

## MINISTERS AND CHURCHES.

SUBSCRIPTIONS for the debt on the ordinary fund of Knox College. Saugeen Presbytery, per Rev. John Baikie. Amos congregation, \$10; Normanby, \$4; Orchardville, \$5; (these three make one charge) in all \$19.

THE ladies of Central Church, Hamilton, held their first social in connection with the Ladies' Aid Society of the congregation on the evening of the 1st inst. It was in every respect a great success, and greatly encouraged those engaged in the work.

THE Presbyterians of Princeton have just, by an extra effort, paid off the debt of their church—a fact which is due mainly to the esteem in which the respected pastor, Rev. J. Little, is held, coupled with the praiseworthy zeal of Messrs. Allison and Tennant.

THE Rev. Robert C. Moffat, of Free St. John's, Walkerton, on Tuesday evening last, gave for the aid of the funds of the church, Clifford, his lecture, upon "Life Among the Turks." Notwithstanding the bad roads, and the high price of the tickets, the lecture was a decided success.

THE Presbyterian congregation of Chesterfield at their recent annual meeting, raised the salary of their respected pastor, Rev. W. Robertson, from \$800 to \$900 per annum. Mr. Robertson has been the pastor there for twenty-one years, having been inducted into the charge in January, 1859, and time but increases the esteem in which he is held.

ON Friday evening, the 27th inst., the members of Mrs. Gordon's Bible class at Harrington, met at the parsonage, and agreeably surprised their teacher by presenting her with an address and a well-filled purse. Mrs. Gordon made a very suitable reply which was followed by music both vocal and instrumental. After spending a very pleasant evening, all departed for their respective homes, highly satisfied with the proceedings of the evening.

THE Komoka Missionary and Aid Association met in the Presbyterian church on Wednesday, 3rd inst., the Rev. Alexander Henderson in the chair. The treasurer gave in his monthly statement and a committee was appointed to draft by-laws. Very creditable and interesting papers were read on the mission work of our Church: on Home Missions by Miss Searcliff; on French Evangelization by Miss Close; and on Foreign Missions by Miss Eliza Dewar.

THE Presbyterian congregation of Newburgh is to be congratulated on the success of its concert and tea, held in the Orange Hall, in that place, on Friday night, 27th ult. There was a large attendance, the hall being packed to its fullest capacity. The refreshments supplied were both excellent and abundant. After tea, the musical programme was introduced. The music was supplied by Messrs. Wm. Middleton and Wilbur Daly, of Napanee, and several ladies and gentlemen from Kingston. Mr. Dickson occupied the chair, and gave a brief address, supplemented by Rev. Mr. Woodcock. The whole affair was a success in every respect, finance, enjoyment, etc.

THE second anniversary of the opening of Spencerville Presbyterian Church was celebrated on February 22nd, appropriate services being conducted morning and evening, when Rev. F. McCuaig, of Kingston, preached to large congregations. On the Monday and Tuesday following the ladies held a bazaar closing with a social on Tuesday evening. Proceeds \$110. This is the third sale of useful and fancy articles by the ladies of this congregation during the past two years, making the total proceeds of bazaars \$530. In conducting this bazaar the following rules were followed unswervingly: (1) No fancy prices; (2) No sales of chance and no "voting"—otherwise, no gambling; (3) Accurate change returned; (4) No insisting upon anyone to make purchases.

THE annual soiree of the Ratho Presbyterian congregation was held, according to appointment, on Thursday, 26th of February, and, as usual, was a success. Notwithstanding the exceedingly muddy condition of the roads, the attendance was good, the church being comfortably filled. The receipts were upwards of eighty-two dollars. After an excellent tea was served the audience were entertained with music and addresses. The choir, which had been organized for the occasion, acquitted itself greatly to the satisfaction of the audience. Rev.

Messrs. Fisher, Beatty, and Robertson were the speakers. Their addresses were appropriate, instructive, and entertaining. Altogether the occasion was one of wholesome enjoyment and profit, and well sustained the reputation which the congregation has acquired for furnishing an entertainment of high-toned excellence.

THE annual financial statement of Fort Massey Church, Halifax—Dr. Burns, pastor—just issued, shews the following amounts as paid for Church purposes, during the past year: Sabbath contributions, \$4,622.09; Church debt, \$299.91; Missions and schemes of the Church, \$1,033.71; Sabbath school Missionary collections, \$709.11; College Endowment Fund, \$1731.67; Other Church objects, \$113.29: total for 1879, \$8,009.78. The Sabbath offerings for 1878 were \$4,533.40, shewing an increase in 1879 of \$88.69. The floating debt amounting to \$3,184.50 is to be wiped out at once, a subscription having been all but completed for this purpose. The sum of \$5,178.98 has been paid in to the College Endowment Fund since 1877, the highest amount contributed as yet by any one congregation. Since the formation of the Missionary Association in 1872, the collections for the missions and schemes of the Church have reached a total of \$7,153. Fort Massey though, during these hard times, carrying a heavy burden of debt, contracted in erecting a church which is an ornament to the city, has thus maintained its well earned reputation for liberality. For a congregation of eighty-eight families, and little over two hundred members, its rate of giving is unusually high.

