

MINISTERS AND CHURCHES.

THE Rev. John Thompson, Sarnia, has returned from a prolonged visit to Europe.

DR. WARDROPE acknowledges with thanks the receipt of \$250 from Dr. Nichol, of Brantford, and his brother, Adam Nichol, for the erection of a chapel in Formosa; also, of \$20 from Mr. John Wilson, of Westminster, Ont., in aid of the same object.

A VERY successful musical and literary entertainment was held in the lecture room of West Church, Toronto, on the evening of Thursday, 28th ult., conducted by Mr. James Fax, precentor, and assisted by several amateurs from the city. About four hundred and fifty were present, and over \$70 were cleared. The object was to assist in paying the expenses of repairs on the church tower, lately injured by lightning.

THE Perth "Courier" says that the first marriage service ever held in St. Andrew's Church here was solemnized on Wednesday morning last at seven o'clock, the parties being Mr. W. M. Harvey, of Orillia, and Miss Cecily Lafferty, of Perth. Rev. Mr. MacGillivray performed the ceremony. At the close of the service, St. Andrew's Church session presented the bride with a family Bible, in consonance with an old custom of the church, which entitled the bride to a gift of that sacred nature.

ON Wednesday evening, the congregation of Free St. John's Church, Walkerton, had a large social gathering to celebrate the close of the twenty-sixth year's pastorate of the Rev. Dr. Moffat. As usual with the ladies of this church, the tables were bountifully provided and beautifully ornamented. The Rev. Dr. McVicar, the principal of the Montreal Presbyterian College, gave a brilliant lecture on "Science and Prayer." The lecture was a masterpiece of clear statement, keen discussion and irrefutable argument, and a rare treat to those who have ever faced the difficulties of the subject. From the financial and other standpoints, it was the most successful social gathering ever held by the congregation.

PRESBYTERY OF CHATHAM.—This Presbytery met at Fletcher on the 18th instant. The attendance both of ministers and elders was smaller than usual. On the evening of the first day of meeting a Conference on Sabbath School Work was held. Mr. Uzelle, catechist, gave a report of his labours during the last three months. A telegram was read announcing that Mr. McAlmon had accepted the call of Dover and Chalmers Church and arrangements were made for his induction. A call from Florence and Dawn to Dr. Lamont, of the Presbytery of Glengarry was sustained. It was agreed to ask the Home Mission Committee for grants this year as follows: \$200 to Mersea, \$150 to Baxton, \$100 to Duart, \$3 per Sabbath to Essex Centre, and \$3 per Sabbath to West Tilbury Town Line, and Tilbury Centre. Mr. Tallach gave notice that he intended at next regular meeting to move the adoption of an overture to the General Assembly on the subject of our colleges. Mr. Scott gave notice that at next meeting he would move the adoption of an overture, on the need of a juvenile missionary magazine for circulation in our Sabbath schools. The next regular meeting was appointed to be held in First Presbyterian Church, Chatham, on the second Tuesday of December next, at eleven a.m. It was agreed to take the same course as that followed of late years, as to the way in which the claims of missions should be brought before the congregations within the bounds of the Presbytery. Mr. Gray was appointed to see to the formation of a Session at Essex Centre.—W. WALKER, *Pres. Clerk*.

PRESBYTERY OF PARIS.—This Presbytery held its regular quarterly meeting in Zion Church, Brantford, on Tuesday, 5th ult., Rev. Dr. Cochrane, Moderator, and Rev. W. T. McMullen, clerk. A letter from Mr. Joseph Builder, missionary-elect to India, was read, asking the Presbytery to transfer him for ordination and designation to the Toronto Presbytery. After discussion, the request was granted, and the Toronto Presbytery notified by telegram of said action. Commissioners appeared from Knox and Erskine Churches, Ingersoll, in reference to a union of said congregations under the present pastor of Knox Church, the Rev. Mr. Ross. The union sought was granted, and Mr. McKay appointed to preach and notify them of the decision of the Presbytery. A Committee was also appointed to meet with said congregations and

