

## Ministers and Churches.

THE Rev. Dr. Beattie, of Brantford, has been re-appointed examiner in Oriental Literature in the University of Toronto.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT.—Dr. Reid has received from L. S. C., Toronto, \$5.70, for the Rev. Mr. Fleet's Industrial Homes.

THE Rev. Bishop Usher, of the Reformed Episcopal Church, Montreal, preached the anniversary sermons in First Presbyterian Church, Brockville, recently.

THE services in Cote St. Antoine, Montreal, were conducted on December 12 by the Rev. Walter Reid, of Weston. The rev. gentleman's discourses were listened to with great pleasure and profit.

THE building occupied by Rev. D. C. Johnson, Oil Springs, was destroyed by fire on the morning of November 18. The fire originated in a neighbouring house, and both houses were burned, but the contents were mostly saved.

THE nineteenth anniversary of the Presbyterian Church, Georgetown, was celebrated recently by sermons by Rev. R. D. Fraser, M.A., of Bowmanville. The Methodists withdrew their morning service to attend the anniversary.

THE communion was observed last Sabbath in First Church, Brantford. There was the largest attendance in the history of the congregation. Ten new members were received, making the number of additions for the past year upwards of forty, and the total membership about 230.

THE Rev. Alexander McDonald, pastor of the Presbyterian Church, Duntroon, on his arrival home from Europe, after an absence of four months, was presented with a cordial address of welcome. After a graceful acknowledgment by Mr. McDonald, the company sat down to dinner and spent a pleasant evening.

THE usual fortnightly meeting of Knox Church Young People's Christian Association, of this city, was held on Friday evening last. The programme consisted of a paper on the "Life and Character of Rev. Thomas Chalmers, D.D." which was prepared and read by Mr. James Knowles, jun. A very interesting sketch was given of the life and work of this illustrious divine, and was much enjoyed by all present.

On the evening of Wednesday, 5th inst., the Presbyterian Church, Underwood, was filled to the door, to hear the Rev. Mr. Howie, a native of Palestine, lecture on "Jerusalem to Bethlehem." The lecture was highly interesting and instructive, so much so that they asked him to remain for the second night, when Mr. Howie again lectured on "Joppa to Jerusalem." People would do well to avail themselves of these lectures.

RECENTLY a number of the congregation of West Winchester called at the manse and read an address to Rev. Dr. Moffat, and presented a very handsomely-filled purse to buy a valuable fur overcoat and gauntlets, as a Christmas present. Since the Doctor was settled in his new charge he has got all the debt swept away, the church much improved without and within, and added twenty-five new members to the congregation.

At the manse, Howick, Que., a very enjoyable evening was spent on the 26th day of November, being the twenty-fifth anniversary of the marriage of the Rev. C. M. and Mrs. MacKeracher, twenty years of which time have been pleasantly spent at Howick. Quite a number of friends assembled to offer their congratulations, giving expression to their good will in silver gifts, both useful and ornamental. After tea came readings and music, and at a late hour the happy company dispersed.

DEEP interest was manifested in the special services held in Chalmers Church, Woodstock, last week. The spacious lecture room was crowded. Rev. Mr. Boyle, of Paris, preached a sermon of great earnestness and power. Mr. Boyle is an excellent singer, and singing as a solo the hymn, "Seeking for Me," produced a profound impression. Rev. Mr. McKay read the names of nineteen persons who are uniting with the church for the first time twelve by certificate and seven on profession of faith. It was intended to continue the special services another week.

THE first annual meeting of the Kirkwall auxiliary of the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society was held in the Sabbath school room on Tuesday, the 14th inst. A large number of the ladies of the congregation were present. Mrs. Grant and Mrs. Fletcher, of Hamilton, were also present, and took part in the meeting. The annual reports of the secretary and treasurer showed the good work the society has done during the first year of its existence. There has been a steady increase in the membership, which is now forty-four. From members' fees, monthly contributions, milk boxes and a contribution of \$9 from the Rev. Hugh McKay's meeting last July, the goodly sum of \$103 has been raised. Last July the society presented a box of books to Mr. McKay for the Indian children, and, last September, clothing for old and young, to the value of \$50, was sent to Broadview for Mr. McKay's mission. For the ensuing year the following were elected the officers of the society: Mrs. Carruthers, president; Mrs. R. McQueen, first vice-president; Mrs. McCoag, second vice-president; Miss Robertson, secretary; Miss Cowie, treasurer.

