

MINISTERS AND CHURCHES.

THE congregation of Churchill, second Innisfil, has given a unanimous call to the Rev. John Anderson.

DR. WARDROPE acknowledges with thanks the receipt from Rev. D. Wardrope, Teeswater, of \$25 in aid of chapel building fund, Formosa.

THE congregations of Ancaster and Albion have shown their appreciation of their pastor, Mr. T. T. Johnston, by presenting him with a fine young horse and harness.

THE Rev. Dr. Jenkins, of St. Paul's, Montreal, preached in St. Andrew's Church, Toronto, on Sabbath last, on behalf of the General Assembly's Augmentation Scheme. The collections amounted to \$2,100.

THROUGH the kindness of a few lady friends Mrs. Campbell, wife of the Rev. Robert Campbell, M.A., St. Gabriel Church, Montreal, is now a life member of the Montreal Woman's Missionary Association, of the Presbyterian Church of Canada.

THE Rev. George Burnfield, B.D., of Brockville, lectured on Egypt, its Temples, Pyramids and People, to a very large audience at Carleton Place on the 16th ult. The lecture was under the auspices of the Ladies' Foreign Missionary Association.

BEFORE his departure from Elgin and Athelstan the Rev. S. Houston was presented with an address recognizing the valuable services he had rendered to the congregation and the Bible class, also appreciative of his personal worth, and praying for his prosperity and usefulness in his new sphere of labour in connection with Brock Street congregation, Kingston. Mr. Houston replied to the address in appropriate and feeling terms.

A COMMITTEE of the Presbyterian Church, of which Dr. Jenkins, of Montreal, and Dr. Gregg, of Knox College, are conveners, met last week at Knox College. They completed a hymn-book for use in the Presbyterian Sabbath schools in Canada. Hitherto the Sabbath School in connection with the Presbyterian Church have used different hymn-books, but hereafter they will have the opportunity of using a collection of hymns specially selected for them.

IN connection with St. Paul's Church, Hamilton, Home Circle Mission Board, an interesting series of meetings has been projected. The report of the first gathering shows that a most gratifying success may be anticipated. The Rev. Mr. Laidlaw presided. After several excellent musical selections, Mr. James Stewart, one of the oldest members of the congregation, gave most interesting old time reminiscences, connected with Presbyterianism in Hamilton nearly half a century ago.

A VERY pleasing parlour concert was given in the manse, Oakville, on Friday evening, Nov. 30th. The house was crowded, and a most excellent programme carried out, consisting of vocal and instrumental music, recitations, etc. The object of the concert was to promote and increase sociability among the congregation. Rev. Mr. and Mrs. Meikle must have been pleased with the success which met their efforts for everyone went away highly delighted with their evening's entertainment.

THE annual meeting of the Toronto Ministerial Association was held last Monday, in Shaftesbury Hall. Rev. J. C. Ansell presided. A communication was received from Mr. J. A. Patterson, superintendent of Erskine Church Sabbath school, requesting that the association should take steps to prevent military parades on Sundays, and the playing of music by bands at hours when the Sunday schools of the city were in session. The following officers were elected.—President Rev. Robert Wallace; Vice-President, Rev. John Burton; Secretary, Rev. Elmore Harris. A vote of thanks was passed to the retiring officers for their valuable services during the past year. Rev. C. A. Cox was deputed to take charge of the plan of the Mercer Reformatory and Central Prison services. Revs. P. McF. McLeod, H. D. Powis, T. W. Jeffrey, and Elmore Harris were appointed a committee on subjects to be considered at the meetings of the association.

