

MINISTERS AND CHURCHES.

It is reported that the Rev. John Abraham, of Watford and Main Road, in the Presbytery of London, intends to resign his charge.

A LECTURE on "Music as a Religious Ordinance" was delivered by Rev. Mr. McNaughton, of Fordwich, in the Presbyterian church, Wroxeter, on Monday evening, the 17th inst.

MISSIONARY meetings were held at Eadie's and Bluevale on Tuesday, the 11th inst. Addresses were delivered by Rev. Messrs. Wilkins and McQuarrie, Mr. Agnew, and Rev. D. G. McKay, the pastor of the congregations.

At a meeting of the congregations of Melville Church and Knox Church, Brussels, held with a view to union, it was found that they could not agree on financial matters, and so the negotiations are closed for the present.

THE Rev. E. W. Panton and wife were some time ago waited upon by the young people of the Bradford congregation and presented with a very affectionate address, accompanied by a valuable fur overcoat and a handsome article of silver-plate.

THE annual social meeting of the Presbyterian congregation at Cambray, was held on Thursday, the 6th inst, in the shape of a fruit festival. Rev. Mr. McDonald occupied the chair, and gave an address. Addresses were also given by Rev. Messrs. Scott, Rodney, McKay, and Gunn.

ON Wednesday evening, the 12th inst., a soiree was held in connection with the Presbyterian congregation of Molesworth. Mr. A. J. Campbell occupied the chair, and Rev. Messrs. Johnson (the pastor), Brown, McGregor, and others, delivered addresses. The proceeds amounted to \$49.

THE congregation of Knox Church, Montreal, are about to add to the number of their elders. The following gentlemen have just been elected to office and are to be duly installed on an early Sabbath: Rev. Professor Campbell, Messrs. George Browne, W. D. McLaren, Archibald Swan, James Brown, and Walter Paul.

At a meeting regularly called for the purpose, on the 5th inst., a unanimous call was given by the congregation of Lansdowne and Fairfax in the Presbytery of Kingston to the Rev. A. Matthews of the Dutch Reformed Church, United States. No other name was mentioned at the moderation and the people have high hopes of success as a congregation if their call is accepted.

A SOIREE was held in the Presbyterian church, Bayfield Road, Stanley, on the evening of the 12th inst. The pastor, Rev. M. Danby, presided, and addresses were given by Rev. Messrs. Paterson, Broley, Thomson and Campbell. The proceeds of this and a somewhat similar entertainment held on the following evening, amounting to over \$60, are to be applied to Sabbath school purposes.

ON the evening of Friday, the 7th inst., on invitation of Rev. J. A. Murray and Mrs. Murray, the elders, Sabbath school teachers, and Bible class, of St. Andrew's Church, London, assembled at a social reunion in the lecture room. Coffee and cakes, addresses, music, recitations, introductions, social greetings, and conversation, filled up the hours of a very pleasantly spent evening.

SINCE the settlement of the Rev. J. McCaul, the Young People's Society of Stanley Street Church, Montreal has been re-organized. The following officers were elected at a social meeting held last week.

Hon. Pres., Rev. J. McCaul, M.A.; Pres., Mr. Wm. King; Vice-Pres., Mr. W. L. Hubbard; Sec., and Treas., Mr. W. D. Duncan, together with an executive committee of ladies and gentlemen.

THE annual soiree in connection with St. Andrew's Church, Shakespeare, was held on the 11th inst. The chair was occupied by the Rev. Mr. Cameron, the pastor. Rev. Messrs. Wats, Little, and McAlpine addressed the meeting; a reading was given by Mr. Evans; and a well trained choir, led by Mr. Collins, furnished music. The children's soiree, held on the following evening, was largely attended and heartily enjoyed.

THE ladies of St. Andrew's Church, Sault Ste. Marie, gave a very successful concert in the Agricultural Hall on the evening of the 12th inst. The Hon. Walter McCrea, Judge of Algoma, presided. The

programme consisted of vocal and instrumental music, readings and recitations. Much of the success of the concert is due to Miss Ada Ironside and Mrs. Wilson. Proceeds (about \$45) to be devoted to the building fund.

A SOIREE was held on the evening of the 5th inst. in the temperance hall, Colborne, in connection with the Presbyterian congregation of that place. Among the varied proceedings, comprising addresses, music, etc., it is worthy of special mention that a deputation from the Brighton congregation, another branch of the same charge, appeared, and presented Rev. P. Duncan, the pastor, with a beautiful fur overcoat and an address. The proceeds of this soiree, added to the sum realized at a social held a few evenings afterwards, amounted to \$125.

THE annual tea meeting in connection with the Presbyterian Sabbath school at Richmond Hill was held on Tuesday evening, the 13th inst. It was a decided success in every respect. When all had enjoyed an excellent tea, the pastor, the Rev. I. Campbell called upon Peter Patterson, Esq., M. P. P., to occupy the chair. The chairman in a neat little speech introduced the lecturer for the evening the Rev. G. M. Milligan, M. A., of Toronto, who delivered a masterly lecture on "The contented man, who is he?" He sustained the interest of his large audience for over two hours.

THE Rev. Mr. Galloway was, on Wednesday the 19th instant, ordained and inducted as pastor of Lucan and Fraser Church congregations, in the Presbytery of London. The Rev. F. Ballantyne preached, the Rev. J. Rennie addressed the minister and the Rev. H. Currie addressed the congregation. Much interest was manifested in the proceedings by a large and attentive congregation. At the close of the services the managers came forward and handed to their new pastor the first quarter's salary. Mr. Galloway enters upon his labours in this field with encouraging prospects of success.

