounts this Presbytery is expected to contribute to the Home Mission, Augmentation and Aged and Infirm Ministers' Funds. The circulars were handed over to the Committee on the Schemes of the Church with instructions to apportion, as early as possible, to each congregation its share of the amount. The following Committees on Presbytrial visitation were appointed: Group 1—Messrs. MacMillan, Convener, Little and Brown; Group 2—Messrs. Linton, Convener, Gillies and W. Rowand. In response to the request of several members of the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society within the bounds of the Presbytery, Dr. James and Mr. Gurlay were appointed to meet with said society at the next annual meeting and address them, congratulating them on the success of their work. Leave was granted to moderate in a call to Pinkerton and West Brant. Mr. Talmie submitted the Home Mission Report for the quarter, setting forth that three ordained missionaries have been recently appointed to the mission field. Committees were appointed to visit the supplemented congregations and report at next meeting. The remit on the marriage question was on a vote of eleven to seven disapproval of. The greater part of the evening sederunt was spent in conference on the State of Religion, when the subject of evangelistic services were taken up and considered.—JAMES GOURLAY, Pres. Clerk.

PRESBYTERY OF CHATHAM.—This Presbytery met in St. Andrew's Church, Chatham, on December 11. The Presbytery adopted this minute in reference to the resignation of Mr. Sinclair. The Presbytery desires to put on record the high esteem in which they hold the Rev. H. Sinclair, now released from his charge of Caven Church at North Dawn. Though only a short time within the bounds of the Presbytery, he has won the respect and confidence of all who came in contact with him. The Presbytery would express the deepest sympathy with him under the affliction which has necessitated his removal, and would pray that a field may speedily be opened up where health, happiness and usefulness may be in store for him and his partner in life. The committee invested with Presbytrial powers for the occasion, reported that they had met with all parties, and had united Springfield and Tilbury Centre in the meantime; and also that they had given Campbell's statement authority to sell their church edifice. Deputations were appointed to visit the augmented congregations, and the supplemented mission stations. In order to meet the request of the Convener of the Aged and Infirm Ministers' Fund, the congregation within the bounds of the Presbytery were asked to meet in an appropriate manner to their ability. It was agreed to hold the next regular meeting in First Church, Chatham, on the second Tuesday of March. Rev. C. Chiquiquy was transferred to the Montreal Presbytery. In regard to the remit on marriage with a deceased wife's sister, the Presbytery reaffirmed its former decision, which was in favour of deleting from the Confession of Faith, the clause on point. In regard to the remit on traveling expenses to the General Assembly, the Presbytery reaffirmed its former decision, which was in favour of leaving it to congregations to pay the charges of those who went from them. A committee was appointed to consider the remit on the Book of Forms. The Convener of the Home Mission Committee reported that he had appointed Rev. Mr. Watson, an ordained minister of our Church to Leominster and Gildsmith, until the end of March. The Synod endorsed the appointment.—WILLIAM WALKER, Pres. Clerk.

PRESBYTERY OF SAUGEN.—This Presbytery met in Mount Pleasant on 11th December. Mr. Morrison was appointed moderator for the next six months and took the chair. The Presbytery passed a motion of sympathy with the widow and family of the late George Johnson, who, at the time of his death, was a member of the Presbytery, and for many

years took an active part in all Church work. An extract minute of the Presbytery of Guelph was read, in making that the request of the Presbytery of Saugen ancient the transference of Roheay, had not been granted, inasmuch as all the three congregations affected by the change were against any disturbance of their present pastoral relationship. Mr. McMullen, Moderator of the General Assembly being present, was asked to sit and deliberate. A circular ancient the Aged and Infirm Ministers' Fund, asking for increased contributions was read. Mr. Aull was appointed to apportion to each congregation the amounts expected from it. Messrs. Aull and Cameron were appointed a committee on the Book of Forms. The Presbytery agreed to take supply from Assembly's Committee on distribution for Woodland and North Luther for two months of this quarter. Mr. Strath was authorised to moderate in a call in these congregations as soon as they are prepared. Messrs. Cameron, Strath, Thom and Young, on behalf of the deputations appointed to visit all the congregations and mission stations, reported that all had been visited according to appointment, and with encouraging results. Messrs. Young, Bickell and Martin, were appointed a committee to co-operate with the Women's Foreign Mission Society, in arranging for their annual meeting. Mr. James Scott gave in the treasurer's report, which was received and adopted, and thanks tendered to him for his diligence. Mr. Scott was reappointed for the next year. Mr. Strath gave an address at the evening meeting, on "The Christian Ministry;" and Mr. Stewart on "The Efficacy of Prayer." Mr. McMullen, Moderator of General Assembly, gave a short address on points connected with the subjects discussed by the two previous speakers. The Presbytery adjourned to meet in Palmerston on the second Tuesday of March next, at half-past ten a.m.—S. YOUNG, Pres. Clerk.

