

Ministers and Churches.

THE Rev. H. McKellar, of High Bluff, Manitoba, left Sarnia for three or four months' trip to the Old Country, Tuesday, 24th ult. Mrs. McKellar accompanies him. They sailed from New York on the 27th ult.

MR. T. F. SCOTT, who laboured on the line last summer on the line between White River and Nepigon, has been succeeded by Mr. William Merkley, of University College, Toronto. Mr. Merkley will remain in the field for the coming summer, making Schrieber his headquarters.

THE Young People's Society of First Church, Brantford, held a very successful public meeting in closing for the present year. The attendance was large, and the exercises of music, reading, debate and essay, were all of a high order. This society is now six years of age and has sixty-five members at present. Twenty or thirty of the Paris Young People's Society of Dumfries Street Church were present, and were handsomely entertained by the First Church Society.

THERE were a number of distinguished Presbyterian ministers from a distance officiating in Toronto pulpits this week. Professor Campbell, of Montreal, addressed the meeting preparatory to communion in St. James Square Church, on Friday evening. The Rev. James Barclay, of St. Paul's Church, Montreal, preached in the Central Church, and dispensed the communion, and the Rev. J. L. Murray, Kincardine, preached in Erskine Church.

THE Independent Presbyterian Church, corner of Sumach and St. David Streets, Toronto, celebrated its first anniversary last Sabbath. In the morning the pastor, Rev. G. Burnfield, preached an eloquent and appropriate sermon from 2 Corinthians vii. 16. The Sunday school was addressed in the afternoon by Rev. M. Scott, late of Edinburgh, Scotland, and Mr. Day, secretary of the Ontario Sunday School Association. The evening service was conducted by the past r. This new congregation is making marked progress.

A PLEASANT surprise party met at the manse, Moosomin, on Tuesday last, 17th ult., when a purse of money and an address were presented to the Rev. William Nicholl, previous to his removal to Broadview at the end of the month. Mr. Nicholl has been an untiring worker during his ministry in this place, and he carries many regrets and good wishes with him into his new field of labour. The address contains warm expressions of the love and esteem in which Mr. Nicholl is held by the people among whom he laboured, a recognition of his faithful but imperfectly remunerated services and cordial well wishes for the future prosperity of himself and family. Mr. Nicholl made a neat and suitable acknowledgment.

THE regular monthly meeting of the Guelph Auxiliary of the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society was held on the 19th ult. The reports from the different committees in connection with the annual meeting were received and proved most satisfactory, particularly that of the Refreshment Committee, which must be gratifying to the members of the society, seeing no money from the Missionary Fund was used, the refreshment table being wholly supplied by donations of provisions and money. After all expenses were paid, the Refreshment Committee had on hand a balance of \$17, which they have handed over to the General Society. Increased interest in the work is hoped for as the result of the annual meeting in Guelph.

THE Galt Reformer says: The Rev. J. K. Smith, D.D., arrived in Galt from San Francisco on Tuesday morning last, and lectured on "Impressions of California," in Knox Church in the evening. On account of the unfavourable weather the attendance was not as large as it would otherwise have been, although the body of the church was well filled. The reverend gentleman gave a most interesting account of the journey from Chicago to San Francisco, and his descriptions of California and her great resources were listened to with the closest attention. Dr. Smith spoke for about two hours to a most appreciative audience. Rev. Mr. Dickson occupied the chair, and at the close of his remarks the lecturer was tendered an enthusiastic vote of thanks. Dr. Smith will remain in Galt for some three weeks before returning to San Francisco.

