

Ministers and Churches.

THE Rev. J. Leiper, formerly of Barrie, died on December 31 at Brandon, Manitoba, of inflammation of the lungs. He was a native of Chapelton, Lanarkshire, Scotland.

THE Rev. Gustavus Munro, M.A., of Knox Church, Embro, was on Monday evening, the 10th inst., presented with an elegant sleigh and robes as an acknowledgment of the high esteem in which he is held by his people.

REV. R. D. FRASER, M.A., of St. Paul's Church, Bowmanville, was made the recipient on Monday, the 10th inst., of a very handsome beaver fur coat, at the hands of the congregation, through the Young People's Society.

MR. W. M. ROBERTSON, approved catechist, who has been labouring for the past five years in the Muskoka mission field, died after a brief illness at his residence, Uffington, on Thursday, the 6th inst. Mr. Robertson leaves a widow and family.

ON Friday evening, the West Winchester Sabbath school held its annual social gathering. Though the night was stormy, there was a good audience, and \$160 were received. Next day the young folks turned out in large numbers, and most happily enjoyed themselves in music, readings, refreshments and sleigh drives.

THE Sabbath school in connection with Knox Church, Cannington, held a very successful entertainment on New Year's evening. One of its prominent features was the distribution of prizes for Shorter Catechism. Nine pupils said the whole, most of them without an error; four said eighty-six questions, and seven thirty-eight questions. Ten in the infant class recited different numbers from the Mothers' Catechism.

ONE of the most successful soirees and concerts ever held in the town of Omemece, came off on the evening of New Year's Day, realizing about \$115 in aid of our Sabbath school. Every one went away well pleased, and wished the committee to repeat annually. The talent that contributed was Miss Stephens, of Peterboro', and Miss Mills, of Colborne, vocalists; Miss Tait, of Bowmanville, gave recitations; Miss M. English, Omemece, accompanist; Capt. Mutton, of Toronto, gave readings, and Major Manley, Toronto, comic vocalist, and the Omemece Glee Club, under the conductorship of Dr. Furrer, late of Toronto, and the Omemece Orchestra. Our Church and Sabbath school are both progressing favourably, and our esteemed pastor, Rev. J. Ewing, in charge since 1849, continues to be cherished, and his preaching from Sabbath to Sabbath becomes more interesting and profitable to his three churches—Mount Pleasant, Lakevale and Omemece. Readings, etc., are regularly given at the Wednesday evening prayer meetings and Bible classes.

THE annual meeting of St. Andrew's Church, Thamesford, was held in the basement on Thursday, January 6. The attendance was not so large as usual. After devotional exercises by the pastor, Mr. G. Telfer was appointed chairman, and Mr. W. Telfer, secretary. The various reports showed that there were 202 names on the communion roll, eleven of which had been added during the past year; 123 families in connection with the congregation; total receipts, \$1,373.23; total expenditure, \$1,305.25; balance on hand, \$67.98. All the former officers were reappointed, excepting Mr. E. G. Showers, who has moved to another part of the country. The trustees had passed a minute expressive of the great loss the congregation had sustained by his removal, as he had always been willing to take his full share of the work, and whatever he undertook to do was sure to be done well. Mr. James Cowan was elected to fill his place. It was arranged to ask Rev. Mr. Bail to deliver his lecture on the North-West, the proceeds to go toward replenishing the Sabbath school library.

THE Rev. R. M. Croll, pastor of St. Paul's congregation, Simcoe, was pleasantly surprised on Christmas Eve by a deputation, consisting of his Session, and members of the congregation, waiting upon him at his residence, and presenting him with an address, accompanied with the gift of a handsome fur coat. The congregation over which the reverend gentleman presides has done nobly. During the past two or three years a new church, costing over \$11,000, has been erected, upholstered and elegantly furnished. At a congregational meeting recently held the sum of \$900 was devoted toward the reduction of the debt on the building—\$2,000 only now remains in the form of a funded debt to be wiped off. The Session has been recently enlarged by the addition of three new members—Messrs. D. S. Patterson, B.A., T. Haddow and J. W. Best. The Sabbath school is in a prosperous condition, having, during the past year, increased in numbers, and gained in efficiency. Since the occupation of the new church, the choir has experienced a new impulse, and the singing is as devotional as it is efficient.

