

## Ministers and Churches.

THE Rev. Dr. Ure, Goderich, has started on a trip.

THE Rev. Dr. Torrance, of Guelph, is on a visit to the North-West.

THE Rev. Mr. Bryant, of Bradford, is suffering from diphtheria.

THE Rev. John Rennie, of Ailsa Craig, is enjoying a vacation in Muskoka.

THE Rev. R. M. Craig, of Dunbarton, is holidaying in Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island.

THE Rev. Mr. Turnbull and Mrs. Turnbull of St. Mary's, have gone to Muskoka to spend their holidays.

MR. WM. P. MCKENZIE, son of the late pastor, preached for Rev. Mr. Edmondson, Almonte, on Sabbath week.

THE Rev. J. C. Smith, of Newmarket, occupied the pulpit of Queensville Presbyterian Church, last Sabbath afternoon.

THE Rev. Mr. Cathcart will be inducted into the charge of the Presbyterian congregation at Strabane, on the 29th inst.

THE Rev. J. K. Smith and family, of Knox Church, Galt, left on a tour through the northern counties last week.

THE Rev. J. A. R. Dickson goes to Old Orchard Beach.

THE Rev. William Burns, agent of Knox College, canvassed Fullarton and Avonbank recently, and obtained about \$600 in subscriptions.

THE Rev. J. Leishman preached in the Presbyterian Church, Collingwood, last Sabbath.

THE ladies of St. John's Church, Walkerton, purpose entertaining the Rev. Dr. Moffat at a farewell social before he leaves for his new appointment.

THE *Paris Star-Transcript* states that the Sabbath school room of the Presbyterian Church, Princeton, is to be repaired at the expense of Captain Williamson.

THE Rev. J. Crombie, pastor of Union Church, Smith's Falls, has returned from a month's sojourn at Old Orchard Beach and resumed his pastoral labours.

THE Rev. Mr. McKee, of Cobourg, preached in the Cold springs Presbyterian Church, on Sabbath last. He delivered an excellent sermon from Deut. xxxiv. 5.

THE Rev. Principal Grant has been lecturing at Reserve Mines, C. B., on the "Federation of the Empire." The lecture is said to have been an unusually brilliant one.

THE Rev. W. S. McTavish will be inducted pastor of the Presbyterian Church at St. George, on the 5th Sept.

REV. THOMAS GOLDSMITH, pastor of St. John's Presbyterian Church, Hamilton, has been spending a part of his holidays with his brother, Mr. David Goldsmith, of Picton.

REV. A. F. Tully has returned from Moncton, where he has been busy completing the canvass for the endowment of Knox College. He reports that his visit in that connection was very successful.

DURING the absence from home of Rev. Mr. Abraham, the pulpit of St. Andrew's Church, Whitby, will be occupied by Rev. Thomas Lowry, of Toronto, many years since the pastor of the Presbyterian Church, Whitby.

THE pulpit of St. Paul's Church, Peterborough, will be occupied by Rev. Mr. Roger, of London, Ont., until the return of Rev. Mr. Torrance, who is spending a six weeks' holiday among the islands of the St. Lawrence.

THE Rev. A. McLean, of Blyth, left last Thursday to spend his holidays. He will be absent three or four weeks. Rev. Mr. Davidson, of Longside, preached in the Presbyterian Church on Sabbath. He gave a very able and eloquent sermon, which showed careful preparation and deep thought.

A VERY successful garden party was held at Arden, the residence of Mr. D. Mace, in London South, lately, under the auspices of the Ladies' Aid Society of Knox Presbyterian Church. There was a large attendance of ladies and gentlemen, and those present spent an exceedingly pleasant evening.

THE Canadian Order of Oddfellows, St. George's and St. Andrew's Societies, of Hamilton, marched in procession on Sabbath week to church, where divine service was conducted by Rev. Mungo Fraser, the recently inducted pastor of Knox Church. Mr. Fraser preached an able and appropriate sermon from Rom. i. 16.

