

## PRESBYTERY OF KINGSTON.

The Presbytery of Kingston met in Kingston on the 3d and 4th September.

Mr. Thomas Fenwick, student, was examined on the subjects of last session, and the Presbytery granted him a certificate, recommending him to Knox's College.

A call from the congregations of Storrington and Ballmahinch, which was unanimously given to Rev. James W. Chesnut, was sustained, and presented to Mr. C., who was present. He asked time for consideration, which was granted till next meeting.

Mr. Wilson read a letter from the Convener of the Board of Publication, which gave rise to a conversation, in which the brethren expressed their deep interest in this important scheme.

Mr. William Forrest, student, delivered his various trial pieces, and was examined on the usual subjects. The discourses and examination were very highly satisfactory. Mr. Forrest was then licensed as a preacher of the gospel.

The next meeting was appointed to be held in Kingston, on Tuesday, the 9th Dec., at ten o'clock, a. m.

Missionary meetings were appointed to be held in Brock St. Kingston, on Monday, the 8th December, and in Chalmers' Church, on Tuesday, 9th.

The Presbytery agreed to consider the various overtures sent down from Synod, at next meeting.

WILLIAM GREGG, *Pres. Clerk.*

## PRESBYTERY OF BROCKVILLE AND OTTAWA.

This Presbytery met in Perth, on the 2nd of September, and was respectably attended, there being present twelve Ministers and six Elders.

Committees were appointed for the examination of students. There are six students within the bounds—one of whom is an entrant. The Committees reported favourably.

The supplies made at last meeting were reported as having been fully carried out. All the Congregations had taken up the Synodical Collection for the F. C. M. Society.

Reports were received from some of the missionaries and catechists within the bounds.

Session Records were called for, and not being forthcoming, *injunctions* were laid on Sessions to bring them forward at next ordinary meeting.

Mr. McDowell demitted his charge of South Gower, Oxford, and Mountain, for reasons given in, and the Presbytery after some conference with parties, agreed to accept. Dr. Boyd was appointed to declare the Church vacant, on Sabbath, the 14th instant.

The Clerk was authorized to give Mr. McDowell a Presbyterial Certificate.

A call from Brockville in favour of Mr. Smith of Ramsay, was sustained by the Presbytery, and accepted by Mr. Smith. The Presbytery meets in Ottawa to hear the Congregation of Ramsay. Mr. Thomas Wardrope was appointed to preach in Ramsay and cite the Congregation.

Some time was taken up in discussing claims by missionaries against congregations. The question of the responsibility of the Presbytery to pay the balance of stipend due to a minister when his demission is accepted, was argued at length. The matter may likely come up before the Synod either as a reference or an appeal.

The following standing "Examination Committee" was appointed, viz:—Dr. Boyd, Convener, Mr. Fraser, Mr. T. Wardrope, Mr. Duncan and Mr. Smith.

The Clerk was instructed to apply to the Synod's Home Mission Committee for three missionaries, including Mr. Melville and Mr. McMeekin, specially applied for.

The people of West-Port requested the Pres-

bytery to procure for them a hearing of Mr. John Strath, Probationer.

Arrangements were made for supplying Brockville till 1st October.

Next ordinary meeting was appointed to be held in Ottawa.

Mr. John McRobie was licensed to preach the Gospel.

There was presented a petition from parties in North Gower, for part of the ministerial services of Mr. Lochead. After some remarks from Mr. Lochead, the further consideration was postponed till the adjourned meeting in Ottawa.

S. C. FRASER, *Pres. Clerk.*

## BAZAAR AND SOIREE AT GRAFTON.

How far the green fields and the trees of the wood share in the joys of men, we cannot tell; but we know that both had a considerable share in ministering to the pleasure of a large company lately at Grafton. On the morning of the 25th of June last, the grove in the neighbourhood of the cottage of Amos Moore, Esq., early became a scene of activity. The wood resounded, not with the destructive axe, but with the activity of those engaged in the erection of tables and seats for the accommodation of a large company.

