

## Church News.

We are thankful for items of Church News from all quarters, and we are sure that the publication of such news will be of great benefit to the cause of Christ.

A VERY successful tea meeting under the auspices of the Band of Winding Workers of the Consecrated Presbyterian Church, was held in the church on the evening of Feb. 14th. A fine musical programme was rendered by the choir. Addresses were delivered by the Rev. Messrs. Joffe (Methodist), C. E. McLane, W. M. Maclean, of Belleville, and J. Snodgrass, pastor. The chair was filled in an able manner by Dr. Thornton.

PRESCOTT congregation closed the financial year with a surplus of \$18 in the treasury after all claims had been paid. The pastor, Rev. J. Stuart, at the social following the business meeting said that at no time since he came amongst his present flock, ten years ago, had the affairs of the congregation been in such a satisfactory state and doubted if there was a more contented and harmonious congregation within the precincts of the Presbyterian.

MRS. EMERY, President of the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society, organized a Young Woman's Auxiliary to the Leslieville church, on the evening of Tuesday, Feb. 13th. She gave a very instructive address, eminently calculated to incite the young ladies to greater zeal and enthusiasm in missionary work. The following were elected officers: Miss Pringle, President; Miss Clark and Miss Russell, Vice Presidents; Miss M. H. Hinch, Secretary; Miss Lizzie Murray, Treasurer.

The following are the statistics of the St. John church, St. John, N. B., for 1888:—Number of families, 100; communicants, 162; added during the year on profession, 21; and by certificate, 11; total, 32; baptisms, 18; average at prayer meeting, 60; number in Sunday School and Bible Class, 200; engaged in Sunday school work, 27; raised for congregational purposes, \$2,531; for Schemes of the Church and benevolent purposes, \$64; for all purposes, \$2,635; average per family, \$26.25; per communicant, \$16.20.

This first annual meeting of the Binscarth Manitoba Ladies' Aid Society was held on the 7th Feb., and it was reported that thirty-three members are connected with the Society, and that \$83.55 was collected for the Schemes of the Church. Considering that this is the first year of the Society's existence and that the congregation itself has only been recently organized, the work of the first year is most creditable. Owing to her removal from Binscarth, Mrs. Simpson resigned the presidency and Mrs. Hogg was elected president.

The twentieth annual convention of the Sabbath School Association of Brant, the Banner County of the Province, will be held in the Congregational church, Burford village, on the 7th and 8th of March. Judging from the programme prepared, this convention will be equal in interest and profit to any that has preceded it. It indicates the thorough state of the organization that has been attained. Even the Indian Township has its local association represented by its President Mr. J. Jamieson of Onondaga, who is to submit a report on the work among the Indians.

At a congregational meeting of Bloor street church, Toronto, Rev. W. G. Wallace, M.A., B.D., pastor, Friday evening, February 22nd, the report of the Committee appointed at the late annual meeting, and a new church building, submitted their report. They recommended that subscriptions towards a new building should at once be taken up. The report was unanimously adopted and a subscription list opened. In less than an hour the handsome sum of \$2,000 was subscribed. The committee was re-appointed and requested to pursue the canvass. And thus, another very important step forward has been taken by this young and very vigorous congregation.

The annual meeting of the Stratford Presbyterian W.F.M.S. Society, which was held in Latowel on the 15th ult., proved a very interesting and helpful gathering. Delegates were present from most of the Auxiliaries in the Presbytery. The secretary's report showed that there were twenty-one Auxiliaries and one Mission Band, with a total membership of 400. Nine of these are life members. The treasurer's report also showed that the Auxiliaries are keeping well up in the line of contributions. \$346.88 had been sent in, and, with additional collections, the society were enabled to authorize the treasurer to forward \$870 to the general treasury in Toronto. The officers were all re-elected, with the exception of one of the vice-presidents.

ACCORDING to the Kingston News Rev. John Mackie, pastor of St. Andrew's, on closing his sermon on Sabbath morning, Feb. 24th, enjoined on his hearers the necessity of being staunch in their Protestant faith; if they were Protestant let them be consistent, and let the world see that they were Protestants; let there be no trucking to Roman Catholicism. He was astonished to find in a Catholic journal, published in Kingston, that it had been taken advantage of by Protestants to advertise their wares, a journal in which a gross libel had been published against Protestant ministers. Holding the Bible aloft he expressed his hope that St. Andrew's congregation would in the future read it more closely and make it more and more the standard of their lives.

