

MINISTERS AND CHURCHES.

RIVER street Presbyterian church, Paris, is erecting a \$1,800 manse.

THE Rev. C. B. Pitblado, of Halifax, has declined a call to the Second Presbyterian Church, Winnipeg.

AT the meeting of the Synod of the Presbyterian Church in the Maritime Provinces definite steps were taken to organize a Ladies' College.

WE are sorry to learn from the St. John "Telegraph," that Dr. Waters has accepted the call lately tendered to him by the First Presbyterian Church of Newark, New Jersey, U. S.

WE are requested by the Rev. L. Cameron, of Thamesford, to say that the statement in this month's "Record," to the effect that he has resigned his charge, is totally without foundation.

THE St. Mary's "Argus" says: Knox Church, Stratford, big as it is, has become too small for the large congregations who crowd to hear the popular pastor, and an enlargement is to be made at once.

THAT branch of Mr. Park's congregation in Durham which left the church owing to the introduction of an instrument in the service of praise, is now worshipping as a separate congregation in the Town Hall.

THE congregation of Knox Church, Ayr, are talking of either buying or building another manse, the present one being very inconveniently located, and at too great a distance from the village—a drawback which is seriously felt in the winter months.

AT the congregational meeting of St Andrew's church, Perth, Mr. William Meighen acting as chairman, the voting resulted in the choice of the Rev. Mr. McGillivray, of Scarboro', Ont., by a large majority. The choice was then made unanimous. The Rev. Solomon Mylne, of Smith's Falls, presided.

ON the Queen's birthday the corner stone of a new Presbyterian Church at Fairbairn (Egremont), was laid in the presence of a large congregation. Mr. Straith laid the corner stone and Rev. Messrs. Jno. Campbell, Moderator of the Saugeen Presbytery, Dr. Fraser, J. Morrison, R. Straith, Pastor, St. Tucker and others assisted in the ceremonies. The new church will seat 300 people. It will be of white material, and is estimated to cost \$1,500.

ON the evening of Thursday, 19th ult., a number of the ladies connected with the Presbyterian congregation of Bond Head, called at the residence of the Rev. Dr. Fraser, and presented Mrs. Fraser with an address, accompanied with an elegant china tea set of sixty-six pieces, and a beautifully designed tea tray; and also to Miss Fraser, a few kindly words with a richly chased gold brooch, set with brilliants. Dr. Fraser replied on behalf of Mrs. Fraser and daughter, warmly acknowledging the kindness of the ladies of his late charge.

ON the evening of the Queen's birthday the members and adherents of the Tara Presbyterian congregation, together with a number of friends from the other religious denominations of the place, met in the old Presbyterian church, and after partaking of refreshments kindly provided by the ladies of the congregation, presented their esteemed pastor, the R. v. Mr. Blain, with a new buggy and harness, accompanied with a kind and affectionate address. Mr. Blain replied in suitable terms, and a very enjoyable time was spent by all present.

THE New Presbyterian Church at Richmond Hill was opened for divine service on the 24th of May, by the Rev. D. J. Macdonnell, of Toronto. He preached a masterly sermon to a large congregation from John x. 11. Dinner and tea were served by the ladies of the congregation in the basement of the Church. In the evening a platform meeting was held, presided over by P. Patterson, M.P.P., when eloquent and stirring addresses were delivered by the Rev. Messrs. Macdonnell, McLeod, and Smith, of Toronto. The handsome sum of \$800 was realized during the day. On the following Sabbath most interesting and profitable services were conducted by Principal Caven, and Prof. Gregg. Three services were held during the day, which will be long remembered by the large congregations that had the pleasure of attending them. In the morning Prof. Gregg preached from Heb. i. 1-3, and in the afternoon from Rom. iii. 28. In the evening Principal Caven took for his text the twenty-ninth verse of the first chapter of John. The Church, which is commodious, is a beautiful

structure, and is a suitable successor to the old building, in which the congregation worshipped for the last sixty years.

FROM the annual report of the united congregations of Keady, Peabody, and Desboro', we glean the following particulars: In the pastor's report it is stated that though there has been nothing of an eventful character during the year, yet that the good work has been going on in circumstances upon the whole encouraging. We quote the following passages from that report, as, we fear, applicable to other places as well. "The Pastor deeply deplores the prevalence of amusements of a more than questionable character among the young people of two of the congregations, and which he fears has been lately on the increase. This is a sad state of affairs and the Pastor calls upon all who love the Lord Jesus, and who feel an interest in the spiritual well-being of those dear young people to unite with him in opposing this flood of godlessness with heart and voice and example, that God's blessing upon the preaching of the Word be not hindered. 'Let no man deceive you with vain words, for because of these things cometh the wrath of God upon the children of disobedience. Be not ye therefore partakers with them.'—Eph. v., 6, 7. Drunkenness and Sabbath desecration still prevail more or less throughout the district, but we believe they are decreasing. The Sabbath is not so much a visiting day as it has been, and some who, at one time, were addicted to moderate drinking are now gradually taking a stand upon the side of total abstinence and prohibition—their eyes being opened to the fact that the whole traffic is an unmixed evil, which God's people are bound to oppose." The income in Keady for all purposes was \$494.59; in Peabody, \$241.82; and in Desboro', \$162.95. The following summary shews the numerical force of the different congregations: Families visited—Keady, 70; Peabody, 35; Desboro', 30; total, 135; Communicants on the Roll—Keady, 107; Peabody, 52; Desboro', 43; total, 202; Added since last year—Keady, 13; Peabody, 9; Desboro', 10; total, 32; Removals—Keady, 0; Peabody, 2; Desboro', 1; Baptisms—Keady, 6; Peabody, 5; Desboro', 4; total, 15; Managers—Keady, 12; Peabody, 6; Desboro', 6; total, 24; S. S. Teachers—Keady, 7; Peabody, 3; Desboro', 6; total, 16. The contributions to the schemes of the Church are not large, but it is hoped they will increase. The total contributions for all purposes connected with both the support and extension of the Gospel average, not per member, but per family, \$6.66. This does not seem very large, but the circumstances of many may be such as to make it as much as much larger sums in other places.

