

Ministers and Churches.

THE congregation of Beckwith and Ashton have extended a unanimous call to Rev. A. H. Macfarlane, of Farnham Centre, Que. Rev. A. A. Scott, M.A., moderated the call on Monday.

KNOX CHURCH congregation, Goderich, at a special meeting held on Wednesday evening for the purpose of electing a colleague for Dr. Ure, decided to call Rev. J. H. Simpson, of Brucefield, to the position.

A WELL-ATTENDED concert was held in the Elizabeth Street Mission Hall last week on behalf of the Organ Fund. The hall was filled, and a well-arranged programme was got through. Among the performers were Mrs. Allan, Messrs. Irish, Muldren, McIntosh and Roulstein and a detachment of Knox College students. This mission is under the direction of the Central Presbyterian Church, and is doing a good work in St. John's Ward.

THE young people of St. Andrew's Church, Sherbrooke, held a social and entertainment on Friday, October 14, in Odell's Hall, which in attendance and financial results was a brilliant success. The willing hands and artistic taste of the decorating committee had transformed the bare walls of the hall by means of evergreens and gay bunting, and when the large audience had assembled the scene was one to be remembered. After tea a very good programme was rendered, consisting of solos, choruses, readings, recitations, etc., in which all acquitted themselves well.

ST. ANDREW'S CHURCH, Campbellford, has been completed by the erection of a beautiful spire. The church, with the exception of the spire, was built five years ago and has seating capacity for 500 people. Under the pastoral care of Rev. John Hay B.D., the congregation and membership have grown rapidly, every seat being occupied. The same can also be said of the Sabbath school and weekly prayer meetings, the former having an average attendance of 160, and the latter an average attendance of over 100. The rev. gentleman has lately organized a weekly prayer meeting for young men, which is well attended and good work is being done. May this good work continue.

ON Wednesday evening, October 26, the ladies of the Presbyterian Church, Rodney, along with the choir, visited the manse, to the surprise of the Rev. Mr. Francis and family, but by the assistance of a number of the company the whole were comfortably seated in a short time, enjoying themselves in good style. After a couple of hours of social enjoyment, the choir sang Psalm xliii., and the pastor read Psalm lxxviii., and offered a prayer, after which Mrs. D. McLaren, on behalf of the ladies, presented Mrs. Francis with a number of handsome presents. A sumptuous tea was then served, at which all appeared to enjoy themselves heartily. A very pleasant evening was spent throughout.

ON Tuesday week a meeting was held in the Presbyterian Church, St. George, to reorganize the Young People's Literary society. The officers elected were Rev. W. S. McTavish, honorary president; Mr. James Lorimer, president; Mr. Norman Hunter, vice-president; Mr. W. B. Wood, M.P.P., critic; Miss F. Webster, secretary; Miss Sarah Mullin, treasurer; Mr. J. H. Fleming, Mr. D. Baptie, and Miss Maggie Marks, councillors. This society begins the season thoroughly equipped for active service and much good should be accomplished, much information gained and much enjoyment afforded by their meetings, which are to be held on Tuesday evenings, fortnightly. At the next meeting the Rev. W. S. Tavish will deliver an address, subject "Representative Women."

THE regular meeting of St. Paul's Church, Hamilton, Literary Society was held in the school room of the church last week; the president, Mr. Lyman Lee, B.A., presided. On account of the preparatory services to be held on Friday evening, it was found necessary to change the meeting to Thursday, but this will probably be the only change during the season. An excellent programme, consisting of a piano solo by Miss Lizzie Wilson, "Life and Works of Thomas Moore," by Miss Madge Robertson; readings, by Mr. Munro; vocal solo, by Miss Katie Farmidge; "Life and Works of Goldsmith," by Mr. Lyman Lee; vocal solo, by Mr. S. W. Grant. During the session papers will be read on eminent divines, statesmen, critics and jurists of the nineteenth century.

