

Ministers and Churches.

THE Rev. N. Paterson returned from Britain to his sphere of labour at Hanover last week.

THE Presbyterian manse at Spencerville has been damaged by fire and water to the extent of about \$450.

THE Rev. Mr. Robertson, Superintendent of Presbyterian Missions in Manitoba and the North-West, has returned to Winnipeg from a successful collecting tour in the West.

"ANYTHING will Do," was the subject of the lecture delivered by the Rev. D. D. McLeod, of Barrie, in the Presbyterian Church, Collingwood, on Tuesday evening last.

THE young people of Calvin Church, St. John, N. B., met last week in the school room of the Church for the purpose of forming a Young People's Association in connection with the Church.

THE second year of the pastorate of the Rev. R. J. Beattie in Knox Church, Guelph, closed Sabbath week. The sacrament of the Lord's Supper was observed in the morning, when twenty-six members were received. During the last two years one hundred and seventy names have been added to the communion roll of this Church.

THE Thorold Presbyterian Sabbath school held a very successful apron sale combined with a musical and literary entertainment, on Friday, 11th Dec. The receipts, about \$60, were devoted to the school's subscription to a new church. This will make a total from this school in two years of \$315. We thank the Lord and press forward.

THE *Stratford Beacon* says: The Brantford St. Andrew's Society have published in neat pamphlet form the sermon delivered to them this year by their excellent chaplain, Dr. Cochrane. The sermon is characterized by the Doctor's usual ability, eloquence, and clearness of thought and diction, and should, as it doubtless will, be universally read by Scotsmen.

The Presbytery of Quebec, at its meeting last week, considered at length the matter of Augmentation of Stipends, and resolved vigorously to prosecute the work. A committee was appointed, with Rev. Dr. Mathews as Convener, to apportion the amount asked by the Assembly's Committee among the congregations of the Presbytery, and also to arrange for the thorough visitation of all the aid-receiving charges in the bounds.

A LARGE company of influential Presbyterians gathered at the manse, Glencoe, Dec. 17, and presented their pastor, the Rev. John Robbins, with an address and a Christ mas present, consisting of a very handsome cutter and robe. The cutter is of the very best style and finish, and the robe to match. Mr. Robbins replied to the address read by Mr. Wilson expressing his intention, by God's blessing and grace, to wear the cutter out in the service of the congregation.

THE *Pel Banner* says: The Rev. Mr. McLaren's Bible class furnished his class room last week with a handsome carpet. A neat table or desk presented by Mr. Fowler is a very creditable specimen of cabinet making and carving. A social gathering of the Church people was held in the lecture room of the Church last week. The evening was enjoyed in various ways; refreshments were served; and an entertaining literary and musical programme given by the young people.

THE Rev. Dr. Torrance, of Guelph, preached very acceptable sermons morning and evening in the Presbyterian Church, Durham, says the *Review* of that town, on Sabbath last. We had the pleasure of a conversation with this gentleman, and were much pleased to find that he had not lost his love for the welfare of educational matters and still took a deep interest in general subjects and scientific research. We hope the rev. gentleman may pay Durham another visit at an early date.

THE anniversary services in connection with the opening of St. Paul's Church Sabbath School, Peterborough, were held on Sabbath, Dec. 13. The Rev. J. H. Wells, of the American Presbyterian Church, Montreal, preached both morning and evening. On Monday evening tea was given under the auspices of the St. Paul's Church Ladies' Aid Society in the school room, after which the Rev. Mr. Wells delivered an address in the church. Special music was provided by the choir under the direction of Mr. Parker.

THE services held at the First Presbyterian Church, Brockville, on Sabbath week were of a specially interesting character, being commemorative of the sixth anniversary of the opening of that edifice. The Rev. George Burnfield preached two exceedingly appropriate sermons, characterized by logical reasoning, originality of thought and powerful delivery. A special collection of one day's income was taken up as a thank offering, this custom having been followed every year since the dedication of the Church.

