

spire, and re-painting the church walls, at a cost of about \$2,331.08. Towards the payment of this, \$523.55 has been subscribed. The balance to be paid by mortgage on the church for five years. The interest of the mortgage has been guaranteed by several friends, so as to save the current expense fund from undue pressure.

Mr. Crowe also stated that there had been donated to the church in connection with the improvements several handsome furnishings such as book racks, a marble font with richly carved pedestal, illuminated text over the pulpit, number of tablets for pews, &c., at a cost of about \$130. This brings up the total amount raised for all purposes in the year to about \$2,835.00.

During the evening an interesting episode occurred in the presentation to Mr. Thos. Lawrence, who was retiring from the post of Choir Leader, a post he has held for some 17 years, of an address, and a purse containing \$78. Mr. Lawrence, who was sensibly affected by this display of the esteem in which his services have been held, made a suitable reply.

During the evening several of the friends addressed the meeting, and after a most happy season of fraternal intercourse had been enjoyed by all, the meeting closed with praise and the benediction.

Thanking God for all His mercy and help, and praying that we may share largely in the spiritual blessings the Lord is so graciously bestowing around us, we look forward to the New Year and take courage.

GARAFRAXA AND DOUGLAS.—In accordance with the recommendation of the conference of delegates of the churches concerned, held in November last, the Rev. Mr. Barker has resigned the charge of the first Garafraxa Church, and has also ceased to supply the church at Douglas, and taken up Elora in connection with Fergus, where he resides. This arrangement took effect on the first January, and on the 21st of that month, a Congregational Church was organized in Elora, of which a correspondent furnishes us an account, too late, however,

for the present issue. The new movement is inaugurated with good prospects of success.

The three Garafraxa Churches—Garafraxa 1st, Douglas, and Garafraxa North, will thus constitute, in future, one pastoral charge, for whom we pray that the Great Shepherd of the sheep, may soon provide an overseer.

ERAMOSA.—The Rev. Charles Duff, of Brooklyn, N.S., who was invited by this Church, last summer, to become their pastor, has we learn, at last yielded to their importunity, and signified his acceptance of their call, but cannot leave his present field till the Spring. In the meanwhile, the Rev. M. S. Gray, late of Alton, has been invited to supply the pulpit until Mr. Duff arrives, and has consented to do so.

ST. CATHARINES.—Mr. J. R. Black, B.A., of the Congregational College of B. N. A., who has been spending his Christmas vacation in Western Canada, and chiefly in St. Catharines, in ministering to the newly-organized church there, has received from them an unanimous invitation to settle among them as their pastor. The College Board has been petitioned to allow Mr. Black to remain among them, without returning to Montreal to finish his course which terminates in April next. But Mr. Black has resolved, wisely we think, to complete the curriculum, feeling that he needs all the mental equipment he can obtain for so important a life-work. He has not yet definitely signified his intention in regard to the call given him.

ALTON having enjoyed one Sabbath's ministrations by Mr. Black, has also extended to him an invitation to the pastorate. In this it is understood that the friends in North Erin fully concur, although they have not as yet taken formal action in regard to it. We trust our young brother may be divinely directed in his choice, and may go where the Lord would send him.

WIARTON.—A number of earnest Congregationalists in the rising Village of Wiarton, on the Georgian Bay, have