REV. WALTER R. ROSS, late of Carman, Man., received a hearty welcome from the people of his new charge, Chilliwack, B.C. The following in reference to the Chilliwack congregation which we clip from the correspondence of the Winnipeg Sun will be read with interest in connection with the change in the pastorate: "I am now in Chilliwack, a valley well known for its fertility, and the beauty of its situation. It is a fruit-growing district. The people of our Church here have done great things, they have built an expensive church, erected a very commodious manse, and have a valuable glebe. The future of Presbyterianism in this valley, of the Fraser river, is very hopeful, the people being true to the Church of their fathers, and zealous for her prosperity. I may add, the scenery is very

fine, as the valley lies among the Cascade or Coast Range Mountains, the Fraser River traversing it on its way to the sea."

WE clip the following from the New York Christian at Home:—A large gathering greeted Rev. Dr. Junor, of New York, a few evenings since, in his first lecture on "China and Chinese Life," in St. Paul's Church, Italy avenue, Ottawa. The views shown were very fine, and brought before the audience nearly every phase of life and scenery of that remarkable country. Those relating to the growth and manufacture of tea, rice and silk were carefully prepared for him. On the following evening several fine views of the Imperial palace and hall of audience, Peking, lately destroyed by fire, were shown, also the various cities, great wall, porcelain tower, etc. Dr. Junor was for many years a missionary in China in connection with the Presbyterian Church. The Ottawa Presbytery adjourned their evening session and attended the lecture in a body. Dr. Junor has prepared these pictures to represent the great Empire of China and the Chinese people in such a way as to present a thorough view of their life in order to aid missionary work in that great field.

FROM the report of First church, St. Catharines, Rev. J. H. Ratcliffe, pastor, we learn that while there has been no net increase to the communion roll during the year on account of removals, the year has been marked by many evidences of deepening spiritual life in the congregation. The report of the Board of Managers shows in receipts for ordinary expenditure, an increase of \$101.27 over 1887; and an increased expenditure of \$113.66 over that of the same year. The mortgage debt has been reduced to \$9,250. The receipts of the Building Fund were \$1,415.02, of which \$320.37 was raised from the "Cent-a-day" fund; \$185 by the Young People's Guild and \$490 by the Ladies' Aid. The report of the Sabbath school shows number on roll 180, with average attendance of 100. During the year the school contributed to Missions \$166.34, an increase of \$10.32 over last year. Five scholars made a public profession of faith. In connection with the congregation are a Mission Band, Young People's Guild and Society of Christian Endeavour.

THE annual congregational meeting of Willis church, Clinton, Rev. A. Stewart, pastor, was held on Thursday evening, the 14th inst. There was a large attendance of members and adherents, and the following interesting facts from the various reports presented, amply warrant the conclusion that the congregation is in a satisfactory and healthy condition. There are upon the membership roll 254 names; number admitted during the year, thirty-eight; number of Sabbath-school scholars who became communicants, ten; total number of Sabbath-school scholars whose members, twenty-nine; number of baptisms during the year, twenty-one. The W.F.M.S. and Mission Band are doing well, and their respective contributions were \$135 and \$60. There is also a Juvenile Band, who raised \$20 for Missions, and a flourishing Y.P.C.A., which holds fortnightly business meetings, and a Sabbath evening prayer meeting. The Sabbath school numbers 217 children under the instruction of one teacher. There are 930 volumes in the library, of which 250 have just been added. The Treasurer's books show a balance of \$227.20 after an expenditure of \$2,343.67. Total contributions for Missionary and College purposes, \$588.05, of which \$261 was contributed to Knox College Endowment Fund.