THE Rev. Hugh Fraser, a graduate of Manitoba College, was on Thursday, March 29, inducted into the pastoral charge at Fort William. Mr. Fraser has ministered to this congregation for almost a year. He has been greatly blessed in his work. At the regular quarterly meeting of the Presbytery of Winnipeg, on the 13th March, Mr. Fraser accepted the hearty and unanimous call extended to him by the congregation. On the 29th ult. the Presbytery met, pursuant to appointment, for his induction. Rev. J. Pringle presided and preached the induction sermon; Rev. R. Nairn, B.A., of Rat Portage, addressed the minister; and Rev. A. McLaren, of Springfield, Manitoba, the people, in regard to the duties growing out of their relation to the pastor of their choice. The church was crowded with rejoicing and interested people. There were about twenty persons present from Port Arthur. Mr. Fraser begins his settled ministry with the brightest prospects. May pastor and people be long united to carry on the work of Christ.

THE will of the late Samuel Bowman, who died in Toronto on the 9th inst., and which was drawn up on the 24th of November, 1880, was entered for probate last week by Messrs. James Smith, Robert Graham and Alexander Paton, who were named as the executors. The personal property is valued at \$16,465, and the real estate is valued at \$35,000. The will instructs the executors to pay to deceased's wife \$50 cash and \$400 a year in lieu of her dower, she to have the household furniture; to pay \$400 a year to deceased's brother John; to hand over to Knox College the real estate on the west side of York Street, valued at \$10,000, as a free gift; to pay over to Erskine Church as a free gift the proceeds of three houses on Adelaide Street, valued at \$10,000; to pay \$500 to the

Hospital for Incurables and a like amount to the House of Industry. The balance of the estate goes to the widow. It should be explained that the property bequeathed to the college and church was valued at \$10,000 in 1880, when the will was made. In the estimation of some it is worth nearly double the price now.

PRESBYTERY OF MAITLAND.—An adjourned meeting of this Presbytery was held at Wingham on 17th ult. The call from Goderich to Rev. J. B. Anderson, of Whitechurch, was considered and disposed of. The Rev. Dr. Ure appeared as commissioner from the Presbytery of Huron and the congregation of Goderich, and Messrs. Aikenhead and Buchanan from the congregation. The following were present as commissioners from Whitechurch: Messrs. H. D. Henderson, A. McWilliams, John Legget and Thomas Campbell, all of whom strongly opposed the translation. A paper signed by 205 members and adherents of the congregation, asking Mr. Anderson to continue as their minister, was presented by Mr. H. D. Henderson. The Commissioners from Calvin Church, East Wawanosh, were: Messrs. Robert Shiell, John Bone and David Robertson, all of whom expressed the desire of the congregation that the translation should not take place. A paper containing 160 names, members and adherents, expressing their earnest desire that Mr. Anderson should remain as their minister, was presented by Mr. Robert Shiell. Dr. Ure replied briefly. Mr. Anderson addressed the court, and stated that it appeared to him to be the will of the Lord that he should accept the call which he accordingly did, subject to the approval of Presbytery. On motion, it was agreed that the Presbytery grant the translation of Mr. Anderson, and while doing so would record our high appreciation of his character and abilities as a minister of the Gospel, our sense of loss sustained by the Presbytery by the translation, and our sympathy for the congregations in losing their minister, to whom they have been so devotedly attached. Mr. Anderson is to preach his farewell sermon on the 20th May. The Rev. D. B. McKee, interim Moderator of the Session of Knox Church, Brussels, presented a call from that congregation in favour of Rev. G. B. Howie. The stipend promised is \$800 per annum without a manse. Messrs. McKee, Strachan and Dickson, commissioners from the congregation, supported the call. The conduct of the Moderator was sustained, and on motion the call was sustained as a regular Gospel call. Mr. Strachan read an extract from a letter from Mr. Howie, stating that in the event of the call being sustained by the Presbytery, he would accept the same, and authorized Mr. Strachan to say that he accepted the call. A special meeting of Presbytery was appointed to be held in Knox Church, Brussels, on Monday, 7th day of May, at ten o'clock a.m., for the examination of Mr. Howie, and the public service in connection with the ordination and induction to begin at two o'clock p.m., Mr. McKay to preach, Mr. Law to preside, Mr. Stevenson to address the minister, and Mr. McKee the people. Mr. Jones was appointed to serve the edict on the congregation.—JOHN MACNABB, *Pres. Clerk*.