THE new Presbyterian Church at Temple Hill, ninth line, Euphrasia, was opened for public worship on Sunday, the 9th ult., the dedicatory services being conducted by Rev. Professor McLaren, D.D., of Knox College, Toronto. The attendance at each of the services was very large, numbers being unable to gain admission. In the morning Dr. McLaren preached from 1 Tim. i. 11, and in the evening he discoursed from Acts xvi. 14. A soiree was held in the church on the evening of Monday following. The choir of the Meaford Presbyterian Church added greatly to the evening's enjoyment, their services being much appreciated. The pastor, Rev. J. F. McLaren, B.D., read a history of the Church from its inception, and Rev. Mr. McInnis, of Blantyre, delivered a humorous and very interesting address.

THE Young People's Association of the Church of the Redeemer, Detroit, held their first meeting of the season in the parlour of the church lately. Rev. R. J. Craig, M.A., pastor of the Church, delivered on this occasion the well-prepared and interesting lecture on "John Wyckliffe," which was much appreciated by those present. After the lecture the meeting proceeded to the work of organization for the winter, when the following persons were elected officers, viz.: Dr. Allen, president; Mr. N. McNeil, secretary; Miss Stokes, treasurer. Miss Davis, Miss Stoddart and Mr. Russell, executive committee; Miss Hattie Brown, Miss Stafford, Mr. William Deans and Mr. W. A. Macleod, stranger's committee. It was agreed to hold the meetings fortnightly on Friday evening. The members are determined to leave nothing undone to make these meetings pleasant and instructive.

At the meeting of the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society at Stellarton, N. S., the following officers were unanimously elected: Mrs. Dr. Burns, Halifax, president; Mrs. H. H. Macpherson, Halifax; Mrs. Robbins, Truro, Mrs. McLeod, Charlottetown, Miss Carmichael, Pictou, vice-presidents; Miss Fairbanks, foreign secretary; Miss Edith H. Burns, home secretary; Miss Weatherby, recording secretary; Mrs. Sherburne Waddell, treasurer, and a committee of twenty. The place of next meeting being considered, invitations were extended from Charlottetown and Truro. The latter place was chosen by a small majority. Papers on topics closely related to the work were read by Mrs. Robbins and Mrs. Yurston, of Truro, and Miss Fairbanks, of Halifax. The Queen's Jubilee Fund, for reducing the debt of the Foreign Mission Board, was announced as having reached \$985.14, with the prospect of soon rounding the thousand dollars.

A CORRESPONDENT writes: In the summer of 1886 it came out that on account of his want of sight Rev. G. B. Howie was unfitted for the work of a minister. In the month of August I published a letter in THE CANADA PRESBYTERIAN explaining that such a supposition was erroneous, and the outcome of preconceived prejudice. Since my letter appeared, Rev. Principal Caven, Rev. R. P. McKay, Rev. D. J. Macdonnell, the Presbytery of Toronto and others have at different times borne me out in what I then said. Lately Mr. Howie has been invited to labour in this district for a short time. Between the 9th and 23rd of October he has preached nine sermons and given eleven lectures or addresses at Sabbath and other schools and public meetings in various places, many miles apart. It is desirable to publish these facts, for the prejudices complained of are not wholly removed, although the Committee of Distribution have already determined to give Mr. Howie appointments on Nov. 6 and following weeks. The best thanks are due THE CANADA PRESBYTERIAN for the generous aid it rendered to Mr. Howie and his friends in this case.

IN St. Paul's Church schoolroom, Peterborough, on a recent Monday evening, the Rev. A. Wilson delivered a lecture on the subject of "Scotland's Martyrs, and the Principles for which they Suffered." The meeting was opened by the singing of a psalm, Scripture reading and prayer. The lecturer entered upon his subject by reading several selections from the works of Walter Scott, Burns and other Scotch poets. He then gave a concise account of the religious reform which took place in Scotland during the sixteenth century, and gave statistics as to the numbers who suffered and died for the principles they advanced. The Scottish martyrs, he said, gave religious freedom to Scotland, and all Scots should be proud of men like Rutherford, the Duke of Argyle, John Brown and others, as the English were of the Magna Charta. He rehearsed the great struggle which Scotchmen had to gain an open Bible, and discussed the covert attack that was being made on it by introducing the Scriptures in a garbled form in the public schools. He quoted from Dr. Chalmers on the subject. Mr. Peter Hamilton moved a vote of thanks to the lecturer, seconded by Mr. Charles Cameron, which was carried. The lecture throughout was one of great interest. It was delivered in a vigorous manner.

