

Geo. Milne and A. Fowle and recommend that they be certified to college, and that Messrs. Patterson and Milne be certified as fit to enter theology. The recommendations were adopted. An extract minute of the Presbytery of Saugeen was read proposing union between the congregations of Esplin and St. Andrew's, of Proton. A committee composed of Messrs. McLeod, Harrison and Wells was appointed to visit St. Andrew's, Proton, and Proton Station, and the clerk was instructed to obtain more definite information from the Presbytery of Saugeen. The next regular meeting of Presbytery will be held at Orangeville, Nov. 13th, at 10.30 a.m.—H. CROZIER, Clerk.

#### Presbytery of Portage la Prairie.

THIS court held an adjourned meeting at Portage la Prairie on 10th inst. There were present Rev. Messrs. Wright, Douglas, Ross, Carswell, McRae, Munro and Paterson, ministers, and Messrs. McLeod, Grant and Hay, elders. Leave was given the congregation of McGregor to moderate a call to a minister. Rev. Mr. Carswell asked to be relieved from McGregor, having completed more than his term there. At the request of Presbytery and congregation he consented to continue for some time longer, the Home Mission Committee being empowered to accept his resignation should he feel disposed to leave before the next meeting of Presbytery. There was a proposal to join McDonald to Lakeside, thus forming one strong congregation and to unite Burnside to Bagot. After some discussion it was agreed to appoint a committee consisting of Rev. Messrs. Ross, Carswell, McRae, and Mr. Hay to collect more information regarding the district within reach of Bagot and report at next meeting of Presbytery. The Committee appointed to strike Standing Committees and to nominate suitable persons for the offices of clerk and treasurer reported making the following recommended alterations which were adopted in their entirety: Clerk, Rev. Farquhar McRae; Treasurer, Mr. W. W. Mills; Home Missions—Rev's Messrs. Munro, Wright, Paterson, and Messrs. Hogie and Grant; Foreign Missions—Rev's Messrs. Wright, Claxton, and McLeod; Examination of Students—Messrs. Douglas, Wright and Ross; Sabbath Schools—Mr. W. W. Miller, Rev's Messrs. Carswell, Paterson, and Mr. Wesley Neelies; Sabbath Observance—Rev's Messrs. Ross and Gordon and Messrs. Beaton and Young; Temperance—Rev's Messrs. Wright, Douglas, Paterson, and Messrs. Hay and McIntosh. The next meeting of Presbytery is to be held at Portage la Prairie on the first Monday in Nov. at 8 p.m.—FARQUHAR McRAE, Clerk.

#### Presbytery of Brandon.

THIS Presbytery met at Alexander on Tuesday, 11th inst. G. Lockhart, moderator in the chair. Mr. Urquhart placed his resignation of the Brandon congregation in the hands of the Presbytery and the clerk was instructed to cite the congregation. Mr. G. Lockhart's resignation of Alexander was considered. Representatives from congregation spoke of the excellent work accomplished during Mr. Lockhart's pastorate, and of the deep regret that the congregation felt at the prospect of losing their pastor. The resignation was accepted and Mr. Hodges appointed to preach in Alexander on Oct. 21st, and declare the pulpit vacant. The following minute regarding the resignation was adopted:—The Presbytery has to express its deep regret that any necessity should have arisen leading Mr. Lockhart to place his resignation in the hands of the Presbytery, and cannot let this opportunity pass without recording the high esteem in which he is held by his brethren as a Christian gentleman, a faithful pastor and a diligent member of the Presbytery. Indeed the Presbytery can speak with confidence of the success which has followed his labors since his induction. His resignation is therefore a loss on all sides, and while accepting it the Presbytery fervently prays that the Great Head of the Church will guide him to a future field of labor, and that the same success may attend his labor in the future.

the past, and that God's choicest blessing may rest on him and his partner in life. The students labouring in the mission fields during the summer were certified to their respective colleges. A committee was appointed to examine the draft copy of Book of Praise and report at the next meeting. Arrangements were made for the supply of the mission fields for the winter months. An adjourned meeting will be held in Brandon on Oct. 2nd at 10 a.m.—T. R. SHERRER, Clerk.