THE anniversary services of Union Church, Brucefield, were conducted by the Rev. John Gray, of Windsor, Sabbath, December 5, who preached very practical and excellent sermons to crowded congregations; in the morning from Romans xii. 1, and in the evening from Luke xvii. 5. The following Monday evening was held the re-opening tea-meeting, which was also very largely attended, the church being filled to its full capacity. Excellent addresses were given by the Revs. John Gray, on the subject of "The more Secular Aspect of Church work," A. D. McDonald, Seaforth; Joseph McCoy, M.A., Egmondville; P. Musgrave, McKillop; S. Acheson, Kippen; R. Y. Tomson, M.A.,

B.D., Hensall. Excellent vocal and instrumental music was furnished by the Church choir, under the leadership of Mr. J. B. Jameson. The chair was taken by the pastor, Rev. J. H. Simpson. Proceeds of the services amounted to about \$125. The new gallery just completed, and occupied at these services for the first time, along with the new pulpit trimmings, add very much to the appearance and comfort of the church.

THE financial statement for the year just closed of the Presbyterian Church of Lakefield and North Smith, Rev. John McEwen, pastor, contains some items of considerable interest to themselves and, we trust, to the Church in general. About two years ago this charge was drawing from the Augmentation Fund \$100 per annum. In the statement above referred to we find that last year over \$900 was contributed for stipend purposes; \$400 for current expenditure; \$100 for missions, and \$200 for cancelling a debt on church property. In addition to this the Sabbath school, which may be regarded as a model one, with an average attendance of about 100, gave \$100 for missions, and a similar sum was given to meet the current expenses of the school. We have also a flourishing branch of the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society, and Ladies' Aid Societies, each of which raised handsome amounts for their respective objects. We believe many other supplemented congregations might, with much profit to themselves, imitate this example.

THE Presbytery of Sarnia met at Forest on the 25th ult., for the induction of the Rev. James Pritchard into the charge of the congregation there, and was constituted. A large congregation being assembled, intimation was given that if any had objections to the life or doctrine of Mr. Pritchard, the Presbytery was now ready to hear them. No objections being offered, the Rev. A. Beamer, of Petrolia, proceeded to the pulpit, and preached an able and appropriate sermon from Zech. iv. 4. The sermon being ended, the Moderator gave a narrative of the various steps taken in the call, and put the questions usual in such cases to the minister, which were satisfactorily answered, and after the solemn prayer, inducted Mr. Pritchard into the charge of the congregation of Forest, in token whereof he gave him the right hand of fellowship, as did also other members of the court present. Rev. Dr. Thompson addressed the minister, and the Rev. George McClelland addressed the people in suitable terms in reference to their respective duties. Mr. Pritchard received a hearty welcome from the congregation as they retired from the church. The Presbytery closed with the benediction.

THE congregation of Erskine Church, Hamilton, held a special business meeting last week, for the purpose of appointing representatives to appear before the Hamilton Presbytery, when the call of Rev. Thomas Scouler to New Westminster, B. C., will be considered. Mr. James Brown was appointed chairman. The following resolution was moved by Mr. James Newlands, seconded by Mr. Samuel Crawford: That in the opinion of this meeting the translation, at the present time, of the Rev. Thomas Scouler from the pastoral charge of this congregation would be seriously detrimental to its highest interest; that, while acknowledging with gratitude to the Great Head of the Church the spiritual and temporal prosperity He has hitherto, under the ministry of the Rev. Thomas Scouler, vouchsafed to us as a congregation, and desiring that similar prosperity, but in increased measure, may be continued to us in the future, we are prompted by feelings of affectionate esteem as well as by a sense of duty, to use every effort consistent with the rules of the Church to retain the Rev. Thomas Scouler as our pastor, and we therefore resolve for this end to appoint certain of our number commissioners to represent us before the Presbytery of Hamilton, to answer their citation and to urge our claims. This resolution, being submitted to the meeting, was unanimously carried.

