

MINISTERS AND CHURCHES.

THE children belonging to the Sabbath school of the Central Presbyterian Church, Hamilton, enjoyed a picnic at Dundurn Park on the 11th inst.

A LAWN social was held by the Norwood congregation on the 7th inst. Music, croquet, ice cream, strawberries and several other good things contributed to the enjoyment of those present. The proceeds amounted to about \$40.

ON the evening of the 10th inst. the Rev. J. K. Smith, of Guelph, moderated in a call by the Eramosa congregation, which was given unanimously in favour of the Rev. Angus McKay. The salary is \$700 per annum, with manse, and glebe of fifty acres.

THE Bible class of the Collingwood Presbyterian church met at the manse on the evening of the 30th ult., and presented their teacher, Mrs. Rodgers, with the works of H. W. Longfellow in two large and finely illustrated volumes. The present was accompanied by an address expressing appreciation of Mrs. Rodgers' faithfulness, earnestness and enthusiasm in the work.

THE ordination of Mr. McKinley, and his induction into the pastoral charge of Innerkip and Ratho, in the Presbytery of Paris, took place on Tuesday, the 11th inst., at Innerkip. There was a large attendance of the people, and the whole services were very solemn and impressive. The evening social meeting of welcome was all that could be wished. The settlement is most harmonious and happy.

ON Saturday, 24th ult., a meeting was held in the school-house at Pilot Mound, Manitoba, for the purpose of ordaining Messrs. James Murdoch, W. Butchart, and D. Shaw as elders of the Presbyterian congregation of Rock Lake. Mr. H. McKellar was chosen as secretary, and Mr. J. Fraser treasurer. Committees were appointed at the different stations, and regular service will be held in future at Mr. Masson's, Mr. Allan's, Crystal City, and north of Rock Lake.

AT a meeting of the Presbytery of Pictou, N. S., on the 4th inst., the call to the Rev. A. McL. Sinclair from the congregation of Sutherland's River and Vale Colliery was sustained by the Presbytery, but declined by Mr. Sinclair. At the same time his old congregation of East River, whereof he resigned the charge at the previous meeting, made application with the view of endeavouring to retain Mr. Sinclair's services, and he requested to be allowed a month to consider his duty in the circumstances.

THE Dundas "True Banner" says: "The vestry of Knox church has for years been a bare, cheerless room, but at last some energetic members of the church set to work, obtained liberal subscriptions, and furnished it handsomely. The walls have been tinted, a beautiful carpet laid down, a handsome writing table and set of chairs purchased, and dressing table, washstand and all furnishings of the handsomest procured, and it is now complete and comfortable. The pleasant change was quite a surprise to Rev. Mr. Laing, who knew nothing whatever of it until all was finished.

THE meeting held at Cobourg, after the induction on the 5th inst., for the purpose of welcoming Mr. and Mrs. McCrae, was very largely attended. Several members of Presbytery, and the ministers of other denominations in the town, joined heartily in the welcome. Rev. John Laing, of Dundas, was also present, and was very heartily received by his old friends in the congregation. He delivered an admirable address. The meeting was a very hearty one, and the prospects of this congregation are now exceedingly encouraging.—COM.

THE annual picnic of the Sabbath school in connection with Chalmers Church, Guelph, was held on the afternoon of the 7th inst. There was a good attendance of children, their parents and friends, and the day being pleasant, a most enjoyable time was spent. Swinging, baseball, croquet and games of that description formed the amusements, and both old and young entered into them right merrily. Before separating, the company partook of an abundant repast on the green. The proceedings continued till dusk set in, and then the party dispersed, delighted with the afternoon's fun.