THE Winnipeg Sun says: The belief is pretty general amongst the members of Knox Church, who ought to know, that the Rev. D. M. Gordon, the pastor, intends to sever his connection with the Church. Although the reverend gentleman himself is very reticent upon the matter, there are many circumstances which point in the direction of his going away. When Mrs. Gordon returned recently from a trip to the Maritime Provinces she did not bring her family back with her. It is stated on excellent authority that Mr. Gordon has placed his residence in Mr. J. B. McKilligan's hands for sale. There are some members of Session who cling to the belief that he will not go away, and about ten days ago they offered him a six months' leave of absence in order to recuperate his health. Mr. Gordon asked time to consider the matter, but last Sabbath he informed the Session that he could not accept the furlough. He takes the view that a congregation such as Knox could not afford to be without a settled pastor for that length of time. Many of the members of the Church share this opinion with him. Mr. Gordon's acceptance of a call to the pastorate of St. Andrew's Church in Halifax would mean a great pecuniary sacrifice to him, as the congregation there is very small, and the salary is only \$1,500. Mr. Gordon's salary here is \$4,000 per annum. Last year the reverend gentleman had an opportunity of going to St. Paul. His physician, it is stated, has advised him to seek a climate where he can enjoy the sea breezes.

THE second anniversary of the Young People's Christian Union in connection with St. Andrew's Church, Niagara, was held on Friday evening, September 16. The meeting was well attended, deeply interesting, very enjoyable, and in some of its features very unique. Great artistic taste had been shown by the young people in the decoration of the room, nature and art lending their aid; banners, screens, pictures, bouquets, wreaths of golden rod, bright leaves, berries of the rowan tree all being brought into requisition. A table filled to overflowing with luscious grapes, peaches and pears, that reach such perfection in the Niagara peninsula, was on one side of the platform, while on another were baskets and bundles of clothing, scrap books, etc., the contribution of the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society to Indians in the North West, also two quilts, the work of the children of the Sabbath school, were forgotten in the abundance of good things. Rev. J. W. Bell, M.A., presided. Various readings and addresses were given, a very interesting one by Rev. C. J. Schofield, of Dallas, Texas, in which he appropriately and eloquently told of the cause of his first interest in Foreign Mission work from reading the life of a Canadian missionary, Dr. Geddie, of Nova Scotia. A missionary reading was given of an original character, as between the verses read came from the next room soft and low the words of Heber's beautiful missionary hymn, as a refrain admirably rendered. Re-

ports were then read, showing that the young people had met weekly during the year for Bible study, not taking the usual summer vacation so fashionable now, that though it had been feared the amount raised would be less than last year on account of the formation of the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society, it was found, much to their gratification and relief, that the amount was about the same, viz.: \$54 from all sources, mite boxes, monthly offerings, etc. This amount was to be appropriated in nearly the same way as last year—\$20 to Foreign Missions, \$30 to Home Missions, and balance to Jewish Missions. Then ensued a scene of social enjoyment while the fruit and cake were handed about. This last abundantly proves the house-keeping abilities of the young people. It is seldom that a meeting of this kind is so enjoyable, pleasing alike to sight, sound and palate. Rev. Mr. Bell is to be congratulated on the earnest work and enthusiasm shown by the society, and the society on its much-loved president, Miss Blake, to whose zeal so much of the success is to be attributed.