THE Rev. J. Dunbar recently occupied the pulpit of the Presbyterian Church, St. George. This rev. gentleman was formerly stationed for many years at Glenora, and acted for a long time, under the old order of things, as Township Superintendent of our Public Schools and examiner at the County Board.

THE annual examination of public school teachers took place at Minnedosa on the 21st ult. The Rev. J. M. Wellwood, M.A., had charge of the proceedings, and conducted them in a most satisfactory manner. Twenty-seven candidates were examined. The schools in this section of the country are in a very good condition, the pupils making substantial progress. Mr. Wellwood is a most efficient inspector, and performs his duty without fear or favour.

PROFESSOR NICHOLSON, lecturer on Modern Languages in Queen's University, one of the most accomplished classical scholars in Canada, and an eloquent preacher, occupied the pulpit of St. Andrew's Church, Perth, on Sabbath, August 16. Rev. Dr. Bell, Registrar of Queen's University, will conduct the services in the same church the Sabbath following.

DR. MOFFAT, who is about to leave Walkerton after a pastorate of twenty-seven years over St. John's Free Church, commenced his labours in a small log building in that town. At first he had only forty members, but the membership has grown to over 200 now. In addition to his work in Walkerton, he laid the foundation of Hanover, Malcolm West Bentinck and Eckford Presbyterian Churches. He calls from West Winchester, which he has accepted, is a very enthusiastic and harmonious one.

THE reception given at Berlin to the Rev. Mr. and Mrs. Tait, on their return home after their wedding trip, was very hearty and pleasant to all who participated. The ladies had

provided an ample supply of refreshments, which those who were present, heartily enjoyed. Speeches were made by Mr. Tait, Mr. Perine, of Doon, and others. Mrs. Tait must have been greatly pleased to see such kindness and good will extended to her husband and herself.

THE strawberry and ice cream festival, given by the ladies of the Presbyterian Church at Scotstown, Quebec, lately, was quite a success. The use of a large room in the new extension to the steam mill was obtained for the occasion from Mr. C. H. Parker, to whom the ladies are much indebted for this and many past favours. Mr. Finlay kindly officiated as chairman. The proceeds, which were for the Organ Fund, amounted to about \$34. The ladies of the church have succeeded in raising nearly \$75 for this purpose.

THE *Clinton Era* says: Last Sabbath was the first Sabbath in the eighth year of Rev. A. Stewart's ministry in Willis Presbyterian Church congregation in Clinton. It ought to be no small gratification to Mr. Stewart, in surveying his seven years' labour amongst his people here, to feel that he has so generally won and retained their confidence, friendship and esteem. Most of us have some idea of the numberless dangers to the peace and harmony which should always exist between pastor and people, and there are trying and painful incidents in the history of every congregation requiring great skill and tact to save from threatened division and hard feeling, and the prosperous state of Willis Church congregation certainly bespeaks wisdom and discretion on the part of him who has for so long been their spiritual leader.

At the weekly prayer meeting in Knox Church, Picton, on Wednesday evening last Mr. J. D. McDonald, on behalf of the Ladies' Religious and Benevolent Society of that congregation, presented the Rev. Robert C. Murray, the newly appointed missionary to India with a purse of \$50 as a personal gift to assist in the necessary expenses of his outfit for his distant field of labour. In presenting the purse Mr. McDonald referred to Mr. Murray's lifelong connection with the congregation, and the esteem and the affection entertained towards him by all its members. Mr. Murray acknowledged the gift in a few well chosen words of thanks to the ladies, for their kindly remembrance of his comfort and concluded by expressing his undying regard for Knox Church congregation in all its relations.

THE corner stone of the new Presbyterian Church at North Gower was laid with appropriate ceremonies by Mr. Ira Morgan, Warden of the County of Carleton. The building committee was composed of R. S. Wallace, John Callander, Wm. Bruce, David Baggs and Robt. Drynan. The following clergymen were present: Rev. Messrs. Glassford, McDiarmid, of Kemptville, Whelans, and Messrs. Dow and Stuart. A collection of coins and coins' landing papers were placed in the stone. The tower with which the ceremony was performed was presided by Rev. Mr. Whelans to the warden, and was inscribed "Presented by the committee on behalf of the congregation to Mr. Ira Morgan, Warden of the County of Carleton." After the ceremony had been concluded a social was held in a grove near by, and addresses were delivered by Rev. Messrs. McDiarmid, Stuart, Glasgow, Whelans, the warden and others. The church will be of brick, 30 x 50, and will be an ornament to the locality.

