

MINISTERS AND CHURCHES.

THE Ottawa Presbytery pledges itself to raise \$1,290 at as early a day as possible to assist in putting the Home Missions on a better basis.

THE Rev. John Leiper of Barrie was on the 24th ult. presented by his congregation with a very affectionate address and a full length portrait of himself.

ON the 25th ult., the Presbytery of Whitby examined the hymns sent down, and after making several corrections and additions, ordered the report to be forwarded to the Convener of the Committee.

REV. DAVID PAUL, D.D., of New Concord, Ohio, late President of the Muskingham College, has accepted the call tendered to him by the United Presbyterian Church of Galt, and will enter on his duties in December.

THE induction and ordination of the Rev. Mr. Eastman to the Presbyterian church, Oshawa, took place on Tuesday, 25th ult., and passed off with great *clat*. The proceedings from beginning to end were unexceptionally pleasing. Mr. Eastman enters upon his work with bright prospects, and the testimony borne regarding his worth by Rev. Principal Caven must have cheered the hearts of the people over whom he is placed. Both the afternoon and evening services were gratifying to all. The church was crowded on both occasions.

THE second annual meeting of the Toronto Ministerial Association was held in Shaftesbury Hall on Monday, the 1st inst., at 10.30 a.m. There was a very large attendance of members. Rev. Dr. Potts, President, occupied the chair. After some conversation upon a variety of topics, the Association proceeded with the election of officers for the ensuing year, with the following results: Rev. G. M. Milligan, President; Rev. Dr. Castle, Vice-President, and Revs. David Mitchell and J. C. Antliff, joint Secretaries. At the next meeting to be held on the 15th inst., it was agreed to consider the important, practical subject of Young People's Associations. A cordial vote of thanks was passed to the Rev. Dr. Potts for the admirable manner in which he had discharged the duties of President during the first year of the Society's existence.

THE Rev. R. C. Moffat having received a number of letters urging objections to the religion of Jesus, on Wednesday evening, 26th ult., took as the subject of lecture the last received, from one signing himself "One almost a Sceptic." Before reading the letter and giving the lecture, Mr. Moffat stated that he was glad he had received such a letter so very courteous to himself, and that knowing not the name of the writer, he would deal with the statements, not with the man. Among the points discussed were these: "Why, all the Criminals of the Country are Christians?" "Why was Brown the murderer so sure of going to Heaven?" "That the Morality of Infidel books is more practical than those that are Christian," "That those who reject the Bible are as moral, if not more so, than Christians," and "That the more we know of Bible characters, the less we venerate them." The large lecture-room of St. John's was crowded with a thoroughly attentive audience. The lecturer, discarding all learned terminology, in a most effective and popular manner discussed every point in the letter.

PRESBYTERY OF OWEN SOUND.—This Presbytery met in Lake Shore Church on Tuesday, Nov. 18th, at half-past one p.m., and was constituted by the Moderator. All the ministers were present but one. Rev. Mr. Forrest was asked to sit as a corresponding member. Mr. MacLennan took the chair while Mr. Stevenson, the Moderator, read the report of the committee appointed to visit Johnston and Daywood congregations. Presbytery agreed to receive the report, and leave the consideration of it to a future sederunt. At this stage—the hour appointed for the Presbyterial visitation—the Moderator proceeded to put the questions agreed on at a former meeting of Presbytery to the ministers, the session, the managers, and the congregation. There was a large congregation present, and all the questions were answered satisfactorily, as was also the case at Leith in the evening, when the Presbytery met with the congregation. On the question being put to ministers as to who had complied with the instructions of the General Assembly, in regard to Home Missions of the Church, it was found that

nearly all had both read the Moderator's letter and preached on the subject, and that, as result, the contributions in all congregations were considerably in advance of last year. It was agreed that the same question be put to brethren who had not complied, at the next meeting, and the final report to Assembly be made up then. Presbytery agreed to hold its next meeting in North Derby Church, on the third Tuesday of January, at half-past one, congregation to meet at three p.m., for Presbyterial visitation, and at Kil-syth for the same purpose at half-past seven p.m. Closed with the benediction.—J. SOMERVILLE, *Pres. Clerk*.

PRESBYTERY OF STRATFORD.—This court met in Knox Church on Tuesday and Wednesday of the week before last. After routine business two items of more than ordinary interest were disposed of, viz., charges were preferred against the Rev. David Mann, by certain members of the Granton congregation. After careful investigation of the whole matter, it was found that there was no ground for such accusations, the Presbytery, therefore, exonerated Mr. Mann, expressing their sympathy for him in the circumstances. The other subject was in reference to a report of the Rev. E. W. Waits' sermon, which appeared in the columns of the "Herald" of the 15th Oct. On being asked whether that was a substantially correct report, Mr. Waits declined to give any opinion as he did not prepare it. At the request of the Moderator he tabled the MS. of the sermon, and at eleven a.m. on Wednesday, read it before the Presbytery. After deliberation the Court unanimously agreed that whilst it did not commit itself to the exegesis of the sermon, here was nothing that laid Mr. Waits open to the charge of heresy.