BOOKS AND MAGAZINES.

SCRIBNER'S MONTHLY and ST. NICHOLAS for June. (New York: Scribner & Co.)—Attractive and instructive, each in its peculiar sphere, these publications in the present issue fully sustain their well-earned reputation.

MR. R. WORTHINGTON has purchased the stereotype plates of "Dr. Albert Barnes' Notes on the Bible," and will immediately bring out new and attractive editions of the Book of Job, Isaiah, and Daniel, at reduced prices.

MR. R. WORTHINGTON announces for publication, "Life, Travels, Labours and Writings of Lorenzo Dow, including his singular and erratic wanderings in Europe and America, and the vicissitudes of the journey of life and supplementary reflections, by Peggy Dow." Illustrated with portraits.

REVISED VERSION OF THE NEW TESTAMENT—Messrs. I. K. Funk & Co., of New York, the publishers of the "Cheap Standard Series," have issued a low-priced edition of the Revised New Testament in paper covers. It will serve to save a more durable copy from the severe usage it would be likely to undergo in the process of the first eager comparison with the authorized version.

MRS. HARPER'S AWAKENING. By "Pansy." (Boston: D. Lothrop & Co.)—This volume contains three stories—or rather sketches of real life and character—besides that from which it takes its title. The others are: "The Harrisville Young Ladies' Band," "Mrs. Dunlap's Commentary," and "Pictures from Mrs. Pierson's Life." The writer, already favourably known, is in her liveliest vein, and the lessons so

pleasantly conveyed are unquestionably excellent in their tendency.

THE CATHOLIC PRESBYTERIAN for May. (London: James Nisbet & Co.; Toronto: James Bain & Son.)—There is a very full and very attractive bill of fare in this number of the "Catholic Presbyterian." Indeed, we don't know that there is a single article in it which is not exceedingly readable—while the different "Notes," the "General Survey" and the "Open Council," are peculiar features which make the "Catholic Presbyterian" very valuable to all readers, and especially to Presbyterians. It would be well if the circulation of the "Presbyterian" were greatly extended not only among ministers but among the more intelligent laymen of our Canada Presbyterian Church.

THE CANADA EDUCATIONAL MONTHLY. Edited by G. Mercer Adam. (Toronto: C. E. M. Pub. Co.)—Educators everywhere will value this publication for its literary excellence and for the thorough and practical knowledge of the science and art of Education shewn in its columns; but the teachers of Ontario especially will, we doubt not, appreciate its efforts to aid them in their arduous work. From the beginning the "Monthly" has been an educator of a very high order, but it is now more than ever an educational reformer. Gradually and skilfully it has approached its special work in this Province, and in the four numbers issued this year several obstructions and abuses are attacked in a manner which is very likely to prove effective. Even the educational system of Ontario, world-renowned though it be, is not perfect, either in its construction or in its working; but it is at least good enough to be worth mending. Our educational "powers that be" are not perfect either, and the nearer they are to perfection the more thankful they will be to be told wherein they come short.

ANGLO-AMERICAN BIBLE REVISION: ITS NECESSITY AND PURPOSE. (New York: American Sunday School Union; Toronto: J. Young.)—This small work consists of brief papers by members of the American Revision Committee, and is designed to shew the necessity which exists for a revision of the present version both of the Old Testament and the New, and the principles on which it is undertaken. These papers possess, as might be expected, various degrees of interest. They are all readable, and most of them contain much curious and valuable information on a subject which can never be without interest to Christian people. They make out a case for the revision which, so far as the New Testament is concerned, has been completed. The necessity for a corrected and improved version of the Old Testament would seem to be even greater than in the case of the New, and as much more advance has been made within the last three centuries in the knowledge of the Hebrew language than in that of the Greek, more may be expected as the result of the work of the revisors in connection with this portion of the Word of God.

LIFE AND CHARACTER OF ROBERT SHIELDS. By G. W. Grote. (Toronto: Hunter, Rose & Co.)—The full title of this book is "Lessons from the Life and Character of Robert Shields; being a Hand-book for the Guidance of Youths generally, and especially for those about to enter upon Commercial Pursuits. With Selections from some of the Best Authors." As a reason for conveying his "lessons" through a biography the author tells us in his second paragraph that "One concrete example, enforcing sound maxims of prudence and morality, is worth any amount of jejune and abstract admonitions." That is quite true, especially on account of the supposed admonitions being "jejune." And the confiding reader proceeds, expecting an interesting account of the life (up to date, or nearly so) of a well-known and highly respected man, accompanied by instructive comments on his doings, his sayings, and the varied excellences of his character. But the confiding reader is disappointed; for after being told that Robert Shields was born at Dunfermline, Scotland, in 1848, that he came to Canada with his father at the age of four years, that from his earliest years he had a religious turn of mind, that he carries his religion with him everywhere, that his almsgiving is conducted upon a system, that he is a hard-worked man and a man of great endurance, that he has been known to post books on a Saturday afternoon, that he once gave \$4,000 to pay a debt on Dr. Jennings's church, and that the author has frequently met him going to Sabbath school, there is not much left for him to read but the "ab-