

MINISTERS AND CHURCHES.

MR. ALEXANDER RUSSELL has declined the call from Glenvale, etc.

THE Presbytery of Stratford has accepted the resignation of Rev. Mr. Watt, of Shakespeare.

THE Halifax "Witness" has the following: "Rumour says that the Rev. A. Ross, of Pictou, will accept the second call from Woodville, Ontario.

THE Rev. W. Anderson, of St. Andrew's Church, Kincardine, has resigned; and the Presbytery of Bruce, at a special meeting, accepted the resignation.

THE Orillia "Packet" says: "Mr. Robertson, a student from Knox College, is preaching at Waubesa, Port Severn, and Sturgeon Bay, with much acceptance.

THE order of service in Knox Church, Goderich, is to be changed. In future the service will open with prayer. There will be four singings and two readings of Scripture.

THE Huron "Signal" has an appreciative notice of the Rev. J. C. Smith's lecture upon "Self Culture." We are pleased to know that a considerable sum was realized for the benefit of Knox Church Sabbath School.

CHALMERS' CHURCH, Woodstock, has received a donation of one thousand dollars from one of its members. The money is to go towards enlarging the church-building and erecting a Sabbath School house and lecture room.

REV. ALGERNON MATTHEWS was inducted into the pastoral charge of the congregations of Lansdowne and Fairfax on the 8th of April. Mr. Gallaher preached, Mr. Gracey addressed the minister, and Mr. Wilson the people. Mr. Matthews enters on his labours in this field with fair prospects of success, having been long and favourably known by the people through his services to them as a missionary some years ago.

THE Sabbath School in connection with the Presbyterian church Bobcaygeon, is now in excellent working condition, and is highly creditable to those ladies and gentlemen who, with so much perseverance, have raised the school to its present high position. The attendance is very numerous, and a fine addition of about ninety new books has been recently made to the library.

THE regular meeting of the Young People's Christian Association, in connection with Cooke's Church, was held in the lecture room on Tuesday evening of last week. After routine, Mr. James Fraser, first Vice-President, took the chair, and at once called on Mr. R. H. Abraham, M. A., President of the Association, who delivered the closing address of the session, taking for his subject "Hints to Success." At the close a hearty vote of thanks was tendered Mr. Abraham for his interesting address.

THE annual meeting of the Collingwood congregation, over which the Rev. R. Rodgers is pastor, was held on the evening of the 28th ultimo. From the several reports presented to the meeting the work of the Church appears on the whole to be progressing favourably. Owing to the pressure of hard times, and the special efforts made for the new church, which is now in process of erection, the amount raised for congregational purposes was somewhat less than last year, being only \$931.40. To the schemes of the Church the following appropriations were made: \$36 to Home Missions; \$10 to Foreign Missions; \$10 to College Fund; \$10 to French Evangelization; \$7 to the Widows' and Orphan's Fund; and \$21.60 to Assembly and Presbytery Funds, amounting in all to \$94.60. The report of the Building Committee showed that during the year a subscription of \$3,027 had been obtained for the new church; that of this sum about \$900.00 had been collected; that a new site had been secured at a cost of \$350; and that a contract had been let for the erection of the church at \$4,993. The church is 75 feet by 45 feet, with tower, and will cost, when completed, about \$6,000. The report also showed that the sanction of the Presbytery had been obtained to raise a loan of \$3,200. The work of building is now going forward, and the church is expected to be finished about the middle of September. The number added to the congregation during the year is seventeen, and the number now on the roll is 164. The Sabbath school continues to prosper. The average attendance has been for the year 125. The num-

ber of officers and teachers is nineteen. The amount collected for missions was \$36; of this \$8 was given to Muskoka; \$3 to the Canada Sabbath School Association, and the rest was handed over to the Missionary Association of the congregation. For ordinary purposes there was collected \$57. A report of the cemetery by Mr. E. Thomson showed a balance on hand of \$60. A unanimous vote of thanks was given to the choir, and especially to their leader, Mr. Kelly, for the efficient manner in which they had conducted the service of song in the Lord's house. The meeting was closed with the benediction.—COM.

PRESBYTERY OF STRATFORD.—This Court met in Knox Church, Stratford, on Tuesday, the 22nd ult. Present—eighteen ministers and ten elders. Circulars were read from the Presbyteries of Halifax and Sydney, giving notice of intended application for the reception into the ministry of the Church of Messrs. Duncan R. Crockett, Presbyterian, and Wm. Luke Cunningham, Methodist. Rev. John W. Bell and Mr. Peter Dewar were elected additional Commissioners to General Assembly. Rev. Mr. Watt's resignation was taken up. The commissioners from the congregation of Shakespeare and Hampstead represented that they agreed to express regret at the state of Mr. Watt's health, and to present no opposition to his resignation. Mr. Mitchell was appointed to declare the vacancy on the third Sabbath of May next. Mr. Macleod was appointed *ad interim* Moderator of Session, and Messrs. Hamilton and Hall were appointed to draw up a minute in relation to Mr. Watt's resignation. The petition from Tavistock was taken up. Burns' Church, East Zorra, and St. Andrew's Church, North Easthope, by commissioners, signified that they had no objection to granting regular supply to Tavistock, and Shakespeare and Hampstead signified that if the erection of Tavistock as a preaching station were effected in such circumstances as to take away from their ability to support ordinances, they could not well afford the loss, and desired for a time, at least, the continued assistance of parties at and near Tavistock. It was agreed to lay the petition on the table until Presbytery take steps to re-arrange the ecclesiastical field in North and South Easthope, and that Presbytery give Tavistock what supply they can in the meantime. Messrs. Hamilton, Hall, Waits, ministers, and Messrs. Ballantyne and McTavish, elders, with Mr. P. McF. Macleod, Convener, were appointed a committee to meet with the congregations concerned in the proposed rearrangement. The report on the proposed Hymn Book was received and adopted, proposing to remit the book for modification by an enlarged committee. It was agreed to overture the General Assembly to take action in order to prevent the accumulation of debt and remove that existing in connection with the schemes of the Church. Presbytery adjourned to meet for ordinary business in St. Andrew's, Stratford, on the first Tuesday of July next, at 9.30 a.m.

