

MINISTERS AND CHURCHES.

WE understand that the Rev. Mr. Hastie, of Lindsay, does not go to the North-west, but remains in his present charge, much to the satisfaction of the Presbyterians in Lindsay.

THE Rev. A. H. Scott, Knox Church, Owen Sound, has, on the occasion of his marriage, been presented by his congregation with a very affectionate address, and a purse containing \$130.

THE congregation in connection with the Presbyterian church at Miami, Pembina Mountain, Manitoba, lately held a social at the house of Mr. William Thompson, late of Scott township, Ontario. The hostess provided a very enticing spread for a company that completely crowded the house. It was the finest affair of the kind that ever took place in southwestern Manitoba. The heart of the pastor, Rev. Walter R. Ross, was made glad when the sum of \$100.25 was announced as the proceeds of the evening. This sum will be devoted to the completion of the church at Miami.

FROM the report of St. Paul's Church, Bowmanville, it appears that the varied departments of congregational work have been carried forward, during the past year, with praiseworthy assiduity and very considerable success. The contributions to the various schemes of the Church were larger than during any previous year in the history of the congregation. The following is a statement of the receipts and disbursements in connection with the missionary and benevolent operations of the congregation: contributed by the congregation, \$475.93; contributed by the Sabbath school, \$70.80; contributed by the Ladies' Foreign Missionary Association, \$72.33; To Home Missions, per Congregational Missionary Association, \$166; Home Missions, per Sabbath school, \$23; Foreign Missions, per Congregational Missionary Association, \$70; Foreign Missions, per Sabbath school, \$23; Foreign Missions, per Ladies' Foreign Missionary Association, \$72.33; French Evangelization, per Congregational Missionary Association \$96; French Evangelization, per Sabbath school, \$24.80; College Fund, per Congregational Missionary Association, \$64; Assembly Fund, per Congregational Missionary Association, \$10; Aged and Infirm Ministers' Fund, per Congregational Missionary Association, \$16; Muskoka Mission, per Congregational Missionary Association, \$16; one hundred copies of "Record," 1880, \$25; drafts and postage, forty-five cents; cash on hand, \$12.48; total, \$619.06.

THE eighth anniversary of the pastorate of Rev. D. H. Fletcher, of MacNab street Presbyterian church, Hamilton, took place on Monday the 10th inst, the chair being occupied by the pastor. On the platform were Rev. Messrs. Kirkpatrick (Toronto), Lyle, Goldsmith and Gauld. The proceedings opened with the singing of the 100th Psalm, reading of Romans xii. by the chairman, and prayer by the Rev. Dr. James. The chairman then said he was pleased to meet so many of them there that evening to celebrate the eighth anniversary of his coming among them as pastor. He could say for himself that he had found these years both blessed and happy, and both the congregation and himself had reason to lift up their Ebenezer and return heartfelt thanks to the Lord, who had hitherto helped them. Although they had not been as successful as they could have wished, still they had met with a measure of success—they had not been without some tokens of divine favour. Looking back over the past eight years, while they had much to mourn, they had, also, many cases of thankfulness. There had been many changes in those eight years among pastors of the congregations, for of the twenty eight or twenty-nine Protestant ministers then in Hamilton, not one was in the city to-day. There had also been changes in the eldership and membership. Some of those present last year at their anniversary had been called away to their eternal homes; but the ordinary ministrations of the sanctuary, and the work of the Sabbath school and Bible class had been carried on as usual. The attendance at the weekly prayer meetings had been smaller than it should have been, or ought to have been expected. As these meetings were the pulse of the congregation, shewing how the spiritual blood flowed, he trusted that there would be an improved attendance in the future. The financial condition of the congregation was in a very satisfactory state, but there was still a small debt of \$3,500

—\$2,500 on the manse and \$1,000 on the church. They had swept out of existence last year a debt of \$7,000, and he trusted soon to see the remaining debt liquidated. Rev. Mr. Kirkpatrick, of Toronto, was then introduced. Mr. Kirkpatrick said it afforded him great pleasure to meet with them on the occasion of their eighth anniversary and to hear the gratifying report which their worthy pastor had just made, as it afforded satisfactory evidence of the prosperity of the congregation, and that it was in a healthy state both temporally and spiritually. The Christian Church was one body, and the prosperity of MacNab street church was a cause of rejoicing to every church in this city and in the Dominion. It seemed to him that a congregation was like a traveller, who, having set before him some point in the distance where he may rest and refresh himself, sits down in the shelter and rests himself, and while he looks backward to the ground he has travelled over he prospectively looks forward to the road he is about to traverse. So it is with a congregation. Their thoughts went backward and their faith went forward, and their reflections brought to their minds the memories of the past, and they would seek to be stimulated for the work in the future. He trusted that the measure of success they had achieved during the past year should be small to that abundant blessing God would yet bestow upon them. The rev. gentleman concluded a very convincing and interesting address by again congratulating the congregation upon the happy auspices under which they had assembled to-night. The chairman said he regretted that the Rev. Mr. McKay had been called away to attend a meeting in Montreal, but was happy to state that the Rev. Mr. Lyle would fill his place and deliver a short discourse. Mr. Lyle urged work upon the younger members of the congregation, and condemned rowing on the Bay, driving to the Beach or walking up the Mountain on Sabbath, and concluded by wishing the congregation God speed, and paying a high tribute of respect and praise to the pastor. The chairman returned thanks to the choir and the different speakers. The proceedings closed by singing the second paraphrase, and by the benediction being pronounced by Rev. Mr. Goldsmith.

