

of thing, and we cannot deny that there is force in their arguments. But, if it is useless sometimes to attempt to stem the torrent, it is always wise to try and direct it into useful channels.

By such means it cannot be doubted that the members of congregations have become better acquainted with each other, and in many cases increased interest in the affairs of the Church at large have followed. We always feel disposed to rejoice with those that rejoice, trusting to the good taste of ministers and office-bearers that on these occasions every thing will be done decently, and in harmony with the place in which such meetings are held, and the purpose they are intended to serve.

A friend requests us to notice a happy Christmas-tree gathering in the Church of Finch, but really we don't know what should be said about it, except that "a good choir and organ discoursed sweet music, and that the proceeds *in cash* amounted to \$30." We feel sure, however, there must have been attractions of another kind also, and some seed was doubtless sown that will yield fruit many days hence. Our correspondent adds that there are very few "*antis*" in that part of the country.

The congregation of L'Original and Hawkesbury appear to be on the best of terms with their minister, Mr. Fairlie, and determined to make him feel at home in this, to him, new land. The ladies have provided him with a fur coat, and other gifts, in money and money's worth, have been showered upon him.

From the Rev. Archibald Brown, of Lyn and Yonge, we had the honour of receiving the first order for 100 copies of the *Presbyterian Record*. A few days afterwards Mr. Brown received from the last named branch of his congregation, the present of a very handsome double-seated sleigh, worth \$75. The very same results might not follow in every instance, but some other ministers might do worse than try the experiment.

At an entertainment given by the ladies of the congregation at Uxbridge, the Rev. E. Cockburn, M.A., the past-

received from the members of his Bible class, a very kind address, accompanied by a more substantial token of esteem in the shape of a well-filled purse.

The Rev. J. W. Smith, of Vernonville, has also received from his congregation, seasonable and useful gifts—harness, sleigh robes, fur mitts, &c. Mrs. Smith was at the same time presented with a sum of money.

At Metis, Quebec, the usual thanksgiving meeting was held in the Manse, on New Year's Day, when rewards were given to fifteen young persons for proficiency in Scripture knowledge. A report was read of the distribution of their missionary funds, part of which had been given to Miss McPherson's work, and part had been devoted to the Assembly's Mission in China. The Manse parlour was beautifully decorated for this occasion, and a very instructive and interesting gathering was brought to its close by singing the National Anthem. The night before, the Rev. T. Fenwick, the pastor, was presented with a beautiful fur coat by a few friends—partly members of his congregation, and partly summer visitors.

NEW CHURCHES.—A new Church was opened for worship, at Centre Bruce, on 29th December. It is seated for 400. The Services were largely attended. This Church and the one at Underwood, form one charge under the pastoral care of Rev. George MacLennan. A successful soiree was held on the following evening, when interesting and instructive addresses were delivered by a number of neighbouring ministers to a large and appreciative audience. Another new church was recently opened at Appleton, in the Township of Ramsay, by the Rev. T. G. Smith, of Kingston, who preached two appropriate discourses to crowded congregations. The congregation of this place forms part of Mr. Bennett's charge in connection with Almonte. At last communion dispensed in Almonte, we learn that twenty-six new members were admitted, five of whom were baptized, and one had been a Roman Catholic.

A third Church was publicly opened