THE Rev. J. B. Duncan, late of Forest, was inducted into the charge of St. Andrew's Church, Paisley, on the 22nd ult. The Rev. Dr. Moffat of Walkerton, presided and addressed the people. The Rev. Mr. McKenzie, of Glamis, preached the induction sermon, and the Rev. Mr. Eadie, of Pinkerton, gave the charge to the minister. There was an excellent audience who

gave their minister a most cordial welcome. The managers paid a handsome instalment of the stipend in advance. This congregation, long without a minister and now in the union, enters upon a new era of its history, and we trust with eminent spiritual prosperity. In the evening a most successful soiree was held in the town hall, with Dr. Moffat, the late moderator of the session, in the chair. Excellent addresses were given by the Rev. Messrs. McDonald, Edge, Hale, Duff, of Elora, Dr. John Scott, of Bruce, and the pastor. In addition to the Methodist choir, Mr. Jones, of Seaforth, gave great interest to the meeting by his splendid rendering of choice music.

THE Rev. H. A. Robertson writes: Permit me to acknowledge, by means of your excellent paper, the collections given me yesterday (Sabbath) for the Eromangan Mission in Ormstown and Huntingdon at the close of the services which I held at those places. In the morning at eleven o'clock I had the pleasure of addressing Rev. Mr. Morrison's congregation, and received a collection of \$37. In the afternoon I addressed the Sabbath school in the village of Ormstown by the kind invitation of Mr. Morrison and received from Miss Nolan, a teacher, \$10; and from a gentleman teacher, \$1. In the evening I addressed a union missionary meeting of the two Presbyterian Congregations in St. Andrew's, Mr. Muir's; Mr. Watson and Mr. Muir, Presbyterian ministers, were present; also the Methodist clergyman. We had Presbyterians, Methodists and Church of England friends present—in all about 500. We enjoyed the meeting ourselves very much, and I trust the congregation was interested. The collection amounted to \$36. The whole amount received was \$84 and was for the Eromangan Mission.

ON Wednesday evening last a large representation of St. Andrew's Church, Lindsay, assembled at the residence of the Rev. James Hastie, to bid him farewell on the eve of his departure, and to express in some tangible form their appreciation of him as a pastor and citizen. Mr. Thomas Ray, an elder of St. Andrew's Church, read an admirable address, expressive of the high estimate placed upon his personal worth and his labours as a pastor and a member of the community. His services in the pulpit and Bible class were specially mentioned, as well as his fidelity in the discharge of the varied duties of his sacred office. The address was accompanied with a handsome Morocco purse containing over \$100. After an appropriate and feeling reply by Mr. Hastie, the assembled friends spent a very enjoyable evening. It is gratifying to know that Mr. Hastie's health, impaired by an accident a few months since, has been restored, and that he is likely soon to enter on an important sphere of labour as pastor of Knox Church, Cornwall. Mr. Hastie has been a frequent and acceptable contributor to the pages of THE PRESBYTERIAN.

A RECENT number of the Elgin (Scotland) "Courant and Courier" contains the following.—A tablet to the memory of the late Rev. Alexander Topp, D.D., whose name is still affectionately cherished by very many in Elgin and neighbourhood, has just been erected by the congregation of the Free High Church. The tablet is of white statuary marble. It is placed on the wall in the north vestibule of the Church, and harmonizes well with the situation, "looking," as a bystander observed, "as if it had been always there." Altogether, it is a handsome and beautiful work of art, worthy of the pastor commemorated, and of the congregation, and reflecting credit on our townsman, Dean of Guild Goodwillie, the sculptor. The inscription is as follows.—"In memory of Alexander Topp, D.D., minister of this congregation, first in the Parish Church, thereafter in this Church, from 1838 to 1882. Subsequently minister at Edinburgh, and at Toronto. Born at Sheriffmill, April 1st, 1814; died at Toronto, October 6th, 1879." The last occasion on which he preached was in this Church, July 20th, 1879, the text being, Psalm lxxii. 17.—"His name shall endure forever. His name shall be continued as long as the sun; and men shall be blessed in Him. all nations shall call Him blessed."

