

Ministers and Churches.

Ottawa.

At the last meeting of the Ottawa Presbytery held in Bethany church, Hintonburg. Rev. Peter Mathieson, of East Templeton, received and accepted a call from Richmond, Ont. The induction will take place on Nov. 22, at 11 a.m. Rev. M. H. Scott will preside; Rev. D. Finlay will address the pastor; Rev. J. H. Woodside will address the congregation and Rev. W. H. May will preach.

Mr. Burnie, general secretary of the Presbyterian Sabbath schools of Montreal and Quebec, representing the General Assembly Sunday Schools Committee, gave an address urging the formation of training classes for the teachers in connection with each congregation.

W. H. Scott reported the formation of the new congregation at Shawville, Bristol Corners and Stark's Corners, with a roll of forty-seven members, a session of three and managing board of five candidates for the pulpit are being held with a view to an early agreement on a pastor.

Rev. Dr. Ramsay laid before the meeting, the position of the Ottawa Presbytery as subscribers to the various schemes of the church as compared with ten years ago. The matter was left over till the next meeting in Knox church, on January 2, 1902. There was a discussion as to what steps should be taken to create greater enthusiasm among the various congregations that are giving the minimum stipend to raise it \$50. This was according to instructions from the General Assembly.

The supply for vacancies is to be left in the hands of a committee composed of A. E. Mitchell, convener, the moderator, the clerk, conveners of home mission and of augmentation together with the moderator, pro tem. of the vacant congregation and one elder.

Toronto.

The monthly musical service was held on Sunday evening in St. Andrew's church. Dr. Norman Anderson, played for twenty minutes before 7 o'clock. Dr. Armstrong continued his series of sermons on "The Imaginative Writers of the Last Century."

A hearty farewell was given in Guild Hall Friday evening to five missionaries who are leaving for China, under the auspices of the China Inland Mission.

Rev. Mr. Esler preached in Cooke's church at the morning service, and Mr. D. C. Conn, evangelist, from the Moodie Institute, Chicago, at the evening. Mr. Conn will also conduct special services every evening during the week.

The Ninth Annual Convention of the Ontario Lord's Day Alliance, will be held in the Metropolitan Church on Friday of this week. Sessions begin at 10:30 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. A public meeting will be held on Thursday evening at 8 o'clock. Rev. Principal Caven will preside and addresses will be given by the chairman, Rev. Dr. Carman and Rev. Dr. Milligan.

The meeting of the Toronto Presbytery which was to have been held Tuesday has been postponed for a week. This was owing to the Queen's University conference, which was set for this week, but has also been postponed on account of the election.

Among the important business to come up next Tuesday is the call from Chalmers church, Quebec, to Rev. Wylie E. Clark, of Brampton. This came to hand Monday, and the Brampton congregation has been cited to appear.

Two other calls are expected to come up for consideration. It is reported that Knox church, Milton, is about to offer the pastorate to Rev. W. M. McKay, of Norval. On Friday evening of this week Dovercourt congregation held a meeting to talk over the appointment of a new clergyman, and the result is expected to come before the Presbytery.

Simple Life the Best.

There is ever an interest in a personality of world-wide renown, and the people of Toronto crowded the vast Metropolitan church last Friday evening to see and hear Rev. Charles Wagner of Paris, the apostle of "The Simple Life." Pastor Wagner has, in an age of material prosperity, and to some extent artificiality, struck out in a field for himself, but his evident sincerity and the force with which he presents his case, have stamped him as a man with a message, and he has evoked a response in many nations be-

side his own where his books are translated and read. Beyond a general argument he did not proceed in his lecture, nor did he reveal any of the secrets of the manner of the simple life.

Pastor Wagner is 52 years old, rather short, and iron grey, but electric with the gesture of the French race. As he only began to learn English prior to leaving to attend the recent Peace Conference in the United States, his speech was slow and in places not intelligible to one unacquainted with French, but his main theme was followed with the greatest interest.

Having explained his recent acquaintance with our language, the lecturer declared he was neither a dreamer nor a man of the past, but a man of this generation. In a brief biographical note he said he had observed in life in his own country real slavery. "We are often in this time," he said, "the slaves of our own wants, or our own needs, and I would get away from these ideals to which we sacrifice the best of our time and of our talent. From all the roads in which I have walked, from all my experience, I have gone back to this conviction, that one thing is necessary, that man must make good use of his life. The most precious gift we have is our souls, our life, and in order to make a good use of our life for being useful to our fellowmen we have to try a normal life, a life in which are respected the highest laws. A normal life has always been a simple life, even if it has been the most magnificent life in the world. Simplicity consists in putting in front what is first and putting behind what is secondary."

Pastor Wagner referred for a moment to his early love for the outdoor world, and his passion even for worshipping the moon, something with which his father had sense enough not to interfere. In his life in Alsace he had seen the theologians fighting over things that did not concern the people at all, and he resolved that he would preach something, which, in his own expressive way, he said, "would not displease my good old grandmother in her muslin cap." Out in the world he felt like a piece of iron between the anvil and the hammer, but he went on in his way. "Be true to the inner voice," he said. "Speak as you think, and listen; fear nobody, conceal nothing and trust thyself." After having written three minor books, he came to write "The Simple Life" by accident. He had spoken along that line at a small wedding, then by request at a large wedding, and there a publisher heard him and requested that a book be written on that subject. "So I had this book in me without knowing it," declared the lecturer.

