

MINISTERS AND CHURCHES.

REV. MR. PANTON has been called to the pastorate of the Meaford Presbyterian Church.

REV. J. MOWAT, one of the newly appointed ministers to the North-West, has arrived in the Turtle Mountain district.

IT is said that the Rev. Mr. McKay, of the Presbyterian Church, Orangeville, will shortly resign his charge, and retire from active work.

REV. DR. JENKINS, Rev. Mr. Black, of Montreal; Rev. Mr. Thompson, Ayr; Rev. Dr. Gregg and Mayor McMurrich, who were appointed a committee by the General Assembly to prepare a new edition of the Presbyterian Hymnal for publication, commenced their labours at Knox College on Friday, the 20th ult.

MR. ANGUS SILLARS was ordained by the Presbytery of Kingston on the 17th inst., and was placed in charge as ordained missionary of the congregations of Glenvale, Harrowsmith, and Wilton. This charge has been without a pastor for some time. It is to be hoped that this arrangement will issue in a permanent settlement. The district around Kingston is now almost entirely occupied.

MR. ARGO is supplying the pulpit at Douglas for the present month; Mr. Willert (our summer student) leaving to attend college in New Jersey. The work has prospered this summer. Mr. Willert organized a new congregation during his sojourn here, and the ladies showed their appreciation by privately presenting him with a purse before his departure. We all join in wishing him all success in his new field of study.

THE anniversary festival in the King street Presbyterian Church, London East, on a recent occasion, was a crowning success, and the ladies were complimented on the splendid get-up in the refreshment department. In the intellectual line a treat was afforded upstairs in the body of the church. Rev. Mr. McGillivray, Rev. J. S. Ross, Rev. Mr. Crews, and Professor Elliott, each delivered appropriate and stirring addresses. The choir, under the able management of Mr. Miller, rendered choice selections. The solos and duets were loudly applauded. The Pastor, Rev. J. Knox Wright, occupied the chair. From the speeches made it could be gathered that the church is financially and otherwise in a prosperous condition.

THE ordination and induction of the Rev. D. Bickell into the pastorate of the Presbyterian Church, Molesworth, took place on Tuesday, 17th ult., at one in the afternoon. The Rev. Mr. McKenzie, of South Kinloss preached from 2 Cor. v. 20, after which Mr. Ross, of Brussels, who presided, propounded the usual questions. In the absence of Mr. McNabb, of Lucknow, Mr. McKenzie addressed the minister elect and Mr. McRae, of Cranbrook, the people. At the close of the service the newly inducted pastor was led by Mr. McRae to the door, where he received a most cordial welcome from the congregation present. A very peculiar feature of the meeting was that all the former pastors of Molesworth were present—Mr. Renwick, of Elma Centre, who formed it; Mr. Bell, of Listowell, who succeeded him; and Mr. Johnston, who lately resigned on account of ill health. Another noteworthy fact was that the first Session formed over them still exists without a breach being made in its ranks or an increase to its numbers. The young pastor enters upon his work under very favourable circumstances, and it is hoped will be long spared to reap as well as sow amongst them.

MR. JOHN MUTCH, M.A., of Knox College, has for the last six months ably filled the ministerial vacancy in the Claremont Presbyterian Church. His earnest efforts on behalf of the divine cause, his kindly and pointed appeals to each and all, especially to the young, have drawn large and interested congregations, and his labours in the Sabbath school and Bible class meetings have endeared him to all. On Sabbath evening he preached his farewell sermon, having again to attend college. The subject of his last discourse was the "Parable of the Prodigal Son," the church being crowded by an attentive audience. On the previous evening (Saturday), as a token of their esteem and appreciation of the rev. gentleman's services, the Bible class and congregation presented Mr. Mutch with a valuable gold watch, a handsome photo album, and a pocket book containing some money in gold, the whole value of the presents being \$175. A

suitable address accompanied the presentation, the whole being a complete surprise to Mr. Mutch, whose feelings on the occasion were such as to render his heart-felt reply difficult, if not almost impossible. He will be greatly missed from Claremont.

THE third anniversary of the opening of Knox Church, St. Mary's, was celebrated on the 15th and 16th ult., and there can be no mistake in pronouncing it the most successful of the three. On Sunday, the Rev. Mr. Fletcher, Hamilton, preached to large audiences morning and evening, and on Monday evening a large and happy gathering of people assembled in the basement where tea was provided by the ladies. Afterwards they were entertained in the church, and were highly delighted with Mr. Fletcher's celebrated lecture, "From Cairo to Jerusalem." The choir contributed to the pleasure of the company by some fine selections. The Sunday school also took part in the celebration, and on Tuesday evening, under the superintendence of Mr. John M. Gray, a very agreeable time was spent, with readings and music, which did credit to the performers. Rev. Mr. Wilson gave an address at the close. Altogether, Knox Church has reason to congratulate itself on the progress made during the last two years. The church is not hampered with debt, thanks to the liberality of its wealthier members. The prospect for the future is encouraging to pastor and people, and we join in good wishes for their prosperity.

ON Tuesday evening, 24th ult., a jovial party assembled at the Stone Presbyterian Church in Barton, on the Mountain, with numerous well-filled baskets, and at a seasonable hour proceeded to the residence of Miss Macklem, near by, whom they took by surprise. They were given full possession of the house, and soon the table was loaded with all the good things which the Barton young ladies know so well how to get up. After the edibles had been discussed, Mr. Mulock, the popular teacher of school section No. 6, called Miss Martha Binkley to her feet and read to her an address of welcome on her return home from a visit of several weeks' duration. He also asked her acceptance of a gold chain and locket, the gift of the church and Sabbath school, in recognition of her valued services as organist for the congregation. Miss Bond, one of the leading teachers in the Sabbath school, handed the present to Miss Binkley, who, though somewhat overcome with surprise and nervousness, made a suitable reply. The chain and locket were bought from Messrs. Davis & McCullough, of this city, and are very valuable. In connection with the above it may be stated that the church mentioned is at present in a flourishing condition. Mr. Duncan, a student of Knox College, has been preaching to the congregation during the summer with great acceptance.