A CORRESPONDENT writes to the REVIEW:—On the 17th inst., the Rev. Mr. Kay, Milverton, conducted the anniversary services of Knox Church, Palmerston. The sermons delivered were able, impressive and highly appreciated. The local paper says of the evening sermon, "It was a fine masterpiece of pulpit oratory." Ample provision was made by the ladies for the Monday evening's tea meeting. On the platform were the Revs. Mr. Kay, Milverton; Mr. Mullen, Fergus; Mr. McLachlan, Moorehead; and Mr. Cooke and Mr. McAllister, Palmerston; and the pastor, Mr. Auld. After congratulatory remarks by the ministers of the town, Mr. Kay and Mr. Mullen entertained and instructed the audience with speeches of rare excellence. The last two speakers are great favourites in Knox Church, and always welcomed with a large and appreciative audience. Mr. Mullen was in one of his best moods and gave a stirring practical address. The choir of the congregation rendered several pieces of music in fine taste and with good effect. A free entertainment was given to the Sabbath school on the following evening and a number of kindergarten pieces recited by the children under the management of Miss McQueen and Miss Hyndman. Proceeds amounted to \$142.

PRIOR to his leaving Carman, Man., for his new charge, Chilliwack, B.C., Rev. W. R. Ross was entertained at a farewell social by the congregation of Carman and associated stations. After tea provided by the ladies, and a programme of music and recitations, addresses were delivered by Rev. Messrs. McKenzie, Polson and Horvick, who severally referred to their loss in the departure of Mr. Ross, and the long and brotherly intercourse they had held with him. A very pleasing part of the evening's proceedings was the presentation to Mr. Ross of addresses—one from the congregation of Carman, the other from that of Warrington (Sutton's school-house). Accompanying the address was a purse of \$274, presented to Mr. Ross as a parting gift from his friends and admirers. It is pleasing to note that this sum was made up, not only of contributions from Mr. Ross's own congregation, but from persons of all classes in the community. Mr. Ross made a very affecting reply. The congregation of Carman, it may be stated, is left in a good shape, ready to commence a new career under a new pastor. In the meantime public worship will be kept up by the elders as usual, with such supply as the Presbytery may be able to give. There is a good opening here for a earnest, energetic young minister entering on his career's work. There are no arrears of salary due the late minister, a pleasing and rather exceptional state of matters, for which the congregation of Carman is highly to be commended.

A CORRESPONDENT writes to the REVIEW:—The new church at Hawkesville, Ont., was opened for divine service on Feb. 17th. The Rev. R. J. Beattie, of

Guelpoh, preached at the three services. The Rev. A. Porteous, of Galt, assisted in the services. The Rev. H. Norris, of Glenora, was expected to preach in the afternoon, but was unable to be present on account of sickness. The roads were almost impassable, but the church was well filled at all the services. A tea-meeting was held the following evening, and the church was again filled. Dr. Varden, of Galt, ably performed the duties of chairman. Addresses were delivered by the Rev. Messrs. Porteous, Newcombe (Methodist), Beattie, Hamilton (Winterbourne), and Mr. Robertson, of Knox College. The church choir and the Glee Club furnished excellent music. The collections amounted to \$163. The old church was burned last summer and the new one has cost \$300 over the amount of insurance collected. The old walls have been used, but a basement, end gallery and vestibule have been added. The few families in this congregation have been paying, for many years, the largest amount per family of any charge in Guelpoh Presbytery. Now that there are two new and attractive churches in the charge almost free from debt, they are hoping, with such assistance from the Augmentation Fund as they feel sure will be given, soon to secure a settled pastor. They feel assured that if a pastor were settled the cause in that community would soon be more prosperous than it has been for many years.

THE reports presented at the annual meeting of Knox church, St. Thomas, Ont., Rev. W. H. Boyle, B.A., pastor, indicate a year of steady growth, although the pulpit was vacant for six months owing to the illness of the late esteemed pastor, Dr. Archibald. The report of Session shows that the membership in January, 1888, was 438; added during the year on profession of faith, 150; by certificate, 32; total, 620. Five were removed by death and 76 had left, making the total membership, December 31st last, 539. Since that time 47 had been added, making the present membership 586. During the year 37 adults and 9 infants were baptised. The Board of Management reported that when Rev. Mr. Boyle took charge of the church there were about 105 chairs not taken, whereas to-day the Board had not room for sittings for all applicants. Such being the state of affairs it would be well to fill up the gallery and make it as comfortable as the body of the church. The report continues:—Our finances are such at this date (Jan. 1st) that we have been able to pay all liabilities except the principal of the mortgage, having paid the year's interest and a few dollars on the principal, besides adding to the value of the church property, church and sheds costing \$600 fully paid. There has been collected from the congregation, for all purposes of the church, over \$6,000. Very satisfactory reports were presented from the Ladies' Aid Society, Mission Band, Literary Society and the Auxiliary of the W.F.M.S. The report of the east end Sabbath School, Mr. D. Forbes, superintendent, showed on roll 250 scholars, sixteen teachers and two officers; of Knox church school, Mr. D. K. Mackenzie, superintendent, on roll thirty-eight.