About ten o'clock, a. m., conveyances began to approach the scene of action from all parts of the compass. The tables were soon covered with a great variety of articles of ornament and use. Some supported the staff of life—substantial food for strong men, and cakes and other delicacies for children—while others were decorated with a variety of articles, both of taste and utility, all the fruit of woman's work and woman's industry. The goods presented for sale were chiefly brought from Britain, by Mrs. Smith, in April—the gifts of kind friends in Belfast, Cork, Scotland, and London; the children of God in far distant places, thus assisting in bearing each other's burdens, and so fulfilling the law of Christ.

The exercise and pleasures of the day gave a relish to a substantial dinner provided by the ladies of the congregation, after which the sales proceeded briskly until towards evening, when the cup that cheers, but not inebriates, added considerably to the comfort of the assemblage.

After tea the scene was changed. The tables were cleared of all that could please the eye or gratify the sense of taste. The company were soon seated in silence, and the pleasure of sense gave place to the enjoyment of our higher nature. The sound of sacred music from a select choir, came with its gladdening strains, and whether the trees felt the cheering melody or not, we could not ascertain, but certainly the rich foliage added considerably to the pleasures of the occasion.

Mr. Glover filled the chair with all the grace of many former nearly similar seasons, while the Revds. W. J. Mackenzie of Baltimore, and J. Thompson of Trenton, addressed the assembly in their usual instructive and happy manner.—The blessing was then pronounced by the pastor, and the company separated, indicating, as far as looks and gestures could indicate, that they were gratified by the proceedings of the day. The

ladies who presided, found the proceeds amounted to about £50—a sum fully sufficient to place the Church and Manse of Grafton—as every Church and Manse should be placed—free from debt.—While the friends in Belfast and other places in Britain and in Canada, who have assisted the congregation on this and other similar occasions, have our warmest thanks for their kindness and liberality, we look higher and say, "Not unto us, but unto thy name, O, Lord of Hosts, be thy glory." Let us hope and pray that the temple thus completed for the glory of God, may henceforth become the birth-place of a multitude of souls. S.

## THE IMPORTANCE AND UTILITY OF LECTURING.

To the Editor of the Record.

DEAR SIR,—

Having explained in a former letter what I meant by lecturing, I now proceed to point out some of the advantages which lecturing has over preaching.

1. The first that I shall mention is, that it has a good effect on the mind of the minister himself. It furnishes him with a powerful motive to make himself thoroughly master of the contents of the particular Book of Scripture under review, in order that he may be qualified to impart useful and solid instruction to others. Much time is often lost in searching for a text, when a minister's preaching consists entirely of miscellaneous discourses. But when he enters upon a course of lectures on some particular portion of scripture, his text is prepared for him, and it only waits for him to explain and illustrate it. When he reads, and ponders and considers what appears to him as the true interpretation of the mind of the Spirit, it affords him a solid ground of satisfaction. And not only so, when he is enabled to draw such practical inferences as are evidently suggested by the various topics presented to his consideration, and to treat them in an interesting and animated manner, his satisfaction is generally increased.—Besides when he perceives by unmistakable signs that his labours are duly appreciated by an attentive and interested audience, he has the highest encouragement to persevere in these.

2. The second advantage which we shall mention as accruing from lecturing is the happy influence, which such a practice has upon the minds of its hearers. Far be it from me to insinuate that no good can follow from miscellaneous sermons, for this would be going against all fact and experience. The Spirit works upon the hearts of men in various ways.—It is by precept upon precept, precept upon precept, line upon line, line upon line, here a little and there a little, here a little and there a little.

But we speak here of the importance and necessity of acquiring comprehensive views of sacred truth, or rather of obtaining a thorough and accurate acquaintance of each particular book of scripture, which can only be done by studying it in a consecutive manner. This may be done in different ways; sometimes by private study, sometimes by persons meeting together for mutual religious instruction; by the Bible class or the Sabbath school; but none of them all is so generally useful as a course of public lectures from the pulpit. That seems to be the proper medium for this kind of spiritual instruction.—There is a peculiar efficacy attending lectures delivered from the pulpit, which in no other circumstances is to be met with. Then the Preacher has an opportunity not only of expounding but of applying the doctrines and facts of scripture in the most forcible manner possible.—And accordingly, we find that in congregations where lecturing is the prevailing practice, there