PRESBYTERY OF OTTAWA.—The regular meeting of this Presbytery was held on the fourth and fifth days of November. There was a pretty full meeting. The Clerk reported that he had forwarded the call from the congregation of New Edinburgh to the Rev. G. M. Clark, after having seen the subscription list having \$900 upon it, the amount promised as stipend. Mr. Clark intimated through Mr. Moore his acceptance of the call. Arrangements were then made for his induction into the pastoral charge of the congregation of New Edinburgh, on 16th day of December, at two o'clock, p.m. Mr. Moore on behalf of the Committee appointed to secure the deed of the church property at Chelsea, reported progress and asked leave to permit the Committee to continue their negotiations. A resolution expressing sympathy with the Rev. Wm. Moore, recently bereaved of his partner in life, was placed upon record, and a copy of the same ordered to be given to Mr. Moore. Mr. Farries read the Home Mission report. Immediate action was taken on the second recommendation, which is as follows:—That the Presbytery inquire of our ministers whether the appeal issued by the Moderator of the General Assembly on behalf of the Home Mission Fund has been read on the Sabbath to their respective congregations as enjoined by the General Assembly, and what action has been taken with respect to the matter of increasing contributions to the said fund. On making inquiry of those present, it was found that nearly all had read the circular and taken some action to secure increased contributions; in a few instances where it had not yet been done, it would be in the future. The Clerk was instructed to make inquiry of those absent, whether they had attended to the duty, requiring them to report at the earliest moment. A call from Carp and Kinburn in favour of Mr. John Johnson was sustained and ordered to be forwarded to him immediately. Mr. Lee, a young man desirous of studying for the ministry, was taken under the care of the Presbytery. Mr. McDiarmid reported that he had preached and dispensed the sacrament of the Lord's Supper to fifty communicants at Bearbrook, of which number nine were admitted to church fellowship for the first time. A new church building has been erected in this station nearly free of debt. Great credit is due to Mr. G. C. Patterson, the student missionary, for pushing forward and helping in this work. The Committees appointed to bring in findings regarding the Presbyterial visitation of Nepean and Bell's Corners reported through their respective conveners in terms commendatory of both pastor and people. In these congregations under the pastoral care of Mr. Robert Whillans, B.A., excellent work has been done, creditable alike to pastor and people. The reports given in were adopted and copies ordered to

be forwarded to the pastors to be read to the congregations. Mr. Calder, interim moderator of the sessions of the congregations of Russell and Metcalfe, asked leave to moderate in a call in this congregation when called upon to do so, and the leave asked was granted. After giving long and earnest attention to the matter of ways and means to increase the contributions of this Presbytery to the Home Mission Fund, it was agreed to hold an adjourned meeting on the 25th November, to take into consideration the whole matter of the Home Mission Fund. According to adjournment, the Presbytery met on the 25th of November and passed a resolution pledging itself to secure an increase of fifty per cent. on the contributions of last year in aid of the Home Mission Fund, and further agreed that the several congregations be informed through their Sessions of the amount that the Presbytery hope to receive from them for the relief of the Home Mission Fund, and that the attention of such Sessions as have not yet been able to organize congregational missionary associations be directed to the earnest recommendations of the General Assembly for the formation of such associations. Arrangements were made for the ordination of Mr. D. Findlay, appointed missionary to Cantly and Portland in the Province of Quebec. His ordination was appointed to take place in Cantly on the 22nd December at two o'clock in the afternoon, the Presbytery to meet at eleven o'clock in the morning. After arranging for the supply of mission stations during the Christmas holidays the meeting adjourned to meet in New Edinburgh on the 16th December at two o'clock, p.m.—JOSEPH WHITE, *Presbytery Clerk*.

ANNIVERSARY MISSIONARY MEETINGS.

The anniversary missionary meetings of the Presbyterian churches of Montreal were held last week, beginning on Tuesday the 25th, and ending on the 27th. The meetings were largely attended and the interest in the proceedings was all that could be desired.

On Tuesday evening the subject discussed was Home Missions. The chairman, J. Murray Smith, Esq., of the Bank of Toronto, in his opening address, gave a brief but comprehensive view of the Home Mission work of the Church, and made an urgent appeal to the Presbyterians of Montreal and the country generally, to come forward with liberal and timely aid to a cause so important and so greatly in need of assistance. The money wanted for the year, he said, for Home Missions in the Western Section of the Church was \$46,000. This could easily be raised. "Why, forty-six men," said Mr. S., "in Montreal could each give \$1,000 and not find themselves apparently poorer, or 460 young men could each give \$100. If this could not be arranged the different congregations ought surely to be able to raise on an average \$100 each, and this would give far more than was needed." Rev. Messrs. Scrimger, Fleck, and Macdonnell followed with eloquent and appropriate speeches. It was mentioned that Joseph Mackay, Esq., had sent \$500 to the Home Mission Fund and that he proposed calling on some of the wealthier Presbyterians in Montreal to ask subscriptions for the same object.

On Wednesday the attendance was even larger than on the previous evening; and the interest, if possible, still greater. The subject of the evening—French Evangelization—was one of special interest in Montreal. For some few years past this work has been pressed with more than usual energy and with corresponding success. "The fields occupied have in the time mentioned, increased from nine to thirty-five, and the number of missionaries from twelve to forty-one. Twenty French students are at present under training for the work at Montreal College, and altogether matters were never in a more hopefully encouraging condition. The expenditure last year was \$25,000, and the very success of the movement is always making this expenditure larger. Able and eloquent speeches were delivered by the Rev. Mr. Loudiet, Dr. Jenkins, and Mr. G. H. Wells of the American Presbyterian Church. Some of the facts, illustrative of the progress of the truth among the French Canadians, mentioned by Mr. Doudiet were specially interesting, and altogether the meeting was a great success.

The third evening (the 27th ult.) was devoted to Foreign Missions, and the interest manifested in the proceedings was exceedingly gratifying.