THE first meeting of the Sarnia Presbyterian W.F.M.S., was held in St. Andrew's church, Sarnia, February 14th. A meeting for the election of officers and the transaction of other business was held at 1 p.m. Fifteen delegates were present. The officers for the ensuing year are:—Messrs. Lochhead, Parkhill, President; Mrs. Scott, Sarnia, and Mrs. Pritchards, Fort Erie, Vice-Presidents; Miss Goddes, Sarnia, Treasurer; Mrs. Ross, Parkhill, Corresponding Secretary, and Mrs. Kerr, Petrolia, Recording Secretary. The afternoon meeting was well attended, about eighty ladies being present. Mrs. Lochhead, president of the Society, opened the meeting with devotional exercises. Interesting and encouraging reports from the Auxiliaries, eight in number, were read. The reports submitted by the Secretary and Treasurer of the Presbyterian Society, which was formed only five months ago, show it to be in a satisfactory state. The contributions amount to \$340. The President in her address touched on the progress of missions in the present century, the condition of women in India, and the duty of Christian women to be faithful, earnest and persevering in their efforts and prayers on behalf of their sisters in heathen lands. Miss Ross, of Indore, India, was present and gave a most interesting account of her work and experiences in India. At the close of the meeting a vote of thanks was tendered to the ladies of the St. Andrew's church, who had so kindly entertained the delegates, and also to the young ladies whose efficient aid in the musical part of the programme, added much to the interest of the meeting. There was a large audience at the public meeting held in the evening. Dr. Thompson occupied the chair, and gave a most interesting address. Mr. Nisbet, an elder of St. Andrew's church, also gave a short address and read the report of the Presbyterian Society. Miss Ross also addressed the meeting and exhibited a number of Indian curiosities. A young lady having volunteered, was arrayed in the costume of an Eastern woman and appeared before the audience. The next annual meeting will be held in St. Paul's church, Parkhill.

THE annual meeting of the Guelpoh Presbyterian W.F.M.S. was held in Berlin Thursday, February 21st. The day was very favorable, and between fifty and sixty delegates were present from the different Auxiliaries and Mission Bands. The pretty little church in which the meeting took place, was decorated with choice lilies and palms, and the reception of the guests provided for in the most thoughtful manner by their hosts. Mrs. Goldie, of Guelpoh, President of the society, conducted the meetings, assisted in the opening and closing devotional exercises by Mrs. Graham, Galt; Mrs. Rae, Acton; Mrs. Smellie, Fergus; and Mrs. J. C. Smith and Mrs. White, Guelpoh. After welcoming words from Mrs. Goldie, and thanks from Mrs. Guthrie, of Guelpoh, the President sketched the year's work in review. Miss Kerr, Galt, opened a talk on "How can our Mission Bands be conducted to best enlist the members' help, and foster the missionary spirit?" by an

excellent paper. A very practical discussion of the questions in the Drawer followed, joined in very generally by those present. Mrs. White urged in an inspiring address that the real benefit of these suggestions lies in the practical use made by them in the home societies. An interesting account of a personal visit to some of the Indian reserves in the Northwest, was given by Miss Smellie, of Fergus. Mrs. McCrae's report showed a total of seventeen Auxiliaries within the bounds, with 507 members, and eight Mission Bands with 231. Four life members are reported during the year, and an average attendance at monthly meetings of 415. Clothing had been sent as usual to the North West by sixteen societies, and two boxes of gifts and prizes to the late Rev. J. Gibson, Demerara, for the Coolie Mission on the West Coast. The kindness of the Canadian Express Co. and Messrs. G. P. Mitchell & Sons, Halifax, being mentioned in regard to carriage, etc. Miss Cant reported that the contributions had been over \$1,200, nearly \$500 in advance of last year. The next annual meeting will be held in Galt. After a recognition of the courtesy of the Berlin friends by "Chataquiqua Salute," the meeting ended in the usual way. The gathering was a most successful one as regards completeness of representation, the interest and value of the topics discussed and the harmony of the results arrived at. The evening meeting was of a general character, presided over by Rev. D. Tait, assisted by Rev. A. M. Hamilton, of Winterbourne, Dr. Wardrope, of Guelpoh, and Dr. Parsons, of Toronto, addressed the meeting most acceptably in the line of mission work and preparation for it. The officers for 1889 are: President, Mrs. D. McCrae, Guelpoh; Vice Presidents, Mrs. Smellie, Fergus; Mrs. Goldie and Mrs. White, Guelpoh; Secretary, Miss Smellie, Fergus; Treasurer, Miss Cant, Galt.