arrange other matters regarding property and finance. Mr. Thomson was appointed to preach at Glenmorris on the 15th October, and moderate in a call for a minister to said church. Messrs. McTavish and McKay were examined as students of Theology and certified to Knox College Senate. The former gave in an interesting report of his mission work at East Oxford during the past six months. Mr. Robson, elder of Knox Church, Ayr, was certified to the Home Mission Committee for work as a catechist in the North-West. The Rev. Mr. Rennie, of Ailsa Craig, appeared a Commissioner from the London Presbytery, asking that the Culloden congregation, at present united with Tilsonburg, should be transferred to the Presbytery of London, for union with the mission station at Springfield. A committee was appointed to meet with the congregations of Tilsonburg and Culloden, and ascertain their views in the matter, and report to next meeting of Presbytery. Standing committees on the State of Religion, Sunday Schools, Temperance, Examination of Students, Sabbath Observance, and Statistics, were appointed. The grants to supplemented and mission stations were revised, and claims passed. After the disposal of other matters of a routine character the Presbytery adjourned, to meet on the second Tuesday of December, in Knox Church, Woodstock, at twelve o'clock.—W. T. McMULLEN, *Pres. Clerk*.

PRESBYTERY OF MAITLAND.—This Presbytery met in Bluevale on the 18th September. Elders' commissions were presented, and the roll made up for the year. Messrs. Dunbar, of the Brockville Presbytery, and Eakin, without charge, were asked to sit with the Presbytery. A call from the congregation of Ashfield to the Rev. A. Ross, M.A., of Woodville, in the Lindsay Presbytery, was sustained; stipend promised is one thousand dollars with manse and glebe. Mr. McQueen was appointed to prosecute the call before the Presbytery of Lindsay. A conference on "The State of Religion" will be held at the March meeting, when the report on that subject is presented. Mr. Ross announced that the topic for conference at next meeting would be "Missions," to be introduced by Messrs. Brown and McRae, ministers, and Strachan and Harrison, elders. Grants to aid-receiving congregations were revised. Pine River asks for \$150; Langside, \$100; Dungannon and Port Albert for \$150, and Belgrave for \$200. Leave was granted to the Dungannon congregation to build their new church in the village. Mr. Hartley gave in an excellent report on the Statistics of the Presbytery, and Mr. Brown a well prepared report on the finances of the Presbytery. Mr. Bennett, student, appeared before the Presbytery, and delivered an exercise and gave an account of his work in Dungannon and Port Albert. The clerk was instructed to certify him to his college. A petition from the congregation of Bervie, asking to be connected with Knox Church, Kincardine, was laid on the table till next meeting. A conference was held in the evening on "The Importance of the Work of the Eldership in Promoting Personal, Family and Congregational Religion," introduced by Messrs. Muir, McNaughton and Bickell, ministers, and followed by Messrs. Hutton, Strachan and Harrison, elders. It was left to each session to make its own arrangements for bringing the claims of missions before the people, and report at the March meeting. A committee, consisting of Messrs. Hartley and McQuarrie, ministers, and Harrison, elder, was appointed to visit St. Andrew's and Knox Church congregations and endeavour to effect a union between them, and arrange regarding the neighbouring stations.—ROBERT LEASE, *Pres. Clerk*.

PRESBYTERY OF TORONTO.—This Presbytery met in the usual place on the 26th ult., at eleven a.m. Rev. J. M. Cameron presided, *pro tem*. The main object of that diet was to dispose of the appointment offered by the General Assembly to Rev. Dr. King, and accepted by him. An extract minute of a meeting of his congregation was read, setting forth that while the congregation regarded the citation of the Presbytery as too late for offering effective opposition to his acceptance of the appointment, they had nevertheless agreed to obey the citation, and had appointed as their commissioners to the Presbytery Mr. Wm. Kerr, Rev. Wm. Inglis, Mr. A. Nairn, and Mr. J. Y. Reid. Said commissioners appeared accordingly, and were severally heard, when they stated (*inter alia*) that while they and the congregation were very unwilling to part with a pastor who had laboured so long and so efficiently among them they would not

now oppose his decision, and that very cordially they would send with him their wishes and prayers for his comfort and success, hoping also that the material support stipulated to him would not fail to be realized. Dr. King was then heard on his own behalf, when he stated at some length the grounds on which he had decided to accept the appointment of the General Assembly, and to leave a people who had all along acted towards him most kindly and honourably. Rev. Dr. Reid then submitted the following resolution, which was seconded by the clerk, and after being supported by Revs. D. J. Macdonnell, Dr. Gregg, D. Mackintosh, H. M. Parsons, Principal Caven, and J. Pringle, was unanimously adopted:

