

## MINISTERS AND CHURCHES.

REV. J. SOMERVILLE, M.A., Presbyterian minister of Owen Sound, has been presented with \$100 by his congregation.

THE result of the several congregational votes on the organ question at Knox Church, Toronto, is that the advocates of instrumental music have won the day by a majority of thirty-seven votes.

FROM an Oakville friend we learn that Mrs. Meikle, the wife of our much respected friend, Rev. Wm. Meikle, of that town, was made the recipient of a beautifully illuminated photographic album, and a purse of money, from the friends of the congregation, on Christmas Day. We trust the album, especially, may long serve as a reminder of the regard in which both Mr. and Mrs. Meikle are held.

AT a meeting of the Presbytery of Quebec held at Melbourne on the 19th December, on intimation received of the acceptance of the call from the congregation of Winslow, to the Rev. William Mathieson, of North Arthur in the Presbytery of Saugeen, his induction into the former charge was appointed to take place on the 23rd of January, next; Rev. J. McDonald to preside and address the people, Rev. Mr. McLeod to preach, and Rev. Mr. Lindsay to address the minister.

A SURPRISE party of the young people of part of the Widder congregation, met at the manse and presented their pastor, the Rev. Hector Currie, B.A., with a very flattering address, appreciative of his labors amongst them, also with a valuable present. The Rev. gentleman replied in suitable terms. One very pleasing feature was, that the party was composed of many who are connected with other churches, showing the spirit of friendship and good feeling existing in the neighborhood.—COM.

THE annual missionary meeting of St. Mary's congregation was held on Thursday evening last, the Rev. Mr. McAlpine in the chair. The attendance was unusually large and very great interest manifested in the proceedings. After the usual reports for the year had been read and adopted, and the collectors appointed for the several districts, addresses were delivered by Principal Caven on "Theological Education and the Claims of our Colleges," and by Dr. Cochrane on the "Home and Foreign Mission Schemes of our Church." It is anticipated that the best results will follow this meeting, and that St. Mary's will give a larger amount this year than ever before, to the schemes of our Church.

ON Monday evening, 24th ult., the congregation of St. Andrew's Church, Glencoe, held a festival in the Town Hall, principally for the entertainment of the Sabbath School children. Mr. Gregor McGregor presided, and addresses were delivered by Rev. Messrs. Fraser, Donaldson, and Kennedy, and Mr. Munro, B.A. Vocal and instrumental music enlivened the proceedings; books were distributed among the children, besides a variety of beautiful and useful articles which had formed the fruit of a splendid Christmas tree which stood on the platform. Among the books were a New Testament for each pupil in the junior classes; these were the gift of a lady member of the congregation.

THE congregation of Knox Church, Goderich, held their annual soiree on the evening of Tuesday, the 18th inst. The weather was unfavorable; still there was a large attendance; the meeting was a pleasant one; the addresses were instructive; and the financial results were satisfactory, amounting to the sum of \$138. After an excellent repast in the basement of the church, an adjournment to the audience room took place; the chair was taken by Rev. James Sieveright, and addresses were delivered by Rev. Mr. Musgrave of McKillop, Rev. J. B. Mullan of Fergus, Rev. J. C. Smith of Guelph, and Rev. Mr. Fraser. On Wednesday evening, the children of Knox and St. Andrew's Churches were entertained; and the efforts put forth to contribute to their enjoyment were eminently successful.

ON Christmas Eve, the Presbyterian Congregation in Napanee, met in the basement of the church—Hon. John Stevenson in the chair. The meeting was opened with prayer. An address was then presented on behalf of the congregation to the pastor, Rev. Alexander Young, accompanied with a purse of \$55, as a small token of respect and esteem. After Mr. Young's reply,

a deputation from the Orange Associations of the town presented him with a sum of money, as a slight acknowledgement of the services he had cheerfully rendered them during the past year. The meeting was closed with the benediction. These gifts were supplemented by various others from members of the congregation. The Rev. gentleman has not only won the esteem of his congregation, but of the public generally, and while these tokens of respect will strengthen him in his arduous duties, his people are encouraged by the feeling remarks that he made in reply to the address.—COM.

THE annual festival of the mission Sabbath school in the King's Ward, Brantford, was held on the evening of Wednesday, the 26th ult., in the comfortable school house recently erected by the congregation of Zion Presbyterian Church, under whose auspices the school is conducted. Mr. Charles Duncan, the superintendent of the school, presided on the occasion; and after the children had partaken of a bountiful tea, interesting addresses were delivered by Messrs. H. B. Leeming, John Montgomery, George Wallace, B.A., Head Master of the Weston High School, and Rev. Dr. Cochrane, D.D., who had been absent during the early part of the proceedings, at the mission school on the Flats, but arrived in time to speak. Prizes of books were afterwards given to those pupils who had attended most regularly, and the Christmas tree was stripped of its fruit. The proceedings were closed with devotional exercises conducted by Dr. Cochrane.

DURING the three months' pastorate of Rev. J. R. Battsby, St. Andrew's congregation, Chatham, has made marked progress. Already a recess has been built for the organ, at an expense of \$600, while at the same time the sitting capacity of the church has been greatly increased. Not only has this been done, but the attendance on the Sabbath services has been greatly increased, the church being crowded morning and evening. There is evidently a religious interest awakened and manifested, such as this congregation has never experienced before. Not one, but, many have been enquiring "what must I do to be saved," and God's own people have been greatly quickened. The communion services of last Sabbath were very refreshing to God's people, as well as the preparatory exercises in connection therewith. No fewer than fifty-eight were added to the communion roll, forty-two of these being received on profession of their faith. May the great Head of the church still continue to bless the work, and manifest His presence more powerfully yet.—COM.