A FAREWELL social, attended by all the denominations in Prince Albert, was held before Mr. Sieveright left for Ontario. The Hon. Lawrence Clarke presided, and several influential citizens took part in the proceedings. Addresses were presented to the retiring pastor who made his grateful acknowledgments. A letter from Mr. D. MacArthur, banker and vice-president of the Manitoba and North Western Railway,

was read, in which occurs the following: I trust your congregation will go on and prosper in this beautiful and promising country and that the mantle that is on the point of falling from your retiring minister's shoulders may fall upon those of an able and worthy successor. That portion of Prince Albert, known as the Mission property, appears to me to have had two founders—the Rev. James Nesbit and the Rev. James Sieveright. The memory of the former is still green and we must all admire the good judgment he showed in selecting a site for a mission station, and we are no less compelled to admire the ability, energy and even intrepidity of the Rev. James Sieveright in taking advantage of the critical moment and converting that mission station into a town site. In fact my belief is that if Mr. Sieveright had not been here during the last year or two there would have been no young and thriving town on the mission property to-day, and I have no doubt in years to come, it will be a source of much satisfaction to him that, of all his many efforts in the service of his Church, not the least successful and useful has been the broad and solid foundation of Church extension which has been laid in Prince Albert and its vicinity.—Yours very truly, D. MACARTHUR.

IN a recent issue the Prince Albert "Times" says: The Rev. James Sieveright, who has been the Presbyterian minister in charge of Prince Albert Mission for the last three years, has taken his departure. The reverend gentleman preached an earnest and impressive sermon to young men last Sunday evening from the text: "I write unto you, young men, because you are strong and have overcome the evil one," and he delivered his farewell sermon the following Sunday evening. Mr. Sieveright's loss will be greatly felt in this community, not only by his own congregation, but by the people of Prince Albert generally, for he was a good citizen as well as a devoted missionary of his Church. He may be said to have literally built up the mission in this place, secularly as well as religiously. When he came here the congregation was very small, only numbering fourteen members, worshipping in the old mission church, built in 1866 by Rev. Mr. Nesbit, the first missionary here, which is now used as a school house. Now, his church members in the town number fifty, and they have a neat brick church accommodating 150 persons, which is always well filled. Besides this, he has established three other churches, viz., at the Ridge, Forks of the Road and Lower Flats, and a school house in course of construction at Carrot River. A handsome brick manse is also now being erected costing about \$4,000, which will be paid for out of the sales of land belonging to the Foreign Mission, which they have granted for that purpose. There is no doubt that Mr. Sieveright would have received the unanimous call of the Church had he been disposed to remain, but circumstances over which he has no control prevent him. The reverend gentleman takes with him on his departure the best wishes for his future prosperity and happiness, of all classes and creeds in Prince Albert.

PRESBYTERY OF BARRIE.—This Presbytery met at Barrie on Tuesday, 27th November, and was well attended by ministers and elders. A call was sustained from the congregation of Barrie to the Rev. E. Cockburn, M.A., of Uxbridge, and arrangements made for his induction in the event of his accepting the call. Another call was sustained—namely that of the Second Innisfil congregation to Rev. John Anderson, and similar arrangements for induction made. Leave was granted to the moderator of session of Angus, New Lowell and Bonnyton to moderate in a call when desired. Leave was granted to Mr. David James of three months' absence from his missionary charge at Midland. Some Home Mission business was done. The Rev. P. McF. McLeod, of Toronto, was present on behalf of the Assembly's Home Mission Committee in the interest of the Augmentation Scheme. He gave an interesting address in explanation of the details of the scheme, and received the hearty thanks of the Presbytery. In accordance with the recommendation of the sub-committee, the Presbytery appointed a committee, namely, Messrs. R. Moodie, R. N. Grant, ministers, Geo. Duff, and J. McL. Stevenson, elders, to place the Assembly's Augmentation of Stipends Scheme before the congregations of the bounds, and to promote its success as far as possible. The Presbytery engaged in a careful and lengthened consideration of best means for this Committee carrying out its aims.—ROBERT MOODIE, Pres. Clerk.