That the Presbytery, having now heard the commissioners from the congregation of St. James' Square Church, and having already had before them an extract of the General Assembly's minute appointing Dr. King to be Professor of Theology in Manitoba College, and Principal of the College, and also Dr. King's acceptance of the appointment; resolve to release Dr. King, as they hereby do, from the pastoral charge of St. James' Square Church from and after the 22nd day of October ensuing, and instruct him to wait the order of the Presbytery of Manitoba as to his induction in Manitoba College. The Presbytery adopt this action with the deepest regret, in view of the very important position heretofore occupied by Dr. King, the valuable services rendered by him, especially in connection with the Home Mission scheme, and in educational work, and the personal qualities which have endeared him so much to his brethren. Whilst they would have rejoiced to retain him as a member of this Presbytery, which has so often been benefited by his counsel, they feel that they could not do otherwise than bow to the decision of the General Assembly, and they do this with the greater confidence, recognizing as they do the combination of qualities which fit him in an admirable degree for the position to which he has been appointed. The Presbytery will remember their brother when separated from him; they will follow him with their best wishes and prayers for his success and comfort, having the confidence that by the blessing of the Great Head of the Church his appointment will conduce in a very eminent degree to the prosperity of the institution over which he is to preside, and that of the Church throughout the North-West.

The Presbytery desire to record their very deep and sincere sympathy with the congregation of St. James' Square, being deprived of a pastor so faithful and so beloved, and their high appreciation of the unselfish and noble Christian spirit manifested by them in all their proceedings in connection with this matter. The Presbytery cannot but entertain the trust that the spirit of Christian loyalty and self-sacrifice evinced alike by pastor and people will be followed by an abundant blessing and an enlarged bestowal of the graces and influences of the Holy Spirit. The Presbytery appoint Rev. Dr. Gregg to preach in the pulpit of St. James' Square Church on Sabbath, the 28th October, and to declare the pastoral charge vacant; and further appoint Rev. Principal Caven to act as moderator of the session during the vacancy.

An application was read from the managers of Camille congregation, asking leave to sell their old church and lot, the proceeds thereof to go towards the payment of the debt on their new church. The leave sought was granted. On motion made, Rev. R. Pettigrew was appointed interim moderator of the session of Dixie, in place of Rev. W. McWilliam, now removed to Prince Albert, N.-W. T. At three p.m. of the same day the Presbytery met in Chalmers Church, Toronto, for the purpose of ordaining Rev. John Mutch. At this diet Rev. A. Gilray presided, agreeably to previous appointment. After the usual preliminaries an excellent sermon was preached by Rev. A. Wilson from 2 Chron. xiv. 11. The moderator then narrated the previous steps, and put the usual questions to Mr. Mutch, who was afterwards, by prayer and the laying on of the hands of the Presbytery solemnly set apart to the holy ministry, and inducted to the pastoral charge of Chalmers Church. He was also affectionately and suitably addressed by Rev. H. M. Parsons on the duties of his office; and the congregation were briefly addressed by the moderator. When the public services were over, a telegram was read from the Presbytery of Paris transferring to this Presbytery the authority given by the General Assembly to the former Presbytery in conjunction with the Foreign Mission Committee, to ordain and designate Mr. Joseph Builder to the mission work in India. After some consideration, it was resolved to meet in St. James' Square Church on the 5th of October at three p.m. to take Mr. Builder on the usual trials, and at half-past seven p.m. of the same day, to set him apart to his chosen work. Rev. Dr. King was appointed to preside and deliver the charge to Mr. Builder. It was also agreed to ask Rev. D. D. MacLeod, of Paris, to preach, and that the Rev. Dr. Wardrope, of Guelph, be invited to address the assembled people, leaving it to himself to take what action he might see fit for the presence of the Foreign Mission Committee on that occasion. The next ordinary meeting of Presbytery was appointed to be held in the usual place on the 6th of November, at eleven a.m.—R. MONTEATH, *Pres. Clerk*.