ON Wednesday evening, January 5, a very pleasant meeting, under the auspices of the Woman's Foreign Mission Society, was held in the church at Kirkwall. The object of the meeting was to bid farewell and God speed to Miss Jeanie Wight, who has been appointed to take charge of the Indian school at Portage la Prairie, Manitoba. The Rev. S. Carruthers, pastor of the congregation, presided. After conducting devotional exercises, the chairman read letters from Rev. J. K. Smith, Moderator of the General Assembly, and Rev. Dr. Wardrope, Convener of the General Assembly's Foreign Mission Committee, expressing regret that important engagements prevented their being present, and their best wishes and prayers for the divine blessing to rest on Miss Wight and her work. After earnest prayer by the pastor, on behalf of the missionary, the officers of the society gathered around her, and Miss Robertson, secretary, read an address, and Miss Carruthers in a few appropriate words, in the name of the society, presented her with a Bible. The Rev. Mr. Carruthers, on behalf of Miss Wight, returned her thanks for the kindly expressions and tokens of goodwill. After some time spent in social intercourse, Mr. R. McQueen spoke on behalf of the Sabbath School, and read a paper on "Giving." The mem-

bers of the choir added greatly to the interest of the meeting by their rendering to the accompaniment of an organ, some beautiful missionary hymns. During the meeting, and at its close, many personal farewells were said to one who will ever be remembered with sentiments of the highest regard and affection. She goes to her field of labour for the Master, greatly cheered by the thought of so many who will remember her at a throne of grace, and the society will be more deeply interested in the work by having in the field one from among themselves.

THE Toronto correspondence of the *Kingston News and Chronicle* contains the following: Toronto is increasing rapidly, over 20,000 having been added to the population during the year, which now stands at about 130,000. As the people are moving west and north of the city, the Churches are following them. In Parkdale a new Presbyterian Church will soon be completed, and another is being organized on the corner of Bloor and Huron Streets. The Rev. Drs. Gregg and McLaren are among the promoters of this new congregation. Cooke's Church, which for the last three or four years has had rather unpleasant experiences, has, since the settlement of the present pastor, Rev. William Patterson, taken a forward step, and promises to be as prosperous as in its best days, when it had for pastors such men as Rev. Drs. Gregg and Robb. Mr. Patterson, the present pastor, is a native of Beagh, near Maghera, county Derry, Ireland, and was brought up in the same congregation as the Rev. Dr. Cooke, of Belfast, was connected with in his early days, whom Cooke's Church in this city, and Cooke's Church, Kingston, are named after, and, taken all in all, he was one of the most remarkable men the Irish Presbyterian Church ever produced. There was always a spark of godliness about the Patterson family. In the county in which they resided there are two townlands of the same name. One is called "Beagh spiritual," and the other "Beagh temporal." The former is called Beagh spiritual owing to the Pattersons' connection with the locality. The grandfather of the pastor of Cooke's Church was a very pious, devoted man, for many years a Scripture reader and preacher under the distinguished Rev. Dr. Carson, the great Baptist preacher and author. The subject of the present notice is a young man of about twenty-seven years of age, who has been about seven years in Canada, and graduated at Knox College last spring. He is an eloquent and impressive preacher, and under his ministry the congregation is increasing rapidly. The managers have asked for tenders for renovating the church, which will cost about \$15,000, and under the direction of the architect, Mr. W. R. Gregg, they expect to make it one of the most commodious churches in the city. Mr. Gregg has designed and executed some of the finest buildings in the city.