THE annual meeting of St. Paul's congregation, Hamilton, Rev. Dr. Laidlaw, pastor, was held Jan. 21st, Mr. M. Leggat, Chairman, Mr. Lyman Lee, B.A., Secretary. The report of the Session showed the additions to the membership during the past year to have been fifty-seven; dismissals by certificate, thirty-one; removals by death, eight; present membership, 543; a net increase of eighteen; number of elders, sixteen, four of whom—Messrs. Geo. Black, A. A. McKillop, Alexander McLagan and Wm. Wilson—were added to the Session in December last. The financial statement of the treasurer of Session showed that the sum of \$141.89 had been disbursed for congregational charity and Session expenses, leaving a balance of \$69.06 in the treasury. The report of the Managers as well as that of the Session made reference to the increased attendance at the various services of the church and the increased zeal and activity manifest in all departments of the church's work. The ordinary Sabbath collections for the year amounted to \$3,202.65, an increase of \$205.49 over 1887, and an average of \$64.45 per Sunday. The increase is partly due to the increased adoption of the envelope system, for which the Managers have been most successful.

The Ladies' Association raised the sum of \$225. After paying off a debt of \$182.36 on the section's cottage, and \$673.77 of yearly interest on mortgage, the Managers, out of the revenue received by them from all sources, were in a position to meet the current expenses of the church, leaving a balance of \$76.35 on hand. The total receipts for congregational purposes were \$6,478.39. The report of the Missionary Committee, Mr. George A. Young, treasurer, was the most gratifying report this Committee has ever presented. He showed the receipts from half yearly collections for Missions, etc., to have been \$645.75; from special collections and individual contributions toward missionary, benevolent and educational objects, \$1,949.81; from Woman's Foreign Missionary Auxiliary, \$277.45; Home Circle Mission Band, \$121.52; Buds of Promise Mission Band, \$19.89, making a total of \$3,014.42. The report of the Young People's Society of Christian Endeavour, read by the President, Mr. A. A. McKillop, stated that the Society has 106 members, forty-eight active and fifty-eight associate, and that at a recent meeting at which Rev. J. Wilkie, from Indore, was present, one of the members had pledged herself for the yearly support of a teacher at Indore, and it is expected that the society will, in the near future, undertake the support of other teachers among the heathen. The Sunday-school report showed the total number of scholars enrolled to be 340; teachers and office-bearers, forty-one. Total average attendance, 250. Offerings, \$297.47—\$24.03 higher than in any former year—being an average of \$5.62 per Sabbath. The total receipts and disbursements for the year amounted to over \$9,200, an average of \$17 per member.

## MEETING OF PRESBYTERY.

HURON.

Met at Hensall, on January 15th. Mr. Martin was elected Moderator for the ensuing six months. Report on Sabbath School was given by Mr. James Scott, of Clinton. As a number of Sessions delayed in sending their reports to the Convener of the Committee on Sabbath Schools, the adoption of this report was deferred, and the committee empowered, after the report is made out more fully, to send it to the Convener of the Synod's Committee on Sabbath schools. The remit on marriage was approved of *simpliciter*. Considerable time was spent on the remit on travelling expenses of commissioners to Assembly, and the subject delayed for further discussion at next meeting. The Committee on the Book of Forms was instructed to forward their report to Dr. Laing. On behalf of the Committee on the State of Religion, Mr. McDonald gave a report recommending that a Conference on this subject be held at next meeting, during the first hour of the afternoon sederunt, subjects of deliberation to be, (1) The recommendations attached to the report on State of Religion as printed in Assembly minutes of 1888; (2) The questions sent down to Sessions in circular of this year. The recommendations were adopted. Sessions were asked to answer the queries on State of Religion and send such answers to Mr. McDonald as soon as convenient.—W. MCLEAN, Clerk.

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