

month. Next meeting of Presbytery was appointed to be held in St. Matthew's church on the first Wednesday of March, at 11 o'clock a.m.

Presbytery of Kingston.

At the regular meeting of the Kingston Presbytery, Rev. Mr. Black reported that the mission at Tweed was succeeding well. Assistance was asked on behalf of the Aged and Infirm Ministers' Fund and the Home Mission Fund. Rev. M. W. McLean stated that students were badly needed to fill the vacant pulpits in the winter. The next meeting will be held in Cooke's church, Kingston, on the third Tuesday in March.

Presbytery of Brockville

Met in Knox Church, at Morrisburg, when there were fourteen ministers and four elders in attendance. Rev. A. Graham, of North Williamsburg, moderator, conducted the opening exercises. Rev. J. F. McFarland, of S. Mountain, was appointed moderator for the next six months. Rev. J. Stuart, of Prescott, gave the Home Mission report. Rev. D. Campbell of Renfrew, addressed the Presbytery in the interests of the Augmentation Fund. The Presbytery expressed their hearty thanks for his able and appropriate address, and promised to do their utmost to carry out the wishes of the Assembly's Committee. After attending to routine business, the Presbytery adjourned at 6 p.m. to meet again at 7.30 p.m. A Conference on Missions was held in the congregation assembled. Able and interesting addresses were delivered respectively by Revs. Graham of N. Williamsburg, Mackenzie of Brockville, and Wright of Lyn. Before closing the proceedings it was announced that the next regular meeting of Presbytery will be held in St. John's church, Brockville, on the last Monday in February, 1895, at 8 p.m.

Presbytery of Chatham.

This Presbytery met in session for conference in St. Andrew's church, Chatham, on Monday, 10th inst., at 7.30 p.m. Rev. J. Hodgins, B.A., moderator, in the chair. It was explained that Mr. Clarke, of London, was present to speak on behalf of the Augmentation Committee, and Mr. Campbell, of Indore, on behalf of the Foreign Mission Committee, and it was agreed to hear these brethren at this session that they might be able to address Sarnia Presbytery on the morrow. They were heard accordingly and gave interesting and instructive addresses for which the thanks of the Presbytery were tendered to them. In Mr. Nattress' absence Mr. Larkin read a paper prepared by Mr. Nattress on "The meaning of the laying-on of hands by Presbytery in the ordination of ministers, and by ministers, in the ordination of elders," after discussing which Presbytery adjourned to meet in regular session for business in the same place at 9.30 a.m. on the following day.

PRESBYTERY met in the same place pursuant to adjournment and was duly constituted. Bent Path was invited to Dawn Centre and North Dawn, and the clerk was instructed to correspond with Sarnia Presbytery in reference to supply for the station on the 1st concession of Dawn formerly in connection with Bent Path. A circular from the Assembly's Committee on Temperance was read and referred to Presbytery's Temperance Committee. It was agreed to hold a session for conference on the State of Religion at the next regular meeting. Circulars re H. M. and Aug. Funds were read and the attention of the members of Presbytery called to the needs of the funds. A circular from the Prisoners Aid Association was read and received. The clerk was instructed to certify Mr. S. M. Whaley to the senate of Knox College. Mr. Larkin was appointed delegate to the meeting of the Presbyterial Branch W. F. M. S. to be held in Windsor at the end of the month. The first business in the afternoon session was the consideration of the Augmentation Committee's recommendation that Leamington, Blythwood, etc., should be united to form one pastoral charge. After considerable discussion it was finally agreed that in view of the state of the

Augmentation Fund and of the recommendation of the committee for a re-arrangement of fields, we, as a Presbytery, can hold out no hope that any grant will be given to Leamington. Dr. Battersby stated that Dresden desired to retain its status of a vacant charge. The Home Mission report for the year was read, received and adopted. Dr. Gordon, of Halifax, was nominated Moderator of next General Assembly. Committee, to visit mission stations and augmented charges within the bounds were appointed as follows: Blythwood, etc., Mr. Colter; Dawn, Messrs. Davidson and Becket; Colchester, Mr. Nattress; Buxton, etc., Mr. Larkin. Messrs. McLaren, Larkin, Jameson, J. McDonald, R. McDonald and Haggart were appointed a committee on the revision of the Book of Praise. It was agreed that the next regular meeting of the Court be held in Zion church, Ridgeway, on Monday, 11th March next, at 7.30 p.m. Closed with the benediction.—W. M. FLEMING, Clerk.

Presbytery of Halifax.

THE Halifax Presbytery met at Shubenacadie. There were present five ministers and two elders. Mr. McKie reported that he had moderated in a call at Little River on the 12th of November. The call was signed by one hundred and three members and forty-two adherents, and was in favor of Rev. Charles McKay, Brookfield. A salary of \$625 was promised, and in order to encourage the congregation which has suffered much from a protracted vacancy, deaths and emigration, it was agreed to apply to the Augmentation Committee for a grant of \$125. The congregation, however, though weakened, is still in a hopeful condition. No arrears for supply have accumulated, contributions for the schemes of the Church have been made, and steps are now being taken to raise the augmentation allotment. If Mr. McKay sees fit to accept the call, which is unanimous and hearty, he will be warmly welcomed, and will enter upon a field where good work can be done for the Master. Rev. F. S. Coffin, Lower Stewiacke, was appointed to represent the Halifax Presbytery in support of the call when dealt with by the Truro Presbytery.