THE Tilsonburg *Liberals* comes out in true Presbyterian blue in a recent number, which gives a most interesting historical account of the rise and progress of the Church in that enterprising little town. The tasteful and commodious new building was opened for divine service on the 5th inst. The Rev. G. M. Milligan, of Toronto, preached in the morning, the Rev. G. G. McRobbie, a former pastor, now of Ridgeway, was the afternoon preacher, and Mr. Milligan again occupied the pulpit in the evening; large audiences were in attendance, and the collection for the day amounted to the handsome sum of \$220. On Monday evening a largely attended tea-meeting was held, Mr. John Charlton, M.P., presiding. Addresses were delivered by Mr. C. Thomson, chairman of finance committee; the Rev. Messrs. Hamilton, of Lyndoch; Mitchell, of Tilsonburg; Milligan, of Toronto; Dr. Cochrane, of Brantford, and G. G. McRobbie, of Ridgeway. The meeting was enlivened by excellent music by accomplished vocalists. The *Liberals* adds: "The speeches were all of a very high order, and, while sprightly in tone, were all solid and instructive, and free from that feature which has left tea-meeting addresses justly open to reproach." The efficient and faithful pastor, Rev. Mr. McGregor, M.A., and the congregation of Tilsonburg are to be congratulated on the completion and opening of their handsome new church. May their spiritual prosperity go on augmenting.

THE fifty-ninth public debate of Knox College Meta-physical and Literary Society was held in Convocation Hall, on Friday evening, December 10, when a highly cultured and appreciative audience assembled to listen to an interesting and well prepared programme. The president, Mr. C. W. Gordon, B.A., invited Rev. Principal Sheraton to preside over the meeting, who, on coming forward, was cordially received by the audience. After a few well chosen words, he called upon the Glee Club for a musical selection, and "Comrades in Arms" was well rendered. Mr. A. R. Barron, B.A., read a well prepared essay, the subject being "Thomas De Quincey." A trio, "Oh, Skylark, for thy Wing" was well sung by Messrs. Gordon, McLeod and Hamilton. Professor Neff gave an excellent reading, entitled "Maud Miller," amid breathless silence, after which he was encored, and read a piece entitled "Mine Family."

The Glee Club then sang "Cheer up, Companions." The subject for debate was, "Resolved, That superstition is more injurious to Christianity than infidelity." The affirmative was vigorously maintained by Messrs. J. G. Shearer and J. J. Dobbin, and the negative was well supported by Messrs. W. A. Martin and M. McKinnon, B.A. A short review of the debate was then made by the chairman, and the audience decided in favour of the affirmative. The usual votes of thanks being passed, the meeting was brought to a close, Principal Caven pronouncing the benediction.

THE foundation stone of the Presbyterian Sabbath school in connection with the contemplated church at the corner of Bloor and Huron Streets, Toronto, having been auspiciously laid recently, last Friday evening a very successful conversazione was given by Mr. John Scott, at his residence, 155 St. George Street, in aid of the movement. The attendance was very large, including many prominent members of Churches of other denominations. The large drawing room of Mr. Scott's residence was tastefully decorated for the occasion, and an admirable programme of recitations, readings, and vocal and instrumental selections was furnished by members and well wishers of the new congregation. Prof. McLaren occupied the chair, and Prof. Gregg preceded the programme with prayer. The Misses Kerr gave a piano duet, which was warmly received; Mr. Reid sang "Dearest than Life," with admirable effect; Mr. Elliott, of Knox College, read "The Roll-call at Fredericksburg"; the Knox College Glee Club sang "Bring Back My Barney to Me," in a manner that was more than satisfactory. Mr. G. W. E. Field, who has a remarkably fine tenor voice, sang "The White Squall," in a manner that deserved and elicited the hearty applause; and Prof. Reiggar gave a piano solo which, though brief, showed him to be a brilliant and accomplished performer; but the most marked success of the evening was Miss Maggie Jester's reading of a delightful little poem, suggested by Millais' well-known picture, "The Huguenots." Other numbers followed, one of the most amusing being a reading by Mr. Elliott, entitled "A Journey by Telegraph." At the conclusion of the programme refreshments were served, and a delightful evening's entertainment was brought to a close.