THE *Barrie Examiner* says: The Young People's Association connected with the Presbyterian Church, Barrie, gave their usual fortnightly entertainment last week, which was quite largely attended and proved very pleasing. The pastor, Rev. D. D. McLeod, performed the duties of chairman and introduced the Society's President, Mr. A. Hay. The features of the programme were: Opening hymn by the choir, chaplain's exercises, secretary's report, an interesting sketch of the African Explorer, Dr. Livingstone, read by Mr. McIntosh; criticism of the paper by several members, anthem by the choir, a vote of thanks to the contributors to the programme, and closing exercises.

AN entertainment was given last week under the auspices of the literary association of Chalmers Church, Guelph. The severity of the weather prevented a large number from being present, but those who attended were well pleased with the programme. Mr. W. H. Wardrope occupied the chair, and introduced the following ladies and gentlemen, who favoured the audience with very fine numbers: Miss Mary Grant, instrumental solo; Miss J. Brown, song, en-

titled, "Golden Days"; Mr. O. Deltz, selection on the accordion; Mr. Hunt, reading, "Denominational Railways"; Miss Grant, instrumental solo; Mr. R. L. Torrance, essay: "Straits of Northumberland"; Miss Wardrope, song; the Misses Brown, instrumental duet, "Il Trovatore"; Mr. Deltz, instrumental solo. All those who took part were well received. Mr. Torrance's essay deserves special mention.

THE Young People's Association of St. Andrew's Church, Guelph, held their regular meeting last week. In the absence of the president, the Rev. Mr. Smith occupied the chair. The programme was commenced with a song by Miss Lottie Parker, which was enthusiastically received. Miss Agnes Stewart then gave a reading, which was exceedingly well given. Then followed the debate on the following subject: "Resolved that novel reading is beneficial." Mr. George Griffin and Mr. Harry Higinbotham, with excellent arguments, took the affirmative side of the subject. The negative side was upheld by short and very convincing arguments by Mr. Wm. Brasbie and Mr. Thomas McCrae. The chairman left the decision to the audience, who gave it almost unanimously for the negative. Mr. Jas. Anderson then gave a song, which was well rendered and very enthusiastically received. The meeting then adjourned.

PRESBYTERY OF CHATHAM.—This Presbytery met on 5th inst. With a view to re-arranging the fields, a deputation was appointed to visit Bothwell and Sutherland Corners and Dawn Centre, South Dawn and Florence. Mr. Gray gave notice that at next regular meeting he would move that the Presbytery nominate Rev. Dr. Proudfoot for the chair of the proposed additional professor in Knox College. In regard to the Scheme for Augmenting Stipends, the Presbytery resolved to do its utmost to raise the sum allotted to it, and, if possible, more, and further, by means of an exchange of pulpits, to bring this matter before every settled congregation within its bounds. Deputations were appointed to visit those congregations whose ministers' stipends are augmented and those mission stations which are supplemented. The Presbytery expressed its concurrence with the overture of the Presbytery of Hamilton in regard to printing. A committee was appointed to consider the remit on supply of vacant pulpits.—W. WALKER, Pres. Clerk.

PRESBYTERY OF MIKAMICHI.—This Presbytery met by adjournment, at Newcastle, on Tuesday, the 1st day of December. Mr. Aiken reported that he had on 24th November moderated in a call at Bathurst, which came out unanimously in favour of the Rev. A. Ogilvie Brown. It was signed by eighty-three members and 107 adherents. The stipend promised was \$750 per annum and a manse. The action of the Moderator was approved, and the call sustained as a regular Gospel call; but further action thereon was deferred until Mr. Brown's credentials arrived. Rev. Wm. Hamilton reported by letter that he moderated in a call at Bass River on the 24th day of November. Mr. Hamilton's conduct in not attesting the call was unanimously sustained, and the call was set aside, on the ground of certain irregularities. Mr. Oehler was appointed to Tabusintac, etc., for the four Sabbaths during his Christmas vacation. A circular on Sabbath school work, from the Assembly's committee, was read. The scheme therein presented was earnestly commended to the favourable consideration of all the Sabbath schools within the bounds. The Rev. T. F. Fotheringham, M.A., of St. John, was nominated for the new professor's chair of Church History, Homiletics and Pastoral Theology in Knox College, Toronto.—E. WALLACE WAITS, Pres. Clerk.