PRESBYTERY OF WHITBY.—This Presbytery met at Bowmanville on April 17, Rev. A. H. Kippen, Moderator. There was a good attendance of members. A very interesting report on the State of Religion was read by Mr. McMechan; another on Sabbath School Work, by Mr. Craig, and a third on Temperance, by Mr. R. D. Fraser. The recommendations attached to the last report created considerable discussion. They are as follows: 1. That the efforts at present being made to foster temperance sentiment in the congregations and to promote total abstinence among both old and young be continued with renewed zeal; and that Sessions be recommended to consider the desirability of forming total abstinence organizations within the congregations. 2. That diligence be used by the ministers and people to the end that temperance instruction be given systematically in the public schools, according to the provisions of the school law. 3. That the office-bearers, members and adherents of congregations be encouraged to give hearty support to those charged with the carrying out of the provisions of the present laws against the sale of drink. 4. That no halt should be called to the agitation for general total prohibition. 5. That the Presbytery earnestly deprecate any public teaching, which directly or indirectly encourages the use of strong drink, as contrary to the spirit of the New Testament, and as in present circumstances, especially calculated to give countenance and comfort to those engaged in the liquor traffic; to prove a stumbling block to those endeavoring to reform personal habits of indulgence in strong drink, and to throw the young and unwary off their guard. It would afford satisfaction to the Presbytery, if the Synod and the General Assembly would express similar disapproval. Mr. Abraham presented the appeal put forth by the Augmentation Committee, asking this Presbytery to raise \$100 additional to the sum they have already contributed. The Presbytery agreed to commend the appeal to the members of the court, with the hope that an effort would be made to raise this amount. Commissioners to the General Assembly were appointed as follows: Messrs. Carmichael, McClelland, Kippen and Craig, ministers; and Messrs. Ballagh, Johnston, Anderson and Renwick, elders. The Rev. D. M. Gordon, of Halifax, was nominated Moderator of the next General Assembly. Mr. R. D. Fraser was appointed a member of the Synod's Committee on Business. The Clerk informed the Presbytery that he had received notice of a call addressed to Mr. J. J. Cameron, of Pickering, from the congregation of St. Matthew's, Osnaburck. Mr. Craig was appointed to exchange with Mr. Cameron, and cite the congregation to appear for their interests at a meeting of Presbytery to be held a fortnight after this. The Presbytery adopted the following resolution with reference to Mr. A. Fraser, who has gone as a missionary to Columbia Presbytery. "It is with sincere regret that the Presbytery parts with Mr. Fraser, who has been an active member of it between nine and ten years. Mr. Fraser has endeared himself to us all by his many amiable qualities and his readiness ever to help on the work of the Lord. He was regular in his attendance on the meetings

of Presbytery and took an interest in all the business of the court. The Presbytery gladly record their appreciation of the good work he has done in Orono, and the growing attachment of that congregation to him, and only regrets that the separation should now take place, that must be painful both to the minister and the people. The Presbytery, however, is satisfied that Mr. Fraser is especially fitted for the mission to which he is called, and it would assure him of its continued attachment to him and the pleasure it will ever give his brethren whom he leaves behind to hear of his success in building up the cause of Christ in the far West." Mr. Drummond read the report of a meeting of the Advisory Committee in re St. Andrew's Church, Darlington. After deliberation Messrs. Drummond, Leslie, Abraham and Fairbairn were appointed a committee to meet with Mr. Robert Colville and any other of the trustees that he would wish to be present, and prepare a finding on the whole subject for the action of Presbytery. Mr. Leslie gave notice that he would bring up the subject of sacramental wine at the next meeting of Presbytery, and Mr. McClelland gave notice also that at next quarterly meeting of Presbytery he would move that the seat of the Presbytery be either Whitby or Oshawa, and all regular meetings be held in that place. The Presbytery adjourned to meet in St. Andrew's Church, Whitby, on the first day of May, at half-past ten o'clock in the forenoon.—A. A. DRUMMOND, *Pres. Clerk*.