PRESBYTERY OF WINNIPEG.—This Presbytery met in Knox Church recently. There were present Revs. D. M. Gordon, Convener, Principal King, Dr. Bryce, Professor Hart, and Messrs. Quinn, Douglas, Laurence, Brydon, McLaren, Pitblado, Whimster and Robertson, Superintendent of Missions, ministers; and Honourable Justice Taylor, C. H. Campbell and R. Macbeth, elders. On motion of Dr. Bryce, Mr. McLaren was authorized to proceed to the election and ordination of elders in Millbrook. Rev. Messrs. Farquharson and Rose, being present, were invited to sit as corresponding members. Dr. Bryce reported that he had organized the congregation at Niverville, and dispensed the communion there. Rev. Mr. McLaren reported that he had dispensed the communion at Clear Spring. He stated further that the people there were anxious to obtain the services of a catechist, and were willing to pay therefor at the rate of \$160 per annum. The Superintendent of Missions reported on his visit to Gretna, as follows: If at all practicable, it is most desirable that a missionary should be secured for Gretna, for the future, that can speak English and German. There is room for mission work among the Mennonites in the neighbourhood of Gretna. The hamlets on the Mennonite reserve are swarming with children; in many of these villages there are no schools, and where schools do exist the teachers are very inefficient. The young people among the Mennonites are breaking away from the faith and customs of their fathers; and quite a number of Germans of the Lutheran faith are settling among them. For a German-speaking missionary of the right kind there is a good field in the neighbourhood of Gretna. Correspondence has been opened with Dr. Herrick Johnson, Dr. Hitchcock and others, with the view of getting a suitable missionary for the work. The Presbytery cordially approved of Mr. Robertson's action, and assured him of its hearty co-operation in the matter. The Presbytery's Home Mission Committee, in conjunction with the Church and Manse Board, was authorized to take all necessary legal steps, in name and on behalf of the Presbytery, for the removal of the church from West Lynne to Gretna. Dr. Bryce's report on his visit to Stonewall, stating that he had succeeded in obtaining subscriptions from Grassmere amounting to \$225, Rockwood, \$150, Stonewall, \$200, was presented. Dr. King moved, and it was agreed to, That Dr. Bryce's report be received, and he be thanked for his diligence, and that the Presbytery ask the Assembly's Augmentation Committee to increase the grant to this field by \$25 per annum. Principal King introduced Mr. Isaac McDonald, a student of Manitoba College, and asked that the Presbytery examine him, and certify him to the Senate of the College as a theological student. The matter was referred to the Committee on the Examination of Students, which, at a later stage, after examination with him, cordially certified him. The Clerk submitted the report of the Presbytery's Home Mission Committee; it was received, and its recommendations were adopted. The Superintendent reported that he had secured the Rev. James Hamilton and Mr. C. H. Wilson, to labour within the bounds of this Presbytery. A petition was presented from La Salle, asking for moderation in a call to a minister; and also that the name of the congregation be changed to Blythfield. There appeared in support of this petition Messrs. J. A. McKae and George Parker, who addressed the Presbytery. Mr. Pitblado then moved, and it was seconded and agreed to, That the prayer of this petition be granted; that Dr. Bryce be appointed to preach there on Sabbath, the 26th inst., and moderate in a call at Blythfield, and within Parker's school house there on Monday, the 27th inst., at eleven a.m. The Presbytery also authorized the change of name requested. Rev. James Hamilton was appointed to supply this charge in the meantime; and the Presbytery's Home Mission Committee empowered to make further appointments for him. Professor Hart submitted and read a report of the committee appointed to