UPWARDS of a year ago Rev. D. McGillivray assumed the pastorate of St. James' Presbyterian Church, London, and since that time the congregation have become augmented to an extent exceeding the anticipations of even the most sanguine, the number of adherents and communicants receiving constant and satisfactory accessions. Having now assumed a not unimportant position among the religious edifices of the city, the congregation of St. James' have determined to keep pace with the progressive spirit of the age, and extensive improvements are now in contemplation. It is proposed to effect a considerable alteration in the cosy little edifice, and in furtherance of that object a meeting of the congregation was held on Monday evening, at which it was resolved to institute steps for the accomplishment of the projected improvements, which appear to be much needed. The intention is to have the present rather antiquated seats replaced with others of a more modern and comfortable design. The pews are to be cushioned throughout, the walls recoated, the ceilings frescoed, and the interior thoroughly renovated, while the exterior of the building will be elegantly beautified. The proposed changes will entail an expenditure of about \$1,000, which sum it is intended to raise by subscription, and from the liberal manner in which the friends of St. James' are contributing it is almost certain that but little difficulty will be experienced in obtaining the requisite amount.

PRESBYTERY OF HAMILTON.—This Presbytery met in Knox Church, Port Dover, on the 5th of October, Rev. James Black, Moderator, *pro tem*. It was agreed to ask the General Assembly's Home Mission

Committee for a grant of \$100 per annum, as supplement to Blackheath and associated stations. A call from Jarvis and Walpole to Rev. Alex. Grant was produced, signed by 172 members and 83 adherents; together with a promise of \$950 salary and manse. Representatives were heard from the respective congregations. Mr. Grant was heard on his own behalf. He intimated his desire to remain in his present charge. It was accordingly decided to refuse the translation. In reference to the resignation of Rev. J. Pullar, of Lynedoch, and Silverhill, the congregations were cited to appear for their interests at next regular meeting. At 2 o'clock the Presbytery met for the purpose of inducting the Rev. J. Thynne. Mr. Grant presided, Mr. Edmunds preached an appropriate sermon from 1. Tim. iv. 16. The Moderator related the previous steps, put the prescribed questions, offered up prayer, and solemnly inducted Mr. Thynne into the pastoral charge of the congregation. Mr. Lyle addressed the pastor, and Mr. Croll the people, on their respective duties. The settlement is a harmonious and happy one, and augurs well for the future spiritual interests of the congregation. The Presbytery adjourned to meet in the Central Church, Hamilton, on the third Tuesday of November, at 10 o'clock a.m. Closed with the benediction.—R. M. CROLL, *Clerk, pro tem*.

PRESBYTERY OF WHITBY.—This Presbytery met at Oshawa on the 17th October, Mr. Crozier in the chair. Mr. Abraham read an elaborate report on the statistics of the Presbytery for the year 1881-2, which was received and adopted, and ordered to be printed and circulated among our congregations. It was agreed that each congregation hold a missionary meeting some time during the winter—the session to make the necessary arrangements—and report at the January meeting of Presbytery. Mr. Mutch, student, now entering on his last year in theology, was reported to have done good work in Claremont during the summer, and was recommended to the Senate of Knox College. Mr. Little directed the attention of the Presbytery to the finding of the Assembly anent the expenses incurred in defence of the Temporalities Fund, and moved, that sympathizing with the brethren who have incurred this liability, we recommend the members of our Church, who are able, to contribute to the fund for the extinction of the obligation in question. The Presbytery unanimously agreed to this motion. The Presbytery entered in the consideration of the difficulties of St. Andrews' Church, Darlington. Mr. Drummond read the report of the commission appointed to deal with them; this report was received and adopted; and the Presbytery thereafter agreed that, in view of the difficulties connected with the congregation, and in hopes of bringing them to a satisfactory conclusion, a presbyterial visitation be held in their church, Bowmanville, on the 21st November, at 10 o'clock a.m., and that Mr. Cameron exchange with Mr. Spenser on the preceding Sabbath, and intimate the same to the congregation. Leave was granted to the congregation of Oshawa to sell their manse. The evening meeting was devoted to a conference on the "State of Religion," when several members of the Presbytery took part in it, and greatly interested the congregation that was present. The Presbytery adjourned to meet for visitation in St. Andrew's Church, Bowmanville, on Tuesday, the 21st November, at 10 o'clock a.m., and also to meet for ordinary business on the third Tuesday of January next at 10:30 o'clock a.m.—A. A. DRUMMOND, *Pres. Clerk*.

PRESBYTERY OF GUELPH.—This Presbytery met on Tuesday forenoon, 17th inst., according to adjournment, in Chalmers' Church. Mr. Torrance reported that the Committee on the Superintendence of Students had not had the opportunity of meeting with the young men whose names were introduced at last meeting as looking forward to the work of the ministry. The clerk was authorized to get a sufficient number of copies of the report of the Committee on Statistics printed to supply a copy to each family connected with congregations in the bounds. Mr. Ball reported his action in moderating in a call at Nassagaweya and Campbellville, which had come out unanimously in favour of Mr. Neil, a licentiate of the Church. Mr. Neil was present, and the call having been placed in his hands, signified after some time allowed him for consideration his acceptance of the same. Mr. Ball's resignation of the pastoral charge of Knox Church, Guelph, was taken up. Mr. Ball was heard, and in a clear and able manner stated his reasons for the course he had taken, and pressed his resignation.