THE new and beautiful place of worship erected by the Presbyterian congregation of Lindsay was opened with appropriate ceremonies and services on Sabbath, 2nd and 9th January. The pastorate of Rev. Dr. McTavish began by his ordination and induction on 17th June, 1884, and it may truly be said that seldom does a congregation, under the most favourable conditions, make such remarkable progress as has been experienced by the Presbyterian Church in Lindsay since the present pastor was placed over it. He was chosen by the congregation before his collegiate course was finished, and as soon as a regular call could be extended to him, it was done by the unanimous voice of the people. Beloved by his congregation, an earnest, devoted pastor, a preacher of the Gospel in its purity and power, an eloquent, convincing speaker, but subordinating everything to the great purpose of saving souls and building up the Christian character of all to whom he ministers, no surprise need be expressed because his people have shown such readiness to do all in their power to assist him in his life-work. On Monday, June 7, the corner-stone of the church was laid by Rev. Dr. McTavish, with appropriate ceremony. Since that event the work has gone on uninterruptedly, and was finished and taken over from the contractors some time before the date on which the contract specified it should be completed. The committee who have attended to the work have been painstaking and zealous. The cost of the church, exclusive of site and furnishings, at the contractor's estimate, is nearly \$18,000. In addition to this sum \$600 was expended for windows; heating, \$400; pews, choir and pulpit, \$1,500; cushions, \$500; gas fixtures, \$450. At present accommodation has been made for 600, but this can be increased at any time by the erection of galleries. The Sabbath school room is equally attractive as the church, and has been fitted up with all that is necessary to carry on effectively this important department of church work. As the time for completion drew near, arrangements were made for the opening services, in which Rev. Dr. Grant, of Queen's College, Rev. Dr. Cochrane, of Brantford, Rev. J. A. Murray, of London, and Mr. Alfred Gandier, of Queen's College, took part. Dr. Grant preached on Sabbath, the 2nd of January, morning and evening, and Mr. Murray in the afternoon. Dr. Cochrane preached on Sabbath, the 9th, morning and evening, and Mr. Gandier addressed the young people in the afternoon of the same day. All the services were attended by large, and in some cases overflowing, audiences. On Monday evening, the 3rd, a social meeting was held, addressed by the resident local clergymen and others from a distance, and on Monday evening, the 10th, Dr. Cochrane delivered his popular lecture on "George Whitfield." The entire collections will come up to about \$75.

THE Morrison Mission is in Southern Muskoka, about seven miles from Gravenhurst. The country, like most of Muskoka, is rocky, but is well settled; nearly half, however, of the population are Germans. This is an old mission field, but for years was left in a neglected condition, having no missionary, and very few services. In the summer of 1875, Mr. A. Mitchell, of Knox College, came here under the Students' Missionary Society, spent four months in earnest labour, and the cause revived. Last summer, under the same society, Mr. M. P. Talling came amongst us. The good work continued to prosper, interest deepened, and the attendance grew until the schoolhouse in which we held services was overcrowded. In August Rev. A.

Findlay, Superintendent of Missions, visited the field to dispense the sacrament. At that time, several were baptized, and our membership was considerably increased. The superintendent expressed great regret that we had no church, and undertook to inspire us with courage sufficient to attempt building one. All were confident that it would be impossible to do so, as our people are not numerous nor rich. Still, he persisted, "You can do it if you try; will you make the endeavour?" At once our missionary began to canvass on the field, and outside of the field, from private individuals and from congregations, where he had an opportunity of preaching. In September, we held our first public meeting to discuss the matter; we decided to build, and at once. The subscribed material was brought together, a carpenter engaged, and subscribed labour assisted him. Ten days after actual work began, Mr. Talling preached his farewell sermon in the new building. Since then, the church has been completed. It is a neat frame structure; cost about \$700; will seat 200, is finished inside in wood, like wainscoting, and is seated with chairs. People on the hill have given over \$150 worth of free labour, and about \$100 worth of material, in addition to their cash subscriptions. We are indebted to the Presbyterians of Severn Bridge for \$40; to those of Gravenhurst for over \$30; to Milton friends for a collection of \$21.50. Orillia and Longford have aided us also. The untiring energy of our missionary in conducting and hastening the work is commendable, and points to the encouraging fact that "where there is a will there is a way." The church has been named "St. Paul's" Presbyterian Church, of Morrison, after St. Paul's, of Bowmanville, the pastor and people of which, have taken an interest in our Sabbath school work, and will yet, we hope, augment our building fund. On December 26, Rev. A. Findlay conducted the dedicatory services and opened the church for divine worship. Attendance was large; collections good. We are grateful to the Giver of all good, for our prosperity, and hope our success may encourage other stations.

