

and maintained that the time had come when it was the duty of all Christian men and women to abstain entirely from alcoholic liquors as a beverage, and thus advance the cause of temperance in our land.

WM. COCHRANE, *Pres. Clerk.*

**PRESBYTERY OF BRUCE.**—This Presbytery held its quarterly meeting at Tiverton, on the 17th and 18th March. Mr. Straith reported that according to appointment he had preached at Tara on the 1st Sabbath of January and declared the church vacant; that on the following Monday he held a meeting with the Congregation of West Arran anent the support of the ministry, and that they had passed a resolution promising to pay \$500 annually as their share of the pastor's salary. The report was received, and thanks tendered to Mr. Straith for his diligence. On application of the Congregation of Port Elgin and Dunblane, a special meeting of Presbytery was appointed to be held at Port Elgin on the 31st March, at 11 o'clock A.M., to moderate in a call to a Minister, and to sustain it, Mr. Ferguson to preach, and Mr. Straith to preside. A petition was read from certain members and adherents of the Congregation of Huron, and Commissioners were heard in support thereof, praying to be erected into a separate congregation. It was resolved to cite all parties interested to the next meeting of Presbytery. The following Commissioners were appointed to the General Assembly, viz: Rev. Messrs. Tolmie, Davidson, Anderson and Currie, Ministers; and Messrs. Wm. P. Patterson, John Dewar, Alex. McKinnon and James Rowand, Elders. Mr. Anderson, and Dewar, Elder, were appointed members of the Assembly's Committee on Bills and Overtures; and Mr. Straith, and McKinnon, Elder, members of the Synod of Hamilton's Committee on Bills and Overtures. The Rev. Thos. McPherson, Stratford, was nominated as the Moderator of the next General Assembly. Mr. Cameron and the Clerk were appointed a Committee to receive the reports of Kirk Sessions and Congregations anent Union, and to transmit the same to the Clerk of Assembly. Messrs. Fraser and Straith were appointed a Committee to prepare an overture anent Home Mission regulations. A circular letter was read from the Presbytery of Chatham intimating that they intend asking leave of the General Assembly to receive Mr. Frederick Smith, a Minister of the Episcopal Methodist Church, as a Minister of the C. P. Church. A similar letter was received from the Presbytery of Montreal, stating that they propose asking leave of the next General Assembly to receive Mr. Gavin Sinclair, a licentiate of the Free Church of Scotland, as a Minister of this Church; and a letter from the Presbytery of Guelph was read, intimating that they intend asking leave of the General Assembly to receive Mr. John Henry Perkins, a Minister of the Presbyterian Church, U. S. of America, as a Minister of this Church.

A. G. FORBES, *Clerk.*

**PRESBYTERY OF DURHAM.**—A meeting of this Presbytery was held at Durham, on 10th and 11th March.—Mr. Cameron, Moderator.

A letter was read from the Clerk of the Presbytery of Guelph, anent application by that Presbytery to the General Assembly for the reception of Mr. John Henry Perkins, a Minister of the Presbyterian Church, U. S., as a Minister of Canada Presbyterian Church; also a notification from the Clerk of the Presbytery of Montreal, anent application for the reception of Mr. Gavin Sinclair, a licentiate of the Free Church of Scotland.

Returns to the queries of the Assembly's Committee on the State of Religion were given in from certain of the Kirk Sessions, of which the Clerk was instructed to make a summary and to forward the same to the Synod's Committee on the subject.

There was read an extract minute of the Kirk Session of Knox Church Congregation, Mount Forest, being a reference for advice in the case of an aged and respected member of that Congregation, who had been prevented by sickness from attendance on public worship for a number of years, and who desired, if it were in accordance with the rules of the Church, to have the ordinance of the Lord's