In his concluding observations he said the simple life could be lived in this country and in this civilization. "There are some conditions of life which hinder simplicity, but wherefrom are come the civilizations of the world? They come all from the heart, they come from our mind and from our thought. Art in pictures in all its beautiful simplicity is on the top. The best men in the world are the most simple. The most beautiful song in the whole world is the most simple song, a song by which all the cords of the human soul are touched." "I hope we will not only be friends of one evening, but friends forever," was the lecturer's closing touch.

Missionaries in Honan.

It was reported some time ago that the Presbyterian missionaries in Honan were in danger of their lives through an uprising which had been threatened by the secret societies in that province. Some time after that report a despatch announced that there was no danger from any such uprising. A Honan correspondent writing from Hwaiching on Sept. 1, says that very disquieting news had come to him from various quarters. The missionaries at Changetefu had again had to call the attention of the officials to the Tsaiyuan sect, who were showing signs of fresh activity. The missionaries of Taimingfu had to flee from that city owing to their lives having been repeatedly threatened by this same society.

"At Hwaiching," continues the correspondent, there is considerable excitement owing to the magistrate having issued proclamations giving the details of the arrest of a leader of this same society by the Rev. M. Gerrard, a Roman Catholic missionary in Weihi City. This leader who is a native of Shansi, had the assurance to call on Mr. Gerrard to have a debate on religion. After leaving he was followed by some natives belonging to the mission to the village, where he was residing in semi-official style. They arrested him and handed him over to the Sinhsianghsien magistrate. Amongst his personal effects were found a seal for signing docu-

ments issued by the society, a list of the members living in the district, and a yellow flag bearing the device I have mentioned before as the one that Boxers in that region had on their flags in 1900. "Remove the Tartars and destroy the foreigners." It has been said that the magistrate is going to make some more arrests on the strength of the information contained in the list.

Western Ontario.

Rev. B. B. Williams of Guelph: has removed to Paris.

The evening service in the Methodist church in Hagersville was withdrawn on Sabbath on account of the Presbyterian Anniversary.

Rev. Dr. McRobbie, of Kemble, conducted the anniversary services at Ridgetown, one of his former charges.

Sunday last was the 25th anniversary of the induction of Rev. John Ross, B.A., into the pastorate of Melville church, Brussels.

Rev. Dr. Lyle, of Central church, Hamilton, preached the preparatory sermon in the Burlington church on Friday night.

The congregation of Knox church, Milton, made vacant by the translation of Mr. Smith to Hensall, has extended a call to Rev. W. M. McKay, of Norval.

Rev. E. R. Hutt, of Ingersoll preached in Verschoyle and Culloden on Sunday. Rev. T. W. Rae of Aylmer will conduct anniversary services in Verschoyle next Sunday.

Rev. G. Pattison, of Embro, before communion, conducted the preparatory service in the Thamesford church and Rev. D. R. Drummond, B.D., of St. Thomas, the Thanksgiving one last week.

On Monday evening, Rev. E. A. Henry, of Knox Church, Hamilton, delivered the address at the annual meeting of the Burlington Bible Society. The society has taken on new life, and in the past year has raised about three times as much as formerly.

Rev. J. D. Cunningham, M.A., preached in the MacNab St. church, Hamilton, on Sunday in the morning, and in the evening the pulpit was filled by Rev. E. Harper Gray, B.A., of Dundas.

Rev. W. A. Bradley of Berlin conducted the pre-communion service, in Acton, on Friday afternoon. His subject was "Living Epistles" and was a very earnest address on Christian life and character. Eight new members were received.

Rev. John Ross, of Brussels, exchanged pulpits with Rev. W. Farquharson and preached anniversary sermons at Durham on Sabbath, 23rd ult. On Monday evening Mr. Ross delivered an address on "John Bunyan, the immortal dreamer."

Rev. H. D. Cameron of Allandale, lectured in St. Andrew's Church, London, on Friday evening on "Rambles Through the Holy Land." Mr. Cameron was a delegate to the World's Sabbath School Convention at Jerusalem, and spent some time in touring Palestine. His lecture was given in aid of the Proudfoot Memorial School, West London.

Chatham Presbyterial met on November 8th and 9th in Blenheim, Dr. Margaret McKellar of India was with them for the 8th, passing on to Paris Presbyterial Society meeting in Ingersoll on the 10th, Sarnia Presbyterial Society in Strathroy on the 11th and London Presbyterial Society in Glencoe on the 16th.

The General Assembly's committee on statistics met on Oct. 30 at Guelph, Rev. Dr. Torrance presided, and those present were: Rev. Dr. Dickson, Galt; Rev. H. R. Horne, Elora; and Rev. A. M. Hamilton, Winterbourne. The form for the collection of the annual statistics for the year ending December 31, which is to be sent to the various presbyteries was approved.

The entertainment in the South Elfrich church on Monday evening was very successful. Rev. Robert McIntyre, of Tempo, gave an address on his trip to the old country, which was much appreciated.

Rev. R. E. Knowles, of Galt preached at both services in Erskine church, Hamilton, and on Sunday evening lectured on "Three months in Europe."

At a regular meeting of the Hamilton Presbytery in Knox Church last week, Rev. Neil McPherson resigned the Moderatorship, and Rev. Dr. Wallis, of Caledonia was elected to fill the chair. The Presbytery regretfully accepted the