PRESBYTERY OF LINDSAY.—According to the decision of Synod in McLeod case, the Presbytery of Lindsay met in Toronto on Friday, the 14th May, and was duly constituted. Present with the Presbytery were all the assessors named by the Synod. After full discussion and inquiry the following motion was passed unanimously. "In view of the decision of the Synod, last night, the resolution of the Presbytery in the McLeod case be rescinded." Thereafter the following motion was carried by a majority of eight, the numbers being thirteen to five, viz.: "In accordance with the instructions of the General Assembly the Presbytery of Lindsay, assisted by the Assessors of Synod, have considered more fully the matter of application to the General Assembly to be permitted to take Mr. McLeod on trials for license, and does now request the Assembly to grant leave to have him so taken on trials, after he shall have completed his second session in the theological classes." Against this decision the following members of Presbytery entered their dissent, viz. the Rev. Messrs. Cockburn and Lochead, and Mr. Glendinning, elder. The following assessors also dissented, viz. Principal Grant and the Rev. John Smith. Principal Caven, with the Rev. Messrs. Ross and Currie were appointed to represent the Presbytery before the Assembly in support of the aforesaid application.

PRESBYTERY OF HURON.—This Presbytery met in Clinton on the 11th of May. A deputation consisting of Messrs. Hartley, Fletcher, and Danby, was appointed to visit Chiselhurst to inquire into the state of the mission station there, and to report at next meeting. A deputation from Grand Bend appeared before the Presbytery asking that the supplement formerly given them—viz., \$200—be continued, the congregation being unable to make any increase in the minister's stipend, as they were already paying at the rate of \$16 per family, and \$9 per communicant. The supplement being reduced by the Assembly's Home Mission Committee at their last meeting to \$150, thus reducing the stipend to \$550, with a manse, which the congregation supplies besides paying at the above rate. The Presbytery resolved to make up the reduction thus made. A conference on the state of religion was held, the subjects discussed being (1) "The best means to secure parental

training;" (2) "The best means to interest the young people in the work of the Church." A petition from the congregation of Rodgerville was handed in, praying that the aforesaid congregation be separated from Exeter. The petition is to lie on the table till next meeting, at which all parties interested are to be cited to appear. Prof. McLaren, of Knox College, was nominated as the next Moderator of Assembly. Mr. Cameron, of Kippen, asked and obtained leave of absence for four months, because of ill-health. The Presbytery expressed sympathy with Mr. Cameron, and arrangements were made for supplying his pulpit for at least part of the time. Messrs. Carnochan and John Kerr resigned as Commissioners to Assembly, and Messrs. A. McCaa of Blyth, and Cameron of Crescent street congregation, Montreal, were appointed in their place.

SYNOD OF TORONTO AND KINGSTON.

The Synod continued its sittings on Wednesday, 12th inst. The first hour was devoted to praise and prayer.

Several reports were presented and received. They were principally of a routine character, and were adopted.

Applications were received from several students for trials for license, and entertained.

Rev. Mr. Smellie moved that a small committee be appointed to draw up a minute of the impression left upon the mind of the Synod on account of the number of deaths of ministers of the Church which occurred during the past year. Carried.

Mr. Chambers moved that the question of settling the boundaries of Presbyteries be referred to the Supreme Court of the Church for decision, which was agreed to.

The Synod did not meet during the afternoon on account of the funeral of Hon. George Brown. It resumed at half-past seven in the evening, and the whole sederunt was taken up in hearing and discussing the report on the State of Religion. The report was adopted.

On Thursday the Synod met at ten a.m. It was decided by resolution to meet at St. Paul's Church, Bowmanville, on the first Tuesday of May, 1881, at half-past seven p.m.

The records of the various Presbyteries were examined and found correct.

The Treasurer presented his annual report, from which it appeared that after paying all expenses during the past year, \$28 remained as a balance in the hands of the Treasurer. The report was received and adopted.

At the afternoon sederunt a report was read from a committee of the Synod relative to a reference from the Presbytery of Saugeen. This consisted of a request by the Presbytery to find, whether a man and wife, members of the church at Arthur, were members in proper standing in that church, inasmuch as the wife had obtained a divorce in the United States from her first husband, whom she married in Canada, but who had deserted her, he being charged with drunkenness, adultery and desertion. She then returned to Canada and married again. The question to be decided was this: Was this second marriage, which in the eye of the Canadian law was regarded as illegal, to be recognized by the Synod; or, in other words, whether these people were to be regarded as proper members of the Presbyterian Church?

The report recommended that, owing to the difficulties surrounding the case, the whole matter be referred to the General Assembly, which will meet in Montreal next month.

The report was opposed by several members, Mr. Stevenson, of Barrie, objecting to it on the ground that the Synod itself should come to a finding without sending the matter further. It was, however, finally decided to send the whole matter to the Assembly.

At the evening sederunt the appeal by Mr. McLeod from the decision of the Lindsay Presbytery in his case was taken up, and occupied the whole sederunt. Evidence on both sides was produced, and after considerable discussion the motion made by Professor McLaren was by a considerable majority adopted. This was to the effect that the appeal be sustained, and the case be sent back to the Presbytery assisted by the following members of Synod, who were authorized to sit and act with the Presbytery on the case, viz.: Principals Caven and Grant, Professor McLaren, Rev. Messrs. Torrance, Drummond, Hogg, and J. Smith, with Mr. J. M. Stevenson, elder.