PRESBYTERY OF SAUGEEN.—An adjourned meeting of this Presbytery was held in Guthrie Church, Harrison, on the 8th ult. A call was laid on the table from Ayton and East Normanby in favour of Mr. Alex. Nicol, which was sustained and accepted. The Presbytery agreed to meet in Ayton on the 26th May, at seven o'clock, to hear his trial discourses, etc. If satisfactory, the Presbytery will meet on the following day at eleven o'clock for his ordination and induction, Mr. Campbell to preach and preside, Mr. Young to address the minister and Mr. Fraser the people. A call was also laid on the table from Waldemar, Little Toronto, etc., in favour of Rev. I. B. Brown which was also sustained and ordered to be forwarded to Mr. Brown, and on condition of the call being accepted the Presbytery agreed to meet at Little Toronto, on Wednesday, the 30th of April at two o'clock p.m., for his induction, Mr. D. Stewart to preach and preside, Mr. McMillan to address the minister and Mr. Crozier the people. It was agreed to hold a Presbytery Sabbath School Convention in Mount Forest about the month of July. It was also agreed that the second Sabbath of May be observed in the congregations within the bounds of the Presbytery, as a day for special prayer for an outpouring of the Spirit, and that the ministers be enjoined to bring the subject of revivals before their congregations. There was read a resolution from the North Arthur congregation to the effect that they had no desire for a separation providing Cotswold desire to continue the union. Commis-

sioners from both congregations were heard. After reasoning it was moved and agreed to "That in reference to the call from Cotswold to Rev. Mr. C. Cameron, it lie on the table in the meantime, and that the Rev. Mr. Campbell be appointed to hold a meeting at North Arthur on a day most convenient to all parties with a view of giving the people of North Arthur an opportunity of concurring in said call, also that the congregation of North Arthur be instructed to lay before the Presbytery a statement as to the amount of salary they are prepared to give in the event of their concurring in said call." It was further moved and agreed to "that the people of North Arthur congregation be at liberty to worship in their church or in the vicinity of the graveyard as they may see fit." Mr. James Allan stated that it would not be in his power to attend the meeting of the General Assembly in June next. Mr. Wm. Kerr was appointed in his place.—S. YOUNG, *Pres. Clerk*.

PRESBYTERY OF OWEN SOUND.—This Presbytery met in Division street Church on the 18th ult., a full attendance of members present. Messrs. Cameron, Scott, Macknight and Douglas were appointed to enquire into the alleged indebtedness of the Presbytery to the National Bible Society of Scotland. Mr. Stevenson, as Treasurer of the Presbytery, reported that there was at present due him more than \$30, which he had advanced to the Presbytery. He was instructed to levy a rate on all the congregations sufficient to cover the running expenses, deducting from the amount levied the sum already contributed by the several congregations. The committee appointed to arrange a basis of union between Lake Shore, Sydenham and Johnston congregations reported that they had visited the congregations interested, and they were present with their report of progress made. Delegates appeared from the various congregations and submitted a basis of union that had been agreed on between them. Whereupon the Presbytery agreed to separate Knox Church, Lake Shore, from Knox Church, Sydenham, approve of the basis of union between Knox Church, Lake Shore, and Johnston Church; but seeing there are certain arrears of stipend, the Presbytery appoint Messrs. Cameron, Scott, and Armstrong a committee to look after these arrears. The following were appointed delegates to the General Assembly at Ottawa: Messrs. MacLennan and Mordy by rotation, and Mr. Somerville by election; and Messrs. Macknight, Christie, and Mitchell, elders. The Presbytery recommended that Dr. Cochrane be chosen Moderator of the General Assembly. Mr. Stevenson gave notice of motion that at the next meeting he would move that the Moderator of the Presbytery should occupy the chair only six months, and Mr. Coulter gave notice that he would move to have the meetings of Presbytery held at half-past one p.m. instead of at ten a.m. as at present. Mr. Stevenson presented an overture to the General Assembly on the status of retired ministers, and the Presbytery resolved to transmit it to the Assembly. The motion which Mr. Somerville gave notice of at last meeting—that Presbytery should meet on the third Tuesday of January, March, July, September, and November, and on the first Tuesday of May, at ten o'clock a.m. was agreed to. Mr. Currie was appointed to receive and tabulate the returns on the State of Religion, Mr. Mordy the Sabbath school returns, and Mr. Somerville the Financial and Statistical returns. The following general resolutions were passed in reference to the Hymn Book submitted: (1) That in any further copies issued, the title, the author and the date of the hymn be given. (2) That the collection for the young was too meagre both in subjects and numbers. (3) That the hymns for children be inserted in the body of the book, and that the committee make a suitable selection for use in Sabbath schools and for special services from the larger book. (4) That the paraphrases should be embodied in the hymn book. (5) That in arranging for the publication of the book, endeavours be made to get things so arranged that the profit arising from the sale be secured for the Aged and Infirm Ministers' Fund. Mr. Somerville presented the Home Mission Report. The Convener was instructed to secure the services of students for the following places during the summer months: Sarawak and North Keppel, Euphrasia and Holland, Johnston and Caven, Lion's Head, and an ordained missionary for Wiarton. He was further instructed to apply for the sum of \$200 per annum, to be given to Kilsyth and North Derby, \$100 per annum to