PRESBYTERY OF PARIS.—The regular meeting of this Presbytery was held in Zion Church, Brantford, December 15. A moderation in a call was granted to Mount Pleasant and Burford, to be held on 29th instant. Dr. Cochrane, as Moderator of Onondaga, was empowered to confer with said congregation, and First Church, Brantford, anent the proposed union of the former with the latter, and, if the way be clear, union to take effect on and after first Sabbath of February. Mr. Little was heard anent circular from Committee of Aged and Infirm Ministers' Fund, and the Presbytery recommended the claims of said Fund to congregations, and appointed a committee to consider and report to next meeting, viz: Dr. Beattie, Mr. Little, Mr. McMullen, and Messrs. Wood and Thompson, elders. The circular asking Presbyteries to make nominations for an additional professor for Knox College being read, it was unanimously agreed as follows: The Presbytery—in view of the fact that the last General Assembly appointed a special Committee on Consolidation of Colleges which has not yet reported, and still further considering that the common fund for the support of our theological colleges does not warrant the appointment of an additional professor to Knox College—recommended that no appointment be made by next General Assembly, and that the department of Homiletics and Pastoral Theology be filled by a lecturer, or lecturers, appointed by the General Assembly, and that if necessary, other lecturships be established. Dr. Cochrane was heard on behalf of Augmentation Fund, and the same was recommended to the liberality of congregations. The Presbytery adjourned to meet in *hunc effectum* in First Church, Brantford, on Tuesday, January 5, at eleven a.m., and for ordinary business in Chalmers Church, Woodstock, on the first Tuesday of March, at twelve o'clock noon.—W. T. McMULLEN, Pres. Clerk.

PRESBYTERY OF BRUCE.—This Presbytery met within St. Paul's Church, Walkerton, on December 8. A call—accompanied with a promise of a stipend of \$900 and manse—from the congregation of Underwood and Centre Bruce to the Rev. James Malcolm was sustained and accepted, and arrangements were made for Mr. Malcolm's ordination and induction at Underwood on December 29. In answer to a petition, the action of the Moderator of the Session of Tara, in calling a meeting of the congregation for the purpose of moderating in a call, was sustained, and a special meeting of the Presbytery was appointed to be held at Tara, on December 15, to consider the call and take

action there, anent. There was produced and read a call signed by 105 members and 50 adherents from the congregation of North Bruce and St. Andrew's, Saugeen, to the Rev. D. B. McKae, of Cranbrook. There was also read a communication from Mr. McKae intimating his intention to decline the call, and asking the Presbytery to proceed no further in the matter. Whereupon, with the acquiescence of the representative elder from North Bruce, the call was set aside. The Presbytery granted, with approval, the petition from the above congregations for amalgamation, so as to have one set of managers and one general fund. Mr. Currie's resignation of the charge of Zion Church, Teeswater, which was tendered at a former meeting, was, after due consideration, accepted, and Mr. Mordy was appointed to preach and declare the charge vacant on the 27th instant, and to act as Moderator of Session during the vacancy. The Presbytery disapproved of the proposed unification of Foreign Mission work, and appointed a committee to consider the other remits of Assembly and report at next meeting. Ministers were instructed to read to their congregations the circular issued by the committee on the Aged and Infirm Ministers' Fund, and to urge them to increased liberality. The consideration of the circular from the Board and Senate of Knox College was postponed till next meeting of Presbytery. The Home Mission Committee was instructed to apportion the sum of \$550, assigned to this Presbytery by the Committee on the Augmentation of Stipends among the congregations within the bounds. Committees were appointed to visit the aid-receiving congregations in terms of the requirements of the Assembly's Committee on Augmentation, and to report at the next regular meeting. Ministers were instructed to hold missionary meetings during the present winter and report. On motion of Mr. Mordy the Presbytery agreed to join the Bruce Temperance Alliance in requesting the county council to petition the Local Government to appoint a police magistrate for the enforcement of the Scott Act, and Mr. Ferguson was appointed to represent the Presbytery before the county council. Mr. Beamer was appointed Moderator of the Session of Kinloss, Riversdale and Enniskillen, in room of Mr. Currie. Leave was granted to the congregation of St. John's, Walkerton, to moderate in a call. A circular was read from the Assembly's Committee on Sabbath Schools, recommending a system of quarterly reports to the Presbytery from the schools within the bounds, and it was agreed to adopt the system as far as practicable. Next meeting of Presbytery was appointed to be held in Knox Church, Paisley, on the second Tuesday in March at half-past one p.m.—JAMES GOURLAY, Pres. Clerk.