THE induction services of the Rev. William McWilliam, LL.B., to the pastoral charge of the Mill Street Presbyterian Church, Port Hope, were held recently. After the usual opening exercises, the Rev. K. K. McLeod, of Brighton, delivered an excellent address, taking for his text Phil. iv. 8. At the close of the sermon, the Rev. Mr. Cameron, of Milbrook, narrated the steps that had been taken by the congregation leading up to the unanimous choice of the Rev. W. McWilliam as their minister, and finally inducted him into the pastoral office. He was followed by the Rev. Mr. Torrance, of Peterborough, who delivered the charge to the newly-inducted minister. He based it upon 2 Tim. iv. 1, 2. The Rev. John McEwen, of Lakefield, addressed the people, basing his words on 1 Thes. v. 12. He urged on them the duties that they owed to their pastor and to the congregation to forward its true prosperity. The Rev. Alexander Bell, of Peterborough, followed with an exposition of Presbyterian polity, and the proceedings of the afternoon were brought to a close by the retiring pastor conducting his successor to the door to give the people an opportunity to greet their new pastor according to Presbyterian usage. The service was one of great interest and solemnity. From the induction service the clergymen and people repaired to the Town Hall, where a soiree was held in connection with the welcome to the Church's new pastor. Upstairs in the hall the Rev. J. Cameron, of Milbrook, took the chair, and the programme of the evening was presented. Every available seat was occupied, and listeners stood in the outer hall outside the doors. The most touching part of the evening's proceedings was the leave-taking of the congregation of their old pastor, the Rev. Mr. Cleland. For years he has laboured among them, but now the shepherd must lay aside his charge. He has fought a long and faithful fight, and put off the harness amid the regret of his congregation. A neatly worded address, expressive of warm and deep affection for Mr. Cleland, and grateful appreciation of his valuable services, was read by Mr. Henry White and a purse, presented by Messrs. George Waddell and J. Carson, on behalf of the congregation, accompanied it. Mr. Cleland was deeply moved, and in fitting terms acknowledged the kindness manifested in the presentation. Short and telling speeches were made by the Rev. Messrs. J. Cameron, E. F. Torrance, D. L. McCrea, J. W. Mitchell, J. B. Clarkson, Methodist; A. Bell, Dr. O'Meara, Episcopalian, and Wm. McWilliam. Among the clergymen present were also Rev. Messrs. Hamilton, curate of St. John's; Mr. D. Reddick, Baptist; Mr. Hull, Methodist; Mr. Alexander and Mr. Leslie. The music consisted of anthems by a chorus from the different Churches, a solo by Miss Scrimgeour and a duet by Miss Scrimgeour and Mr. James Massie. The Port Hope Times says: Mill Street Church is to be congratulated upon such a strong evidence of its vigour and generosity. Few Churches of larger pretensions can manage an affair with more esprit and success.

PRESBYTERY OF STRATFORD—A special meeting of this court was held in Knox Church, Stratford, on September 27, for the purpose of hearing and determining the case between Rev. Thomas McPherson and Rev. P. Wright. The Presbytery remained in session until noon of the 28th, and adjourned to meet again on the 11th of October, when the hearing of the case was finished, and the judgment of the Presbytery was given. The following are the statements of Mr. Wright and Mr. McPherson respectively: Stratford, September 15, 1887. To the Presbytery of Stratford: Brethren,—In reply to request that I should hand in a statement of my grievances against the Rev. Thomas McPherson, I lay before you the following simple facts: Mr. McPherson has repeatedly in his place in Presbytery threatened to formulate charges against me. This threat has been made public throughout the Church by the official report of the Presbytery's proceedings both in the religious and the secular press. Since such a threat is eminently fitted to affect injuriously my position and usefulness in the Church, and damage the interests of the congregation over which you have placed me, I request you to take such action in the matter as the interests of truth and justice may seem to you to require. Yours sincerely, P. Wright. To the Rev. Mr. Tully, Mitchell, Clerk of the Stratford Presbytery. Dear Sir,—The following are the principal matters about which I complain in the speech of the Rev. Peter Wright before the Presbytery, viz.: 1. He attributed to me evil intentions I never entertained as to the authorship of a letter signed Jas. McDonald. 2. He charged me with a desperate attempt to ruin his character. 3. Also with being the cause of all his trouble. 4. He tried to prove my statements untrue. First, as to getting a site for the church on Norman Street. Second, as to his action in reference to the Dunn property. 5. He also accused me of slandering him in the press. 6. Minimizing my services toward the congregation, and magnifying his own success in it. 7. Not trying to prevent disastrous agitations. 8. Misconstruing the constitution of the congregation and permitting its misconstruction before the Presbytery. 9. His explanation of what I described as an