THE Presbyterians of Thorold are to be congratulated. Their present place of worship has become too small for their accommodation; they have there-

fore resolved to build a new church. To back up that resolution, they have subscribed \$5,500, and hope to be able to increase that up to, or perhaps over, \$7,000. Besides, they have just bought and paid for what is generally considered to be the best and most centrally situated site for a church in the whole town. The site cost between \$700 and \$800 cash, and is really a good bargain at that price. They purpose building this fall in part, and to complete the whole next spring.—COM.

A STRAWBERRY festival and musical entertainment was held in the West Presbyterian Church, in this city, on Tuesday evening, 11th July. It was a very successful affair. After successive companies had been served with cake and strawberries, and had enjoyed a pleasant time in conversation, the rest of the evening was spent in music and readings. The pastor, Rev. Mr. Wallace, presided, and opened the proceedings with a brief address. Mr. James Fax, the new precentor, led the choir, and also contributed largely to the musical part of the programme. Several solos, duets, etc., were rendered by Messrs. Shappel and Malcolm, and by Miss Bella Fax, of Brantford, and Misses Watt and Mackenzie, of the congregation. Mr. Fax's brother, from Brantford, and Mr. McBeth, of West Church, gave readings. The large lecture room was crowded to overflowing. At a congregational meeting adjourned from January—lately held—the treasurer reported the finances of the church were in a better condition than a year ago. About fifty new members have been added to the church within the last three months; and altogether it is now in a most flourishing state.

ON the evening of Thursday, the 6th inst., there was held in the Presbyterian Church of South Nisour one of those rare socials, viz., a strawberry festival in honour of the safe return of the pastor of the congregation, the Rev. J. W. Penman, from his wedding trip. The members and adherents turned out in large numbers to show their respect to the reverend gentleman and his young bride, as well as to enjoy the many good things provided for them by the ladies of the congregation. On the platform beside the pastor, who occupied the chair, were the following gentlemen: The Rev. Messrs. Wilson, of St. Mary's; Knox and Wright of London, and Ford and Brown of Thornedale. After the audience had done ample justice to the strawberries provided, addresses were delivered by the above-named gentlemen. One of the features of the social was the presence of the choir of the First Presbyterian Church, St. Mary's. The pieces of music selected were exceedingly appropriate. They were listened to with the greatest attention, and thoroughly enjoyed by both old and young. At the close of a somewhat lengthy programme, the choir and speakers were invited to partake of an ample repast in the manse, provided for them by some of the young ladies. The evening was spent most pleasantly and harmoniously, and augurs well for the peace, happiness and prosperity of the congregation.—COM.

WHILE so many of the Presbyterian Churches in the Province of Quebec, outside the city of Montreal, have suffered of late years from the westward movement of the English-speaking population, it is pleasing to note the progress of one decided exception to the rule—Valleyfield, on the southern shore of the St. Lawrence, about thirty miles from Montreal, with its paper mills, cotton mills, woollen mill, grist mills, sash and blind factories, etc., by many regarded as the future Manchester of the Dominion. The present population is somewhere about 4,000, of which a little over 600 are Protestants. The Presbyterian Church in this town was planted twenty-four years ago, when it was a mission station in connection with St. Louis de Gonzague. Twenty-two years ago the old church was built, at a cost of six hundred dollars, and the Rev. W. Coulthard became pastor of the two congregations. After a twelve years' incumbency he was succeeded by the Rev. Alex. Young. When Mr. Young left for his present charge of Napanee, Valleyfield was separated from St. Louis de Gonzague, and the Rev. J. S. Lochead became the minister of Valleyfield. During the two years of his incumbency the Church received aid from the Home Mission Fund. Upon the induction of the present minister, the Rev. George Coull, the congregation not only became self-supporting, but finding the old church too small for the increasing attendance, began at once to prepare for a new edifice. Thanks to the energy of the pastor, combined with the hearty co-operation of the people