PRESBYTERY OF MAITLAND.—This Presbytery met in Brussels, on December 21. The Rev. A. Y. Hartley was appointed Moderator. Leave was granted to moderate in a call in the congregation of Lucknow. It was agreed to apportion the amount asked for the Augmentation Fund among the congregations of the Presbytery. On motion of Mr. Stevenson, in accordance with the recommendation of the General Assembly, a plan was adopted for the holding of special religious services in a number of the congregations in the Presbytery. Mr. Gordon reported, regarding the South Kindloss congregation. Mr. Sutherland was appointed to give an address at the annual meeting of the Woman's Foreign Mission Society of the Presbytery. Committees were appointed to visit the aid-receiving congregations, and to report at the meeting in March. A minute regarding the death of D. McPherson, licentiate, was read by Mr. Davidson, and adopted by the Presbytery.—R. LEASK, Pres. Clerk.

PRESBYTERY OF KINGSTON.—An adjourned meeting of this Presbytery was held at Kingston, on the 4th day of January. Mr. Gallaher having resigned his position as Moderator of Presbytery, Mr. Mackie was appointed thereto. Mr. Gallaher gave notice of motion to have the Moderator in future appointed for twelve months. Mr. McCuaig having received an appointment to British Columbia, it was decided to release him from his charge. The Moderator, in announcing the decision to him, stated as follows: Permit me to express as their wish and my own, that you may have health, peace and happiness, and a large measure of success in the new sphere of labour to which you have been appointed. Professor Mowat is to declare the charge vacant on the 23rd of January, thereafter to act as Moderator of Session. Arrangements were made as required for the visitation of the supplemented congregations before March, as follows: Landsdowne, etc., to be visited by Principal Grant; St. John's Church, Pittsburgh, by Mr. Gracey; Wolfe Island, by Mr. Houston; Amherst Island, by Mrs. Robertson; Newburgh, etc., by Mr. Mackie; Camden Eighth, by Mr. Young; Roshin, etc., by Mr. Gray; Trenton, by Mr. George; and Picton, by Mr. Maclean.—THOMAS S. CHAMBERS, Pres. Clerk.

PRESBYTERY OF TORONTO.—On the 11th inst. an ordinary meeting was held by this Presbytery, Rev. P. Nicol, Moderator. Rev. J. M. Cameron, treasurer, submitted and read his report for last year, showing a balance in his hands of \$5.35; at a later stage it was reported by the auditors that they had found his accounts correctly and carefully kept. Rev. James A. Grant, under call to Dixie and West Toronto Junction, read a sermon and a lecture in trial for ordination, both of which were sustained. Pursuant to citation duly given, delegates appeared from the congregations of Union Church and Norval, and were severally heard against the resignation of their pastor. A petition from the congregation of Norval, signed by eighty members and adherents, was also read, praying the Presbytery, if other means should fail, to constitute said congregation as a separate charge, under the ministry of their faithful pastor. Rev. J. Alexander was next heard, when he made a number of explanations, and pressed the acceptance of his resignation. It was moved by Rev. P. McLeod, seconded by Rev. M. C. Cameron, that the resignation of Mr. Alexander be accepted. In amendment, it was moved by Rev. Dr. Reid, seconded by Rev. D. Camelon, that the resignation of Mr. Alexander lie on the table till next ordinary meeting, and that a deputation be appointed to visit both congregations, with the view of obtaining information as to the propriety of separating said congregations, the services of Mr. Alexander to be retained in the Norval congregation in accordance with a numerously signed petition laid this day before the Presbytery; or of making arrangements for an assistant minister while the union between the congregations continues. On a vote being taken, the amendment carried, and pursuant thereto, Revs. R. P. MacKay, and H. M. Parsons, and Mr. A. Gemmill were duly appointed as the deputation. As convener of a committee previously appointed, Rev. Dr. Caven submitted and read a draft minute, expressive of the