THE weather on Wednesday morning last was most unfavourable for the Presbyterian Sabbath-school excursion from Moncton. It rained heavily when the hour arrived for starting, which occasioned some delay, the committee being undecided whether to start or not. After waiting an hour or so, word was forwarded that the weather was clearing up at Newcastle, and a start was made, the excursionists filling up eight cars. The train arrived about noon. The excursionists dispersed in various directions—some enjoyed themselves on the grounds in the vicinity of the station, and quite a number participated in an excursion down the river on board the steamer *Andover*. The Moncton Cornet Band accompanied the party, and it is but fair to say that the excellent music discoursed in town was much enjoyed by the townsfolk, all who heard it regretting that the stay of the band there was so short. The excursionists left Newcastle about six, and reached Moncton about nine o'clock, everything having passed off pleasantly and harmoniously.

THE St. John *Telegraph* says: The quarterly communion service of St. David's Presbyterian Church was held recently. At the preparatory service Rev. George Bruce presided, assisted by the Rev. Mr. Rogers, minister of St. John's Church, Yarmouth, N. S. Mr. Rogers preached an excellent sermon from Matthew xviii. 1-5, and drew many lessons from child life, which were most natural and touching. At the close, Mr. Bruce admitted ten candidates for membership into the Church, and among them a young lady who also received the sacrament of baptism, which, under the circumstances, was most interesting and impressive. All were then publicly received into the Church by the pastor and people, which, under the Presbyterian form, is solemn and not soon to be forgotten. Among the churches, St. David's seems to be the home of young people, the pastor, Mr. Bruce, being especially thoughtful of such, and by every kindly method in the pulpit and out of it, endeavouring to win such to the service of his Master.

ON the afternoon of Sunday week, a Floral Service was held in Knox Church, Flora, and was attended by a large number of children and their parents. Each child was invited to carry a bouquet to church and the flowers were arranged on a platform prepared for their reception, in front of the pulpit. Over a hundred beautiful bouquets were taken by the children for this floral offering, and the display was pleasing to all who witnessed it. The Rev. Hugh Rose addressed the little folks very effectively upon the words: "Consider the Lilies." He told how Palestine was the land of flowers, there being some twenty-five hundred varieties already known, and how the lily, with its broad foliage, protected the tender grass from the scorching rays of the burning sun, and so gave food for grazing animals, showing that the flower was not only beautiful in itself, but useful. He dwelt upon the importance of cultivating the beautiful in all things, and made his discourse as attractive

to his young auditors as were the flowers themselves to all present. Afterwards the bouquets were carefully packed in a box and forwarded as a donation to the General Hospital in Guelph.

A GARDEN party and a musical and literary entertainment was given in the Presbyterian Church, Vanneck, last Wednesday evening with a two-fold object. First, as a reception to the Rev. W. S. Ball, who has just returned with the 7th Fusiliers from the North-West, where he was acting in the capacity of chaplain. Secondly, as an opening to the new class room which has been built in connection with the church. After partaking of a very sumptuous supper, the people assembled were entertained on the lawn by several pieces of music on the violin accompanied by the organ. Mr. McTavish, a lawyer of Ailsa Craig, gave an exhibition of Indian club swinging. The crowd then adjourned into the church where they were entertained by a first-class programme. Suitable music was furnished by the choir. Speeches were delivered by the Rev. Messrs. Johnson and Ball, the latter giving a thrilling sketch of some of his experiences in the North-West. Readings were given by Miss Knox, of St. Mary's, in rare elocutionary style. About four hundred persons were present, all of whom seemed to be well satisfied with the entertainment.