THE Presbyterian congregation of Winthrop held their anniversary services on Sabbath, the 16th inst. The Rev. J. S. Lohead, of Londesborough, preached, morning and evening, to large congregations, and liberal collections were made. On the following evening a festival was held, at which the pastor, Rev. P. Musgrave, occupied the chair and addresses were given by Rev. Messrs. Lohead, Thomson and McNaughton and Mr. Kerr. On the evening of Tuesday, the 18th, the children were entertained, and heard addresses from Rev. Messrs. Thomson and Pritchard and Mr. Kerr. The proceeds of these meetings and the collections on Sabbath make together a considerable addition to the building fund.

THE 21st anniversary of St. Matthew's Church Sabbath School, Montreal, took place on Friday evening, the church being filled to overflowing with the children and their friends. Tea was served in the school room, after which a lengthened programme was gone through, including addresses, recitations, etc. On the platform were Rev. Messrs. Black, Warden, Fraser, Ward, and Mr. L. Cushing. The superintendent, Capt. W. Ross, presided. The report, which was read by the Secretary, Mr. James Fenwick, showed the number of scholars on the roll as 228, and of teachers 27. The collections during the year were \$77.35. This school is in a prosperous condition, and bids fair to become one of the largest in the city.

THE Congregation of St. Andrew's Church, Gananoque, held its regular annual soiree on the evening of the 13th inst. The night being pleasant and the sleighing good, a large number was present. After all had been served in the lecture room with eatables liberally provided by the ladies of the congregation, they repaired to the body of the church where music of a high order was rendered by the choir and the Misses Burton of Kingston, who greatly pleased the audience by their solos and duets. Appropriate addresses were delivered by Rev. Mr. Jolliffe of the Canada Methodist, Rev. Mr. Pope of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and the Rev. F. McCaug of Kingston. Readings were also given in excellent style by Messrs. Oxley and Cumberland of Queen's College. The amount realized for the manse fund after paying all expenses was about \$120.

The annual social meeting of St. Mark's Church, Montreal, was held on the 18th instant and was largely attended. The Rev. J. Nicholls, pastor, presided. Addresses were given by Rev. Messrs. Wilson, War-

den, Forster, Wells and Bennett. The organist, Miss Reid, was presented with a purse of money in appreciation of her services. The annual Sabbath school festival of the church took place on the 20th, and was addressed by Col. Fraser, the Superintendent, Rev. Messrs. Nicholls, McCaul etc. This congregation has made great progress under the pastorate of Rev. J. Nicholls, the membership and attendance having largely increased. Though 1878 was perhaps the most trying year Montreal has seen for a quarter of a century, yet St. Mark's not only met its current expenditure but, in addition, paid off a considerable floating debt which has been outstanding for several years; and we trust, in the report for the current year, to find that both the congregation and the Sabbath school are contributing a reasonable amount for missionary purposes and that even greater success will crown the labours of their pastor than in the year gone by.

DIVINE service was held for the first time in the basement of the new First Presbyterian Church, Brockville, on the 2nd inst. Both morning and evening services were conducted by the Rev. J. S. Black, of Erskine Church, Montreal. The audiences at both services were very large. The sermons were eloquent, suitable, and practical, and were listened to with much attention. The main room in the basement will seat about five hundred people with comfort. To the east of the main room is a parlour, used for weekly lectures and class for Biblical instruction, which will contain one hundred and thirty people. To the south of the main room are situated two infant class rooms, with circular seats rising gradually one above the other to a sufficient height. On the west of the main room is the library-room, conveniently situated for its proper management. In a convenient position the kitchen is situated for the use of the ladies in providing for the socials that may be held in connection with the congregation. The church will be completed in July next, and when finished will cost about \$30,000. It is built on the site of the old church which was erected over thirty years ago. The same site was occupied by the first Presbyterian church erected about 1813, when the late Rev. W. Smart was pastor. The present edifice was commenced in May 1878, and when completed will rank for style of architecture, beauty, and convenience, among the best Presbyterian churches in central and eastern Canada, and will be a credit to the taste and liberality of the people. On Monday evening, the 3rd inst., a social was held. Addresses were given by the pastor of the church, Rev. Geo. Burnfield, and Rev. Messrs. Montgomery and Manetty. Music was amply and well supplied by the Misses Gilmour, which added much to the enjoyment of the evening. Mrs. Sherwood also sang two solos. The edibles were provided in abundance and rich in quality. At a reasonable hour the first social entertainment in the new church, Brockville, came to a close.

A MOST remarkable religious movement is transpiring in India. It somewhat resembles Mohammedanism in that it demands the abolition of all idol-worship, and the worship only of the one God. The Brahmins are already alarmed at the rapid growth of the new faith.

THE Roman Catholic Archbishop of Cincinnati, Purcell, is in trouble. He has been receiving deposits of money from a large number of his flock, and it seems as if his accounts had not been kept after the most improved system of book-keeping. At any rate his liabilities far exceed his assets. He wants to resign, but the clergy want him to stay on.

A CONFERENCE of leading Unitarians was held recently in Brooklyn, N. Y., and the work of their sessions is worthy of notice even in orthodox circles. Dr. James Freeman Clarke opened the conference on the 28th of January with a sermon on "The Theology of the Letter and the Theology of the Spirit." On the following day there was a serious discussion opened with a paper by Rev. A. D. Mayo, of Springfield, on "Revivals, True and False." Mr. Mayo spoke very appreciatively of Mr. Moody's work, as did also Dr. Clarke. Dr. Bellows, of New York, was less eulogistic. Dr. Clarke was specially strong on the debt which so-called Liberal Christianity owes to orthodoxy. A missionary meeting was held during the sessions. Rev. M. K. Schermerhorn, of Newport, spoke in Methodist style of more consecration and of laying all on the altar of Christ. There is a great deal of Evangelistic sentiment and fervour in the conservative wing of the Unitarian denomination in the United States.