

MINISTERS AND CHURCHES.

MANY of our readers will regret to hear of the death of the Rev. James P. Baikie, late of Port Stanley and formerly of Ancaster. He had been laid aside from ministerial work for nearly two years, and had suffered much from repeated attacks of hemorrhage of the lungs. His death, which was very peaceful, took place in St. Thomas on the 30th of July. A fuller notice will appear hereafter.—COM.

THE sacrament of the Lord's Supper was dispensed in the North Luther and Gordonville Presbyterian congregations on the 11th inst., the Rev. H. Crozier of Holstein officiating. He preached on Saturday from Acts xvi. 30, 31, and on Sabbath to a very large audience from Isaiah liii. 4-6, from which he delivered very appropriate sermons. Through the active labors of Mr. R. McIntyre (missionary) during the last three months, there was an abundant harvest, twenty-one being added to the membership at North Luther and nineteen at Gordonville.—COM.

A SOCIAL was held in the Presbyterian Church, Rosseau, on the evening of Thursday, 15th inst. Addresses were delivered by the Rev. R. Hamilton of Motherwell, Rev. A. Findlay of Bracebridge, Rev. F. Dracass of Seguin, and Mr. Spence of Toronto. This is the second entertainment within the month in aid of the building fund, and by both the sum of \$47.60 is at the disposal of the building committee. The new church requires only plaster and seats to complete it. Will not some wealthy members of wealthy congregations assist in an effort to raise \$150 for this purpose?

A CORRESPONDENT writes from Glengarry: "The summer communions are over in this part of the province. They have as usual been well attended, and many can look back to them as seasons of refreshing from the presence of the Lord. In several congregations many accessions were made to the communion rolls. Truly there is much cause to be thankful for the evident tokens of God's gracious presence in the midst of his people. The dews of His heavenly grace are descending, and the result is that His people are edified, and souls are born again. While thankful for the dew, we pray for copious showers of divine blessings, that God's heritage may be more abundantly refreshed and blossom as the rose. Times of drought need more than the gentle dew in order to an abundant harvest. Our vacancies in many places have been filled up within the last few months. The Rev. Hugh Lamont, D.D., has been translated from Finch to Dalhousie Mills. His labors are many and unremitting. Quietly and patiently he toils on amid many difficulties. Of three very promising children he has been bereft this spring by diphtheria. The vacancy in St. Andrew's Church, Williamston, has been filled up by Mr. McGillivray, an active, energetic and popular young man. The Rev. Kenneth McDonald has been inducted as minister of Knox Church, Williamstown, and Knox Church, Martintown, and he is doing a good work. His labors are highly spoken of. The Rev. John Fraser, late of Kincardine, who has succeeded Mr. McDonald in Indian Lands is quite an accession of strength to our Presbytery. His ministry is very highly esteemed by an admiring and warmly attached people. Mr. Fraser seems yet in his prime. The amount of labor he has undergone this summer is astonishing; none but a man constitutionally robust could have stood it. It is a matter of surprise to many that a man so fitted in every respect for a city charge—so learned—so gifted—so eloquent—should be left to pass his days in any country congregation. The church at Dunvegan has been well supplied by Rev. Finlay McLennan, an excellent and popular young man, whose labors are abundant. Rev. Mr. Lang, a modest unassuming and promising young brother has been ordained and inducted as minister of Avonmore, etc., and there is the prospect of an early settlement in Summerstown. The Rev. Wm. Grant has demitted his charge at Vank-leekhill, and left the bounds of the Presbytery, amid the regrets of his brethren and an attached congregation.

PRESBYTERY OF KINGSTON.—An adjourned meeting of this Presbytery was held in St. Andrew's Hall, Kingston, on the sixth day of August. There was considered an application from the congregation of Wolf Island for leave to sell their manse and church property in order that they may remove their church

building to a more eligible site in Marysville. The removal of the church was sanctioned, but not in the meantime the sale proposed. Messrs. Smith and McCuaig, ministers, and Mr. G. Davidson, elder, were appointed a committee to confer with them in relation to the latter point. Mr. Cormack's resignation of his pastoral charge, tendered at last meeting, was accepted. Rev. Alexander McFarlane was appointed to declare it vacant on the 25th of August. Messrs. Nicholson and Gallaher were charged with the preparation of a suitable minute in reference to Mr. Cormack, and Mr. Chambers was authorized to act as moderator *pro tem.* of the Kirk session. The matter affecting Mr. Steele was taken up. Instead of appearing in person as required by citation, Mr. Steele sent a letter purporting to be an explanation of his position. This paper was considered unsatisfactory, and directions were given to re-cite him to appear at the next quarterly meeting. Mr. Nicholson tendered resignation of his pastoral charge to allow him to accept of a position as teacher in the Kingston Collegiate Institute. The clerk was instructed to cite all parties concerned to appear for their interests at the next meeting.—THOS. S. CHAMBERS, *Pres. Clerk.*