PRESBYTERY OF WINNIPEG.—This Presbytery met on the 14th of Dec. There were present fifteen ministers and six elders. A circular notice from the Conveners of the Aged and Infirm Ministers' Committee was read. Dr. Bryce moved, seconded by Dr. Duval, that increased contributions to the fund having been asked by the Conveners, the Presbytery commends to the congregations under its charge to take notice of this important matter, and requests congregations to be liberal in their gifts, and to aim at reaching the sum of \$350 asked of the Presbytery by the committee. A committee, consisting of C. W. Bryden, J. Douglas and J. Hamilton was appointed to examine, as to motives and Christian knowledge, the following students who had applied to be received as students of Theology: Messrs. G. Lockhart, A. C. Manson, H. F. Ross, R. E. Knowles, J. E. Munro, W. O. Wallace, D. Campbell, D. D. McKay, James Buchanan and D. M. Ross. The committee reported later on in the evening that they found all these young men to be desirable candidates for the ministry. A proposed constitution of the Springfield congregation was submitted to the Presbytery for approval, and was referred to a committee consisting of Rev. Mr. Hogg and Mr. R. Spence. Mr. Baird, Professor Hart and C. H. Campbell were appointed to consider the amendment to the Book of Forms. Mr. Baird reported that at the request of the Rev. I. L. Hargrave he had sent him a certificate of Presbytrial standing. Mr. Hargrave being present was asked to sit with the Presbytery as a corresponding member. A letter was read from Mr. Hargrave, complaining of a misunderstanding in regard to his work in Dominion City. After full explanations from Mr. Hargrave and a discussion participated in by several members, it was moved that the action of the Home Mission Committee be sustained, and that the Presbytery pledges itself to secure for Mr. Hargrave the amount due from Dominion City. Rev. Mr. Spence, of Kildonan, was appointed to declare vacant the pulpit of Springfield Church. Professor Hart was authorized to moderate in a call when in the opinion of the Session the congregation is ready for such action. The matter of supplying the Springfield Church was referred to the Home Mission Committee on motion of Professor Hart. Rev. Mr. McFarlane was authorized to moderate in a call at Stouewall. The Rev. James Douglas reported that he had dispensed the communion in Meadow Lea, and that five new members were added to the Church. Rev. Mr. Hamilton gave a similar report in regard to the Niverville and Clear Spring Churches. The Rev. Mr. Pringle reported on behalf of the congregation at Schreiber, that they had erected a new, comfortable church, which is almost clear of debt. The congregation has connected with it fifteen families and thirty young men. They had adopted the envelope system and have secured weekly pledges to the amount of \$9.40, and hope to increase it to the liberal sum of \$12 very soon. They are very anxious to have an ordained minister. Professor Hart moved, seconded by Dr. Duval, that the thanks of the Presbytery be tendered to these brethren for their efficient discharge of duty. Mr. Baird presented a report on behalf of the financial committee as to sums required by the Synod and Presbytery funds. He presented also several accounts incurred by him as Clerk of the Presbytery. These accounts were ordered to be given to the treasurer and paid. Professor Hart read the report of the committee appointed to prepare a minute in regard to the resignation of Mr. McLaren, of Springfield Church. It expressed their appreciation of his devoted and self-denying spirit and hoped that God would long spare him to continue this good work. It was decided to send a copy of this resolution to Mr. McLaren. The Rev. H. W. Fraser, of Fort William, resigned his charge, and, after explanations from himself and expressions of regret from the Presbytery, it was agreed, on motion of Mr. Pringle, that the congregation be cited for its interests at a special meeting of the Presbytery to be held on the 25th of December. It was agreed that the Rev. Mr. Lawrence be appointed Moderator of the session of Dominion City and Green Ridge. Rev. Mr. McFarlane moved, seconded by Rev. Mr. Pringle, that each Session be requested to make arrangements for a missionary meeting, and to report compliance with this request at next meeting of the Presbytery. The meeting then adjourned till Dec. 23.—ANDREW B. BAIRD, Pres. Clerk.