THE *Durham Review* says: The people of Durham were somewhat surprised on Monday, 10th inst., to hear of the death of Alex. Robertson. Although Mr. Robertson has been ailing for some time, having received a paralytic stroke about two years ago, since the spring opened he appeared to be on the mend, and was able to attend to his work and walk around town, and his death was not at all expected. On Sunday evening he retired in apparently good health, but about two o'clock on Monday morning he received another stroke, and was only able to arouse the household and speak a few words before he expired. The funeral took place on Tuesday afternoon, and the service was conducted by Rev. Mr. Cameron, of Pickering. The deceased had been a resident of Durham for about fourteen years, where he had been engaged in the tailoring business. He was born in Inverness, Scotland, and came to this country about thirty years ago, and lived for a while in Guelph and Fergus before coming to Durham. Mr. Robertson had long been noted for his piety and strict temperance principles, and was long an elder in the Presbyterian Church. He leaves a wife and five children to mourn his sudden decease. In respect for the deceased and as a mark of esteem, the managers of the Presbyterian Church met, and passed a memorial of condolence with the family of their late worthy brother and co-worker.

"ONE of the Party" writes: The Kemptville Presbyterian Sabbath school and friends held their annual excursion and picnic last Tuesday and altogether it was the most enjoyable and financially successful one they have ever had. Upwards of 450 persons comprised the party and although to a certain extent a mixed multitude, not a single case of disorderly conduct occurred during the whole day. Leaving Kemptville at twenty-five minutes to nine, a.m., our trip consisted of a run on the train to Prescott where we took the steamer *Transit* for a pleasant trip up the noble river St. Lawrence to the Central Camp Grounds. On our way we called at the ambitious town of Brockville where we took on board a few more friends, among them the genial and obliging Mr. Culbert, who has charge of the Camp Grounds and who kindly gave us their freedom, which on arrival there we gratefully accepted, wending our several ways to shady spots and pleasant glades to discuss the contents of our baskets with well-whetted appetites. After doing justice to the good things provided the younger people led off in croquet playing, swinging, etc., and the elder ones promenaded the beautiful grounds till the shrill whistle of our boat called us away. On our return we stopped for two hours at Brockville to allow those of us who were strangers there to behold its sights, the principal of which, the churches, do credit to the will-be city. After viewing the town we took ship again and with general good feeling and perfect satisfaction with ourselves and all we came in contact with, we arrived home at the seasonable hour of nine p.m., after spending a day the pleasant memories of which we will long retain.

THE following extract is from a funeral sermon preached by Dr. Cochran on the occasion of the death of Mr. James Wallace, Brantford. It has been printed for private circulation: While a lover of all good men, Mr. Wallace was a strict Presbyterian by birth and conviction, and never swerved from his openly avowed principles. Trained in early life in the doctrines of the Church, and well versed in her contending and struggles in martyr times, he never concealed his opinions. He was not one of those who imagine that church relations are of secondary importance, and that it matters little to what communion a man belongs, if only he maintains a somewhat respectable standing in the eyes of the world. On the contrary, he felt that a man's life is intensely affected by his creed, and that to forsake that creed is very often the first step towards spiritual declension, if not actual apostasy. It may seem like bigotry and narrow-mindedness in the eyes of some; but to me it is one of the noblest characteristics of the man, that ever since my settlement in Brantford, unless when laid aside by sickness, he was never absent from the sanctuary. His place was never vacant, his ear was ever open, and his soul eager for that nourishment which promotes the perfecting of saints. As church member, Treasurer, Chairman of the Board of Management, trustee and elder, he endeavoured to do his duty, and make full proof of his ministry. While well versed in Scripture, and capable of taking part in religious meetings, he never could overcome a natural timidity that followed him through life, and made him a silent but reverential worshipper, when he might have led the devotions of the prayer meeting to the great delight and profit of his friends. But none the less was he valued as a member of Session, and his judgment relied on. While conservative of old forms of worship, he was never an obstructionist. Organ or no organ, psalms or hymns, he felt that God's truth was not affected by these accidentals, and that if the heart is prepared aright the truth will profit.