#### Presbytery of Saugeen.

THE Presbytery of Saugeen met in Mount Forest on 11th September. Mr. Munro was appointed moderator for the next six months. An extract minute of the Presbytery of Orangeville was read intimating that said Presbytery had appointed a deputation to visit St. Andrew's, Proton and Proton Station with a view of union with Esplin. The Presbytery appointed Messrs. Ramsay, Aull and Young to visit Esplin, Cedarville, Woodland, North Leith and Gordonville with a view to arrange the whole field so as to save mission money and make the charges workable, also to confer with the deputation of Orangeville Presbytery in the matter. The moderator was appointed to address the W. F. M. S. at the annual meeting. Messrs. Morrison, Skene, Beattie and Hall, read discourses which were approved, and the clerk was instructed to certify them to the Senate of Knox College. After hearing all parties concerned with the petition from Arthur and Minto Townships, it was agreed that the petition lie on the table, that Mr. Ross and Mr. Johnstone be asked to find out how much would be subscribed by the petitioners for the building of a church and for the support of ordinances on condition that a new church be built at least four miles and a half from Cotswold, and that Mr. Cameron be given charge of the congregation which shall worship in it. Honour certificates for repeating Shorter Catechism were granted Elizabeth Beckner, Maggie Beckner, and Mary Ann Beith from the Sabbath school of North Leith; Janet Donald Murdock, from the Sabbath school of Woodland, and Janet Mainland, from the Sabbath school of St. Andrew's church, Arthur. The clerk was instructed to grant a Presbyterial certificate to Mr. R. C. H. Sinclair, B.A. The Presbytery sustained the action of the clerk in granting a Presbyterial certificate to Mr. William Gallagher. Mr. Aull gave in the Home Mission report which was received. The supply of the Mission fields was left in the hands of the Home Mission Committee. The Presbytery adjourned to meet in Palmerston on the 11th December next, at 10 a.m.—S. YOUNG, Clerk.

#### A Western Evangelist.

THE Rev. Alfred Fowler, B. A., who has been acting as evangelist for the past nine months under the care of the Synod of Manitoba and the Northwest Territories, has come eastward to enjoy a few weeks' rest and relaxation, and has kindly given some facts in regard to his work to a representative of the PRESBYTERIAN REVIEW.

You are the first evangelist, are you not, who has been employed under the direction of the Synod?

Yes. Christian people in the western mission field, which comprises 750 mission stations, had for a long time felt the need of evangelistic work which should reach the remoter parts of the country, and which should also be carried on under proper supervision. The cities and larger towns lie in the track of evangelists, who have visited them repeatedly; but many of the smaller places had never received any stimulus of the kind, and at least two of the Presbyteries, those of Brandon and Regina, had taken steps to inaugurate the work under their own auspices. The matter was brought before the Synod at its meeting in Portage la Prairie last November, and I was appointed to give my whole time to this work. I had been recently ordained and had been in charge for some time of the congregation of Morris in the Red River Valley. I had not only

long cherished a liking for this work, but had some experience in carrying it on in association with Messrs. Crossley and Hunter and other well known workers in this line. What plan do you pursue in carrying on your meetings?

In every place the work has been carried on by invitation and with the co-operation of the pastor in charge, and the meetings are conducted in a quiet and serious way, the pastor or some local clergyman taking part in every meeting. A prominent place is given to music, and the gospel is presented in song as well as in sermon by the evangelist. The plan of pledge card is used, and no outward demonstration is asked in the meeting. Great stress is placed upon getting people to act at once and upon the knowledge they have of the Gospel. A short after-meeting is held every night. Much emphasis is laid upon getting Christians to take some more or less public part in the meetings, such as leading in prayer, quoting a passage of scripture, offering a sentence on the topic of the evening, giving out a verse of a favorite hymn or a word of testimony. This has been found most valuable in bringing out the latent talent in the churches, and when once the ice is broken the people take courage and are ready to assist. Great stress is laid upon personal visitation, and the afternoons, and in many cases the mornings, are spent in going from house to house, inviting the people to the meetings and speaking personally with those who are interested and upon whose minds the Spirit of God is working.

In what parts of the country have you been working?

Meetings have been held in nineteen different places—Morden, Ninga, Greta, Birtle, Portage la Prairie, Wolseley, Prince Albert, Regina, Moose Jaw, Qu'Appelle, Indian Head, Broadview, Grenfell, Sitaluta, Kirkwood, Moffat, Chater, Humesville and McDonald. There have been gracious gatherings of souls at all these places; some places more, some less. The work is organized for the Christians as well as to reach the unsaved. Every dependence is placed upon the power of the Holy Spirit. People of all denominations are in the habit of attending the meetings, and this is a feature which has made the work most enjoyable. It has been found most profitable to hold meetings for two weeks in each place, for the best results attend the constant presentation of the Gospel in song and address when it is continued night after night.

What use do you make of literature in carrying on your work?

There is great need of good material for this purpose. Such pamphlets as "Why should I join the Church?" and others of a similar kind have been freely used. If someone could be found who would contribute to the maintenance of this branch of the work, the assistance would be highly appreciated. The Moody and Sankey hymn books are used in the meetings.

In what way is the work provided for financially?

When the evangelist was appointed last autumn a number of wealthy persons in Eastern Canada generously agreed to provide the necessary amount of money for his support. This money is sent to a committee of the Synod which is appointed for the purpose, and is disbursed as required. The object of the movement was to have the work arranged in such a way that the congregations which are the weakest financially might be reached as well as those which were wealthier, and it was felt that if the meetings could be carried on without unduly obtruding the collection plate, especially during the earlier stages of a series of meetings, an objection would be obviated. Besides, the evangelist was anxious that all matters of financial management should be in other hands than his, so that he might be altogether free from any suspicion of self-interest in the monetary success of his meetings. It needs to be considered also that the small congregations in the West are in many cases contributing to the apparent limit of their ability for the establishment of ordinances in a new country where churches and mansees require to be built, in addition to the support given for the