and kind assistance from friends in Montreal, the new edifice, costing about nine thousand dollars, was opened practically free from debt, as the thousand dollars yet to be collected are to be raised this week. The church is a handsome Gothic building, and will seat six hundred people. The aisles have been carpeted and the pews upholstered in a very tasteful manner by the ladies of the congregation. The pews are of dark native ash, and the pulpit is a gem of workmanship. The building as a whole reflects great credit upon its architect, A. C. Hutchison, of Montreal, one of the elders of our Church; the Messrs. Loudon, of Valleyfield, the contractors for the work; and the ladies of the congregation. Twenty-seven years ago six or eight families comprised the Protestant population of Valleyfield—now there are over a hundred. Then they worshipped in a log house, which Dr. Donald Fraser said was unfit to keep pigs in; now they have one of the finest churches outside of Montreal in this section of the Dominion. The two stained glass windows—one, *in memoriam* of the late A. Anderson, Esq., having cost over five hundred dollars—are very fine. Of the original friends and founders of the church, Messrs. John Crichton, Hugh Wilson, D. B. Pease, and Robert Steele were present at the opening services, which were conducted by the Rev. J. S. Black, of Erskine Church, Montreal, who preached both morning and evening to very large and appreciative audiences, and also addressed the Sunday school in the afternoon. On Monday evening the ladies of the church held a strawberry festival, at which addresses were delivered by Rev. Mr. Black, and Rev. Messrs. Watson and Muir, of Huntingdon, in which the pastor and people were warmly congratulated upon the opening of their new church under such favourable circumstances.—COM.

PRESBYTERY OF PETERBORO—This Presbytery met in Cobourg on the 5th inst. There were nine ministers and five elders present. The business of most interest was the induction of the Rev. D. S. McCrae, late of the Presbytery of Glengarry, into the pastoral charge of the congregation, Cobourg. The induction was in the usual form—the Rev. E. F. Torrance presiding, Mr. Ross preaching, Mr. Cleland addressing the minister, and Mr. Bennett the people. The Rev. A. Carmichael, of Columbus, and the Rev. D. H. McLennan, being present, were invited to sit with the Presbytery. Papers were read from the Clerk of the Assembly in connection with the retirement of Mr. Windell, the reception of Mr. Fleming, and in connection with the appeal of the Rev. Alex. Bell and the session of St. Andrew's Church, Peterboro'. Leave was granted to the congregation of Warsaw to moderate in a call to a pastor. Delegates were appointed to visit the supplemented congregations and mission stations, in accordance with the instructions of the Assembly. The next meeting of Presbytery was appointed to be held in the First Church, Port Hope, on the third Tuesday of September, at ten o'clock a.m.—WM. BENNETT, Pres. Clerk.

PRESBYTERY OF BRUCE.—This Presbytery met at Port Elgin on the 4th inst. The Rev. George McLennan was appointed Moderator of Presbytery for the next six months. There was read an extra minute of General Assembly granting leave to the Rev. John Scott to retire from the active duties of the ministry. There was also read a letter from Mr. Scott tendering the resignation of his pastoral charge of North Bruce and St. Andrew's Church, Saugeen, on account of failing health and family affliction. The Presbytery expressed deep sympathy with Mr. Scott in his affliction, laid his resignation on the table in the meantime, and cited the congregation to appear for their interests at next regular meeting. The following minute was adopted in relation to Mr. Ferguson's translation, namely: "In agreeing to the translation of the Rev. William Ferguson, the Presbytery would put on record their high estimate of his many excellent virtues as a Christian minister; his faithfulness in preaching the Gospel, and taking pastoral oversight of the flock; his conscientious attendance on Church Courts, and his readiness to assist in all work for the furtherance of the Gospel. The Presbytery deeply regret the loss sustained by the removal of Mr. Ferguson from our bounds, and sincerely pray that the Great Head of the Church may bless his labours more and more to the saving of souls and the glory of God." There was sustained a call from St. Paul's Church, Walkerton, and Balaklava, in favour of the Rev. John Mordy, M.A., of Leith and Annan, in the Presbytery