A VERY successful tea-meeting was held in the church at Brighton, on the evening of Tuesday, 18th December. The church was well filled, and after those present had been served with an excellent tea, which had been prepared by the ladies, the intellectual part of the programme was commenced. This consisted of singing by the choir, and speeches by several resident ministers, and a lecture by the Rev. John Smith, minister of Bay Street Church, Toronto. The subject of Mr. Smith's lecture was "Elements of a Living Church." Having explained the difference between a living and a dead church, he gave as the elements of a scriptural and living church, "Hearty Union," "Incessant Work," "Genuine Liberty," and "Earnest Prayer." He spoke for over an hour and a quarter to a very attentive and delighted audience. The meeting was opened with prayer by the pastor, the Rev. Mr. Duncan; Mr. Dawson, the Principal of the High School, presiding as chairman. Altogether, the meeting was a great success and Mr. Duncan may be congratulated on the progress of the Lord's work at Brighton.

THE Rev. T. V. Roy, who has of late been lecturing in Toronto and neighborhood, was advertised to speak in the Presbyterian Church of Oakville, on Monday evening, 24th ult. Rev. Dr. Cochrane, of Brantford, happened to be visiting friends in that place and attended the lecture. At the close, Dr. Cochrane rose and stated that the audience should know, that although Mr. Roy appeared in a Presbyterian Church, he had never been recognized by the body, and had no credentials whatever from any church court. Further, that instead of seeking the sympathy and support of Presbyterians, it would be better for Mr. Roy to explain and refute certain statements affecting his character, which were current in the newspapers and other quarters. The remarks of Dr. Cochrane created quite a sensation in the audience, and called up Mr. Roy, who, in a very frantic and angry attitude, asserted

that he was a Christian, and did not care what anybody said about him. It is time that before our clergymen took by the hand itinerant lecturers such as Mr. Roy, they took a little trouble to find out their antecedents, and above all, have a look at their credentials.

THE annual soiree of the congregation of Ashburn was held on Wednesday, 19th December. The weather was very unfavorable, but, notwithstanding this, the large church was well filled. After tea had been served, the meeting was called to order by the pastor, the Rev. Walter Roger, taking the chair and commencing proceedings by singing and prayer. During the evening, excellent music was discoursed by a choir connected with a Methodist Church in the neighborhood. The Rev. Mr. Reid of the Methodist Church, gave a short address. After singing by the choir, the Rev. John Smith of Bay Street Church, Toronto, was called upon to give his lecture on the "Elements of a Living Church." He said that in the year 1848, some years before he had finished his studies in Knox College, he had been sent to supply the stations in Brock and Reach. But arriving at Ashburn on Saturday, and finding that no intimation of preaching had been sent to Reach, he remained at Ashburn and preached on Sabbath. This was Mr. Smith's first sermon; it was the first sermon by a Presbyterian minister at Ashburn and it originated the Ashburn Congregation. He had watched this congregation with great interest ever since. Mr. Smith's lecture, which occupied more than an hour in delivery, was listened to with the utmost attention by the large audience. Mr. Roger's earnest and faithful labors are bearing abundant fruit in this corner of the Lord's vineyard.

IN Knox Church, Scarboro', on the evening of the 17th inst., a missionary meeting was held, presided over by the Rev. R. P. McKay, M.A., the pastor. The attendance was large, the church being well filled by an attentive and appreciative audience. Addresses were delivered by the Rev. D. J. McDonnell, of Toronto, on behalf of Home Missions and Colleges, and by the Rev. Walter Amos, of Aurora, on behalf of Foreign Missions and French Evangelization. Both addresses were well received. On the following evening a meeting was held in Melville Church, Highland Creek, when the claims of Home Missions were advocated by the pastor, the Rev. Mr. McKay, and those of Foreign Missions and French Evangelization by the Rev. Mr. Amos. The attendance was small, but the interest all that could be desired. An incident occurred at these meetings worthy of special mention: Mr. McKay appealed to his people at both meetings on behalf of two mission stations in Muskoka, to which the Rev. Mr. Andrews has been ministering, where the people themselves were willing to do the work necessary to erect two churches, but were without the means of procuring the materials. The result of the appeal was the raising at once of over \$100, to be divided equally between the two stations. This special effort is not intended to lessen the contributions of these congregations to the several schemes of the Church at large. This is an example that might well be imitated by other wealthy charges throughout the country.

A NEW church at Woodbridge was dedicated on Sabbath last. Altogether the weather was disagreeable, and the roads almost impassable, yet the church was filled at each of the diets of worship. The forenoon service was conducted by the Rev. Principal Caven, of Knox College; the afternoon, by Rev. J. M. Cameron, of Toronto; and the evening, by Rev. W. Aitken, of Vaughan. These services were most impressive, and will not soon be forgotten by the people of Woodbridge. On the Monday evening following, the church was again filled, though the weather was most unfavorable. The Rev. R. Pettigrew, pastor of the congregation, occupied the chair. Dr. Grant, Treasurer of the Building Committee, reported that the building would cost about \$3,000. More than half of this amount has already been paid, and the remainder is covered by subscriptions with the exception of about \$200. The neighboring Congregations of other denominations, as well as Presbyterians, have given their contributions. Congratulatory addresses were delivered by Rev. Messrs. Grey, York Mills; Nicol; Smith, Independent; Cameron, Toronto; Mackintosh, Markham; and Bruce, St. Catherines. The choir of Gould Street Church, Toronto, under their leader Mr. Douglas, were present, and contributed largely to the enjoyment of the evening. The