PRESBYTERY OF BARRIE.—This Presbytery met at Barrie on Tuesday, 6th August. Present, fifteen ministers and four elders. The annual term of the moderatorship having expired, Mr. James A. McConnell, of Tecumseth and Adjala, was elected Moderator for twelve months and took the chair. The Rev. Dr. Cochrane, Convener of the Assembly's Home Mission Committee, was present and was invited to sit with the court. In the afternoon sederunt the Doctor addressed the Presbytery on its mission fields, of which he had just visited some of the leading points. He made several suggestions as to the working of the field, and gave gratifying assurance of the sympathy of the Assembly's Home Mission Committee with the Presbytery in its efforts to overtake its necessities. Dr. Cochrane's appearance in the meeting and his address were very agreeable to the brethren, and were cordially acknowledged in a vote of thanks. The commissioners to the General Assembly at Hamilton reported attendance. The report of two of them appointed to represent the Presbytery in a matter sent up to the Assembly led to a discussion, and division on a motion, which carried. From the conclusion come to, three entered their dissent. A call from the congregations of Gravenhurst, Severn Bridge and Washago in favor of the Rev. Alexander Dawson, B.A., was sustained. They have hitherto been supplied as mission stations, and now the labors and care of the Presbytery and the Assembly's Home Mission Committee show fruit in this, the first call to the pastorate from the Muskoka field. Another call was sustained, that, namely, from Knox Church in favor of Mr. Donald McLeod, Probationer; but as it was ascertained by a letter from Mr. McLeod that he had accepted a call elsewhere and was preparing for ordination on the 21st inst., it was decided not to transmit the call from Knox Church. The Presbytery agreed to secure, if possible, the continuation of the services of Mr. Alex. Leslie, missionary at Parry Sound, until at least April next, and to ordain him if he consents to remain; to tender thanks to Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Reid, of Rosseau, for their liberality and kindness in support of the interests of the Church in their neighborhood; and to send a deputation consisting of Messrs. Leiper and Burnett to the congregations of Bracebridge, Monck and South Falls in order to urge greater liberality in support of the ordinances. There was presented a report from the Committee on the statistical and financial returns for the last year. The principal matters touched upon were arrears of stipend, and the average stipend paid per family and per member in each congregation as compared with the average of the stipend so paid in all the congregations of the Church. The average of the Presbytery was stated to be \$7.30 per family, and \$4.45 per member, which is less than the average of the whole Church, as shown by the Assembly's report for 1877, by 74 cents per family, and 36 cents per member. The report suggested that, until some means be devised by the Assembly of securing more adequate stipends, Presbyteries might do something in this direction by dealing with congregations found to be giving less than the average rates of stipend. It was accordingly recommended that the Presbytery should consider the cases of the congregations found to be under the average as follows, viz.:—Central Church,

etc., Innisfil, \$1.59 per member; Flos and Medonte, \$1.13 per member; Sunnidale, \$3.55 per family, \$1.72 per member; First and Second, Tecumseth, etc., 84 cents per member. The Presbytery referred this matter, along with a report on Presbyterial Visitation, to a committee for further consideration. A recommendation of the report on Statistics was adopted, to the effect that the Convener of the Home Mission Committee be instructed to inform the missionaries to take up collections in the mission stations for the schemes of the Church on the days appointed by the General Assembly, or in other ways if preferred. Messrs. Moodie, D. McDonald and A. McDonald were appointed a deputation to visit the congregation of Honeywood with a view of removing troubles which have arisen. The deputation will meet at the church there on Friday, 30th inst., at 1 p.m. Mr. David Ross, M.A., student in divinity, was, by leave of the Assembly, taken on trials for license, and these having been creditably passed, he was licensed to preach the gospel. A tardy circular letter from the Presbytery of London on the application to the last General Assembly for leave to receive Mr. Joseph Paradis as a minister of this Church was read. In the event of Mr. Dawson accepting the call from Gravenhurst, etc., a special meeting of Presbytery will be held at Gravenhurst on Wednesday, 18th Sept., at 10 a.m., for his induction; Mr. Gray to preside, Mr. Leiper to preach and address the newly-inducted minister, and Mr. Burnett to address the congregation. The meeting will be adjourned, to meet within the church at Severn Bridge at 3 p.m., same day, in continuation of the induction services. Next ordinary meeting at Barrie on Tuesday, 24th Sept., at 11 a.m.—ROBT. MORDIE, *Pres. Clerk.*

SOUL-ENGRAVINGS.

Daniel Webster never uttered a truer or grander thought than the following—couched too, in that sturdy Saxon he handled so well.

"If we work upon marble, it will perish. If we work upon brass, time will efface it. If we rear temples, they will crumble into dust. But if we work upon immortal minds—if we imbue them with high principles, with the just fear of God and of their fellowmen,—we engrave upon those tablets something which no time can efface, but which will brighten to all eternity."

In this way we may all be artists; and even the most ordinary and unlearned, if he have but an earnest and loving heart, may produce a master-piece. The professor or lecturer may cut deep lines and fashion wondrous forms on the unwrought material before him. The teacher in the common school or the Sabbath school may, with the sunlight of truth, photograph upon the tender minds committed to his charge a thousand forms of holy beauty. The humblest, most quiet man may write upon his neighbor's heart good thoughts and kind words which will last forever. And such a monument will be a real immortality; "more enduring than brass, and loftier than the regal majesty of the pyramids." Such a record, instead of growing dim with time, will grow deeper with eternity; and will still be bold and legible when the sculptures of Nineveh, which has outlasted the centuries, shall have all faded out, and the steel pictures of modern art shall be all forgotten. And when the things which the dimness of time obscures shall be revealed by the light of eternity, the names of these unknown artists shall be found written, not on tables of bronze or stone, but on "the fleshy tables of the heart" and the unfading pages of the soul.—*Selected.*

FROUDE says:—"The Providence which watches over the affairs of men works out of their mistakes, at times, a healthier issue than could have been accomplished by their wisest forethought."

A GREAT deal of harm is done through forgetfulness. A little thoughtfulness and care with respect to others would often save them from a great deal of suffering, and aid them in their work. A man is discouraged in consequence of the difficulties he meets with. An encouraging word may be all that is necessary to revive his energies, and to cause him to persevere. That word were easily spoken. There are those who are perfectly willing to speak it, but they do not think of it.

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