PRESBYTERY OF SARNIA.—This Presbytery held its regular quarterly meeting here on the 5th inst., Rev. Mr. Anderson, Moderator, in the chair. The first sederunt was occupied with the consideration of aggrieved parties in the township of Brooke. The documents were submitted and delegates heard. After consideration it was agreed: That having read the papers and heard Mr. Lindsay in the matter, the Presbytery (1) express sympathy with the Gaelic-speaking people of Brooke in the circumstances in which they are placed; (2) to meet the wants of the entire population the Presbytery recommended that the Gaelic speaking people worshipping in the Log Church, Brooke, connect themselves and their families with Alvinston Congregation, and assure them that continuous Gaelic services will be provided for them during the summer months; and (3) that the Gaelic services at present conducted by themselves in the Log Church, Brooke, be conducted in the Alvinston Church at the close of the English services there. Leave was granted to the congregations of Petrolia and Forest to have calls moderated in there, if necessary, before the next ordinary meeting. A document from the elders composing the Session of Petrolia was laid on the table, intimating their resignation and asking immediate action thereon. It was agreed to receive the resignation of these elders and Rev. Mr. McDonald and his elders were appointed interim Session of Petrolia, with directions to take steps to have elders elected and ordained there at as early a date as possible. A scheme for visiting each congregation and station in the interest of the Schemes of the Church was submitted and adopted, and the Clerk was ordered to have the same printed for the use of members. Rev. Mr. McIntock brought before the Court the condition of matters at Marthaville, intimating that he had been requested to give fortnightly supply there. It was agreed to cite Petrolia congregation to appear for their interests in the matter, and in the meantime Mr. McIntock was instructed to give supply till next meeting. Messrs. Currie, Loughhead and Anderson, ministers, with their elders, were appointed to consider remits and bring in a draft minute to be submitted to the Presbytery at its next meeting. The following minutes were read, and ordered to be entered: Rev. Mr. Scrimgeour having been obliged to resign his charge on account of severe illness which rendered him further unable to discharge his pastoral duties, the Presbytery accepted with regret his resignation and appointed a committee to draw up a resolution expressive of their sympathy with him and his family in their severe affliction. But since it has pleased the Lord in the meantime, and before the committee could report, to remove Mr. Scrimgeour by death, the committee desire to embrace this also in their resolution, and beg to submit the following minute for the adoption of the Presbytery: The Presbytery desire to express their sorrow on account of the removal by death of their late fellow-worker and co-Presbyter, the Rev. R. Scrimgeour, of Forest, and their high appreciation of his ability and faithfulness as a minister of the Gospel during the short period he was permitted to labour among them. They desire also to express their kindest sympathy with Mrs. Scrimgeour and the family in their sore bereavement, commend them to the loving care and protection of their heavenly Father, who, though He has smitten, can also heal; though He has bruised, can also bind up. That the Clerk forward a copy of this minute to Mrs. Scrimgeour. The Presbytery adjourned to meet in Forest, within the Presbyterian Church there on the second Tuesday in March, at two p.m., and was closed with the benediction.—GEO. CUTHBERTSON, Pres. Clerk.