

was quite successful, and satisfactorily proved to us, once again, the wisdom of depending on the ladies of the church for such occasions. We were pleased to have our friend Mr. Mason come amongst us to spend his holidays. He preached three times in our church during his stay. On the last Sunday evening in 1886 he urged those who had but recently given their hearts to Christ to be steadfast in their faith in Him, and to keep close to the Saviour during the coming year. To those who had refused, he begged them to do better in future. Touching references were made to the deaths of Rev. Dr. Wilkes and Mrs. Currie; the former had, he said, spent a noble life of fifty years in Canada, not only as a Congregationalist, but as a devoted and faithful servant of Christ. Referring to the late Mrs. Currie, he spoke in terms of the highest praise. Our young people are showing a willingness to do work, by starting a "Young People's Society for Pleasant Evenings." The first of these fortnightly meetings was held on January 11, and proved a success, although both roads and weather were bad. We have great hopes that this endeavour will be successful. The men's prayer meeting, held at the Congregational parsonage every Thursday evening, promises to be a considerable help to religious life among us. May God sanctify these efforts to His glory!—COM.

GEORGETOWN.—The evening of December 29th was a happy time for the children of the Sabbath school of this church. A good deal of trouble had been taken in preparation for this Christmas entertainment, and all must have been glad that it was so successful. The ladies of the church provided tea with their customary generosity, and after the children and adults had satisfactorily partaken thereof, the literary part of the programme commenced. This consisted of solo and chorus singing, interspersed with readings, recitations and dialogues, the children being the sole contributors, and right nobly did they acquit themselves. During the evening one of the teachers was presented by her class of girls with an address and a beautiful panel-shaped Christmas card—a winter scene painted on pale blue silk, and ornamented with scrolls of light russet-coloured plush. The schoolroom, which was tastefully decorated for the occasion, was well-filled, and the funds of the school were increased by \$15—very good, considering that the charge was only 15 cents, that the children were admitted free, and that, unavoidably, this meeting clashed with a similar one given by our friends of the Baptist Church. Since then the collection boxes purchased last spring have been opened, with over \$17 as the result. The Sabbath school treasurer has now about \$51 in hand, most of which will probably be used for a new library. At the New Year's communion service six new members were received, two of these from the Sabbath school, and one by letter

from a Congregational church in Glasgow; several others are expected to be received next month.

GRANBY.—The annual church meeting was held in the Congregational Church here on January 10. A large number of people assembled on the occasion to listen to the various reports and the interesting programme which followed. Reports were read from the church, Sabbath school, Church Aid Society, Band of Willing Workers, and from the pastor. All these were of the most encouraging character. The Church Aid Society had raised sufficient money for painting and papering the parsonage, and had considerable funds on hand; the Willing Workers had devoted some \$25 to Foreign Missions, and given \$75 toward the parsonage debt. The church also reported a clean balance sheet. The parsonage has been furnished with an excellent furnace. It was determined to build a commodious shed and wood-house near the church as soon as the spring opens; and also to proceed toward liquidating the remainder of the debt on the parsonage. The church has raised more than double its contribution of last year for Home Missions, and some think more ought yet to be done. The College also must receive something from us here. The congregations are good, and an excellent state of things exists, so far as man can judge, in the spiritual affairs of the church. Quite a number are uniting with us in church fellowship. The annual meeting wound up with a free lunch and admirable programme.

GUELPH.—The annual meeting of the Congregational Church and congregation was held on the 19th of January. After a social tea the various reports were read, and showed the church to be, on the whole, in a prosperous condition. The total amount raised for all purposes was \$2,363.94; of this amount the cause of Missions received \$165.18, and all our other denominational claims were also remembered. An encouraging feature in the treasurer's report was a statement showing an *increase* over the previous year in the envelope and open collections, and in the communion and missionary funds. Eleven persons were added to the church during the year. A Young People's Society of Christian Endeavour was also organized, which was doing an excellent work. The church, as now organized for Christian work, has the following societies which afford scope for work to all, viz.: Ladies' Association, Willing Workers' Society, Woman's Missionary Society, Young People's Association, and the Young People's Society of Christian Endeavour. Our city and church are feeling materially the effect of being overshadowed by larger cities such as Toronto. Every year reports removals to such cities, owing to their greater facilities for business, so that churches in Toronto and other large cities receive yearly contributions from country and