THE twenty-ninth annual meeting of Orillia Presbyterian Church was lately held in the schoolroom of the Presbyterian church, and was opened with the usual religious services by the Rev. J. Gray. It was stated that thirty members had been added during the year; that twenty-seven children had been baptized, as well as three adults on professing their faith in the Lord Jesus Christ; that the increase of church accommodation had added to the prosperity of the congregation, and that the weekly prayer-meeting was well attended. The sum raised for congregational purposes by weekly contributions and collections was \$1,545.35. This amount has paid all liabilities for the year and left the small balance of \$5.91. It was stated that the increased seating accommodation had added to the weekly contributions. Towards the seating, heating and beautifying of the interior of the church, there was contributed at the opening services in November last \$96.05; by private donations, some of them from friends at a distance; \$54, and by means of the ladies' congregational soiree \$72.10, making a total of \$222.15, inclusive of expenses for opening, and other charges. Two hundred and forty-six pupils belong to the Sabbath school and forty to the Bible class, shewing an increase of twenty-six during the year. The contributions for Sabbath school purposes, including \$35.43 by the Bible class, were \$160.01—of this amount \$40 were apportioned to missions. The amount raised for missionary objects and schemes of the church, is larger than during any former year. Exclusive of the Sabbath school apportionment, it is \$339.46, and has been allocated to various missionary purposes. No report was submitted from the Young People's Association. It has, however, been in active operation throughout the year. By means of several entertainments and lectures, the sum of \$120.10 was raised, and after the payment of various expenses, \$79.95 were donated to the church improvement fund. The opening services in last November were also in charge of this Association. The Association had also undertaken to pay the balance of \$400 due for the recent refitting of the church. The arrears on the Church Extension Fund amount to \$503, and a large portion thereof cannot be collected. No payment was received during the year. The meeting, which was a very pleasant one, was closed with the benediction. The Session were authorized to introduce the new hymn book as a supplement to the Psalms and Paraphrases, should it receive the sanction of the General Assembly. The following figures shew the contributions for all purposes during 1879: Weekly Lord's day contributions and collections, \$1,545.35; Sabbath school and Bible class, \$160.01; Church Improvement Fund, \$222.15; Cemetery Fund, \$127; Missionary Association, \$339.46; Young People's Association, \$120.10, extra-congregational contributions, \$90. Total, \$2,604.07.

THE new Presbyterian Church, Collingwood, was opened by appropriate services on Sabbath, the 29th ult. In the morning the services were conducted by Rev. Mr. Laidlaw, of Hamilton, and there were present on the platform, Rev. Mr. Ball, of Guelph; Rev. Mr. Stobo, of the Baptist Church, Collingwood; and the pastor, Rev. R. Rodgers. Mr. Laidlaw preached a most eloquent and impressive sermon, the handsome and spacious church being crowded with an appreciative audience, who listened with close attention to the excellent sermon delivered. In the afternoon there was a joint service by the Rev. Messrs. Laidlaw and Ball, in which, also, the Rev. J. H. Star, of the Methodist church, and the pastor, took part. The attendance in the afternoon was very good, and the service very much appreciated. In the evening, the Rev. Mr. Ball conducted the service, and preached a very able and practical discourse. In this service the Rev. Robt. Ewing and the pastor took part. The church was crowded to excess, and quite a number failed to procure admission. The collections and subscriptions received during the day amounted to \$325, "but," says a local paper, "we would have felt better pleased if one or two of the leading members of the congregation had shouldered the whole debt, and thus make the new Presbyterian Church a memorial of their gratitude to God for their abundant prosperity as business men." The church is constructed of red brick, with white brick facings, the buttresses having stone dressings. The length of the building is eighty feet; width, for y-five; side elevation, eighteen feet, with a bound roof three-quarter pitch, exposing the principals which are filled in with tracery and grained and varnished, giving a ceiling of twenty-eight feet in height. The style of the building is what is termed plain Gothic, and there is a tower at the north-east corner one hundred feet high, which, if not massive, is both elegant and graceful, and reminds us that a thing of beauty is a joy forever. In fact, in the opinion of competent judges, the tower is the most unique and ornate portion of the building. The spire is relieved with dormer-louvre windows and the shingles are tastefully painted in imitation of slate, the whole being surmounted by an ornamental weather vane. The front windows are of the ordinary Gothic character, and are filled in with stained glass of very attractive and subdued tints. The windows of the main audience room are double, having a brick mullion. These are also filled in with tinted glass of a very pretty and chaste design, the whole giving to the place a pleasing appearance of comfort. The platform proper consists of an elevation of one foot from the floor, in the centre of which is a lesser platform surmounted by a very ornately carved reading desk, of Grecian character. Behind the minister's platform is the orchestra, of half-circle form, for the choir and organ. The front of this, also, is of the same style, and in keeping with the design of the rostrum. The building is very comfortably seated, the pews being open and constructed of clear white pine, varnished, having ornamental cast iron seat ends of a very pretty design, all of which gives to the room a clean and cheerful look. The main floor is so graded that the audience at the east end of the building have no difficulty in observing every movement of the preacher. The church is heated with a very efficient hot air furnace, and the ventilation is of the most perfect character. The lighting is most abundant and effective, there being four six-light, very chaste chandeliers suspended from the ceiling at proper distances, and behind the rostrum there are four handsome double bracket pedestal lamps, in harmony with the others. The seating capacity of the church is 500, with provision made, by sliding seats, for at least 150 more. The cost, including lot, building, furnishings and fencing, will amount to about \$7,600. The Collingwood "Messenger," to whose report we are obliged for the preceding statement, adds the following encouraging historical record: "The Presbyterian Church in Collingwood was first organized in 1857, with a membership of twenty-nine, the first communion being held on August 16th, of the same year. Rev. R. Rodgers, the present pastor, was inducted on the 20th of August, 1862, and at that time the membership of the church numbered fifteen, including Nottawa village, where there were three members. Of these fifteen, only four now remain. Since Rev. Mr. Rodgers took charge of the congregation in 1862, 327 have been added to the church membership, of whom 224 were received on profession. Of these,