PRESBYTERY OF GUELPH.—An adjourned meeting of the Presbytery of Guelph was held in St. Andrew's Church, on the 17th of April, the Rev. Mr. Davidson, Moderator. A communication, dated San Francisco, was read from Dr. J. K. Smith, tendering his resignation of the pastoral charge of Knox Church, Galt, as he had received a call from a congregation in that distant city, which he considered it his duty to accept. Dr. Smith was heard in statement of his reasons for the step proposed. Commissioners from his Kirk Session and congregation were heard, who expressed the esteem and attachment they entertained for their pastor, but that, looking to all the circumstances, they did not feel themselves justified in opposing the acceptance of his resignation. After deliberation the following resolution was unanimously adopted: The Presbytery accept with regret the resignation of their brother, Dr. Smith, but would acknowledge the hand of God in the events leading thereto. They would express their deep appreciation of the Christian and brotherly spirit that he has shown in all his intercourse with them, and of the aid he has rendered them in their meetings, on which he was a regular attendee, and in their deliberations, in which he was a judicious and wise counsellor, and its gratification that God has opened to him another field in which he will have the opportunity of exercising his ministerial gifts and attainments; and their prayer that God may be with him still, and bless him even more abundantly in the labours to which he shall be called than He has blessed him in the congregation within these bounds, in which he has so long ministered with such success. They would also convey to him their desire for the health and welfare of his family, and their hope that the change of locality will be conducive to the health of those connected with him by the closest and tenderest ties. And in taking farewell of their brother they would commend him to the Christian confidence of brethren in the ministry with whom he may be a fellow labourer in the vineyard of our common Lord, and of all in the congregation to which he is going who may avail themselves of his ministry. The Presbytery would also record their sympathy with the congregation of Knox Church in the loss they are thus called to sustain by the removal of their pastor, who has proved himself to be to them an able minister of the Gospel—faithful, earnest and affectionate in the pulpit, kind in his visits from house to house, and to the sick and dying, and who has entwined himself so closely with their affections and their prayer that the Lord Christ may soon raise up to them a minister like him of whom they are now deprived. The Clerk was instructed to furnish Dr. Smith with a copy of this resolution, and he was appointed to preach to the congregation on the first Sabbath of May, and declare the charge vacant. Mr. Dickson, of Central Presbyterian Church, Galt, was appointed Moderator of Session during the vacancy. The Presbytery next proceeded to deal with the resignation of Dr. Smellie, of the pastoral charge of Melville Church, Fergus, laid upon the table at its last meeting. The Clerk reported that, as instructed, he had preached to the people on the first Sabbath of April, and summoned them and the Session to appear for their interests at this meeting. Dr. Smellie was heard, who adhered to his resignation. Minutes were produced and read of a meeting of the congregation held after due intimation, which, among other things, after sympathizing with Dr. Smellie on his advance in years, stated that it had been resolved to offer him a retiring allowance of \$300, to be first charge on the revenues collected for church purposes, and that Dr. Smellie's family would be prepared to assume the manse property, so that the purchase money, \$2,000, would be available for the procuring of a new property. Commissioners were then heard, who spoke of the ease to which Dr. Smellie was held by the people of his own charge, and by others; and expressed their hope that he might be long seen among them, although retired from active ministerial service. Members of Presbytery also spoke of the esteem and veneration in which he was held by them. The following resolution was then adopted on motion and seconded: The Presbytery, having heard Dr. Smellie in reference to his resignation, laid before them at this meeting, and representatives of the Kirk Session and the congregation of Melville Church, and duly considered the documents and statements before them, record their unqualified satisfaction at the action of the congregation in view of Dr. Smellie's retirement, and resolve to send up to the General Assembly, through the Committee on the Aged and Infirm Ministers' Fund, Dr. Smellie's resignation and the documents, with the recommendation that his resignation be relieved from the active duties of the ministry, and his responsibility in connection with the congregation be granted. Mr. Doudiet, with the permission of the Presby-