Presbytery of Glengarry.

THE Presbytery of Glengarry met at Maxwellville on Tuesday of last week. Rev. R. McLeod, Dunvegan, was elected moderator. Rev. Mr. McKrackar, formerly of Manitoba, presented the usual presbyterial certificate, and his name was placed on the roll of the Presbytery as a minister without a charge. Rev. Mr. Ballantyne, pastor of Knox church, Ottawa, visited the Presbytery in the interests of the Augmentation Fund. He pointed out that the importance and present condition of the fund almost meant a crisis in its history. This was made the ground for a strong plea for increased munificence to the fund. He asked the Presbytery to raise seven hundred dollars towards this fund, which would be seventy per cent. in advance of last year. The people of Knox church, Lancaster, asked permission to call Rev. Archibald Graham, of Williamsburg, Ont. This charge has been vacant since last August, when Rev. Mr. Calder resigned. Mr. Graham is the unanimous choice of the congregation. The Presbytery sustained the call and appointed the Rev. A. Giran to represent the Presbytery in the interest of the call at Brockville Presbytery, of which Mr. Graham is a member. Rev. James Mathewson gave a report on the state of work in the congregation. He had visited. Faults were faithfully pointed out and suggestions freely given. The Presbytery makes a decided effort to know the state of every congregation within its bounds, and uses all proper means to protect minister and people. The new book of praise was the subject of much animated discussion. Rev. Mr. McKenzie, Roxboro, Ont., made an enthusiastic defence of the Psalms. They are a great heritage from God, a rich garden in which the souls of the saints have been nourished. He desired to have the Psalms retained in their entirety in both volumes of the book of praise. The discussion was carried on chiefly by Revs. M. MacLennan and Cornick. The quality of the selections

was not doubted. The chief point was the new versions and selections being allowed to displace the psalms now used. In the evening a conference on Sabbath Observance was held. The subject will be taken up again at the county Sabbath school convention, which is to be held on January 22nd and 23rd next, when it will receive considerable attention. The Glengarry County Presbyterian Sabbath School Association will hold its annual convention in Williamstown on the dates named above. The programme is a strong one, and the subject will undoubtedly elicit much discussion.

Distribution of Probationers.

THE General Assembly's Committee on the Distribution of Probationers met in St. Paul's church, Hamilton, on the 18th December, to make arrangements for the quarter beginning with the approaching New Year. Four of the six members were present, the convener being prevented from attending by sickness, and Mr. Rutherford being engaged with work assigned him by his Presbytery. Those present were Dr. Cochran and the clerk, Dr. Torrance, with Messrs. Murray and Grant.

The following resolution was adopted, and the clerk was instructed to send a copy to Dr. Laidlaw:—"The members of the Distribution Committee desire to express their deep sympathy with their beloved brother, Dr. Laidlaw, in his prolonged and painful affliction, which has laid him aside from pulpit and pastoral duties, and also prevented his presence at the recent meetings of the Committee.

"They desire to record their high appreciation of his services, and the valuable aid and counsel given to this important department of church work; they assure him of their sincere prayers for his speedy and complete restoration to health; that he may be long spared to his congregation and the church at large; and that this and previous trials and bereavements may be sanctified, and made conducive to his spiritual and eternal well being."

Among the most important items of the business which engaged attention was, in the first place, the making up of the roll of probationers. Five new names were accepted and two declined on the ground that the Presbyteries with which they had been connected did not report their vacancies for supply.

Of the twenty-six Presbyteries in the section of the church with which the committee is concerned seven, namely, Quebec, Ottawa, Lanark and Renfrew, Brockville, Orangeville, Bruce and Algoma, (properly a mission field) made no report. Three—Kingston, Saugeen and Sarnia—reported no vacancies. Seven, namely, Montreal, Glengarry, Whitby, Barrie, Hamilton, Paris and Huron, reported vacancies, but did not wish supply. Among reasons given for this were such as "settlement expected soon;" "congregations had called;" "leave to moderate had been granted;" "the field was being re-arranged." In some instances students were reported as supplying, and in one case that the vacancy was waiting for a student expected to graduate at the close of the current session of the college.

Only sixty-four vacancies were reported by nine Presbyteries for supply, allowing the committee to give only four days' employment to each probationer of the sixteen on the list. The Committee agreed to record their regret that they could give so little supply to those who had placed their services at their disposal, caused by Presbyteries, in several cases, allowing students to supply the pulpits of vacancies, contrary to the injunction of the Assembly, and in some instances waiting for them until they were eligible for a call.

Further, the Committee were of opinion that the mere fact that leave for a moderation having been granted, or that vacancies were "about to call," was no reason why probationers regularly on the roll should not be received.

Owing to the convener's state of health, it is requested that all correspondence be done with the clerk, Rev. Dr. Torrance, Guelph.