

THE anniversary services in connection with the Presbyterian Church, Bracebridge, were held on Sabbath the 23rd ult. Very impressive discourses were preached morning and evening, by the Rev. J. Leiper of Barrie, to most attentive congregations. Owing to the almost impassable condition of the roads, the attendance at these services was by no means what might have been expected under other circumstances, yet those who were present felt doubtless, "it was good for us to be here." On the Monday evening following, the usual tea-meeting was held in Dufferin Hall, when a goodly number sat down to an excellent tea, provided by the ladies of the congregation. Addresses of a practical turn were delivered by the local clergymen, and by the Rev. J. Leiper. An excellent choir under the leadership of Mr. John Thompson, precentor, added much to the enjoyment of the evening. The statement was made during the evening, by Mr. Findlay, missionary in the district, that about \$200 were yet required to clear off the floating debt on the new church, and that the congregation had resolved to make an effort to clear this off as speedily as possible. Considering the many calls that have been made upon them during the past two years for this purpose, together with the very spirited efforts put forth, not only to support the ordinances of the gospel among themselves, but also to contribute to the Home Mission Fund of the Church, this further effort speaks volumes for their zeal in the work.

THE social and supper connected with the opening of the First Presbyterian Church, Brantford, took place on the evening of the 21st ult. The attendance was large and respectable. The capacious apartment, which, when finished, will constitute "the Audience Room" of the church, was filled with tables, which were loaded with materials for a supper of the richest kind, and surrounded by an appreciative company. Not less than 500 persons must have partaken of the good things provided for them. As soon as the several sections of the company had taken what was necessary, they withdrew to the basement, the finished part of the church. During the supper, several ladies were in attendance at "a bazaar table," where purchases were made of many useful and ornamental articles. During the evening a select choir of distinguished musicians, under the leadership of Mr. George Fox, assisted by Mr. Fisher as organist, performed a variety of pieces in such a manner as to call forth the hearty applause of the audience. The speakers were in good trim, and readily and easily imparted their spirit to the meeting. Rev. Messrs. Clarkson, Porter, and Dr. Cochrane, W. Patterson, Esq., M.P., R. Henry, Esq., the Mayor, representative men of the city, Rev. D. McLeod of Paris, and Rev. G. M. Milligan of old St. Andrew's, Toronto, delivered speeches characterized by intelligence, deep interest, and eloquence, which made a powerful impression on their hearers. The meeting continued, undiminished, till a late hour. The proceeds of the meeting must have been very satisfactory.—COM.

THE Sunday school children of St. Gabriel Street Presbyterian Church, Montreal, had a good time the other evening; after enjoying a social tea in the vestry, an adjournment took place to the church, where Mr. Ball, Assistant Superintendent, read the eleventh annual report. The school is in a more prosperous state than ever before. The school was greatly indebted to the earnest efforts of Rev. A. Campbell during the seven months in which he had charge during the absence of Rev. R. Campbell, the pastor. He has resumed the teaching of the Bible class, and will welcome all young people of both sexes who are above sixteen years of age. There are 123 scholars in the school; twenty-three joined during the year and twenty-one left. A new library has been procured from Edinburgh at a cost of £20. There are 500 volumes. The school continues to maintain a Zenana teacher in India. Collections for the year, \$71. John Paterson and Nellie Bickerstaff were awarded prizes for the two largest collections in the primary boxes, they having returned upwards of \$6 each, the former having earned that amount by selling newspapers, and the latter being only a few cents behind him. The Treasurer's report showed: receipts for the year, \$390.74, including \$112.10 balance on hand from last year. Sunday collections to date; missionary do., \$17.05. Expenditure, including cost of library, customs duties, and cost of excursion, \$262.68. Balance on hand, \$128.16. The reports were adopted, and the usual amount for the sustenance of the Zenana teacher

during the year was pledged. Rev. Mr. Morton and Mr. Greig, of Petite Cote school, delivered addresses. Mr. J. Robertson will present a silver medal to the scholar passing the best examination on the year's lessons; Mrs. W. Darling will award another to the child who recites the shorter catechism most correctly. Each scholar had a bag of candy before leaving for home.

THE annual missionary meeting of the Charles Street Presbyterian Church was held in the school house on Tuesday evening, the 22nd, and was largely attended. Rev. R. D. Fraser, M.A., pastor of the congregation, in the chair. After devotional exercises, the annual report was read by Mr. Banks, assistant secretary, Mr. Macdonald being absent from indisposition. The report showed that, notwithstanding the financial depression existing, the collections were in advance of the previous year, the amount collected by the association being \$615. In addition to this sum \$239.12 were contributed by Bible classes, Sabbath Schools, and Mission Bands, making the total amount raised by the congregation for missionary purposes \$854.12. The adoption of the report was moved by Mr. Brown and seconded by Mr. Gibson, and carried. The meeting was effectively addressed by the Presbytery's representative, Rev. Mr. McGillivray, Rev. Mr. Wardrope on behalf of foreign missions, and Dr. Fraser, medical missionary from the colony of Formosa. After a hearty vote of thanks to the speakers the meeting closed with the benediction.

THE annual missionary meeting of College Street Presbyterian Church was held on the evening of Wednesday, the 23rd inst., and was well attended. Rev. Alex. Gilray, the pastor, occupied the chair. The meeting opened with devotional exercises, after which the congregation was addressed by Rev. J. Stewart, missionary from Manitoba and the Saskatchewan valley. His remarks went to prove that if Presbyterians, and the Church of Christ at large, were not stirred to immediate and vigorous action in supplying the religious wants of this people, who are anxious and willing to be instructed, the field would soon be occupied and fortified by a Church which, in Lower Canada at least, has shown a desire to dictate to the civil government, and keep its adherents in ignorance and superstition. For the efficient support of this Mission in the North West more funds are required, as the present allowance to missionaries is quite inadequate, considering the cost of travel and sustenance in this widely-scattered mission-field. Rev. R. M. Croll, deputy from the Toronto Presbytery, then spoke at some length in regard to the claims of our Home missions, which are too apt to be neglected or lost sight of in the sympathy felt for foreign fields. The audience then sang a missionary hymn, after which the Rev. Dr. Fraser, our missionary from Formosa, China, addressed the meeting, the congregation listening with rapt attention while he faithfully, lovingly, and modestly recorded the great and good work being done by Rev. G. L. McKay and himself, under the blessing of God, in that far-off field, where the weeds of heathenism and superstition are rank and deep-rooted,—all the more so on account of their peculiar phase of civilization, upon which nothing but the grace of God, and His blessing on the abundant labors and prayers of His people, coupled with the teaching and preaching of the Word that giveth light, will ever cause the Sun of Righteousness to rise with healing on His wings. Dr. Fraser commended the claims of this mission to the conscientious consideration of his hearers and the Church at large.

PRESBYTERY OF PETERBOROUGH.—This Presbytery met at Port Hope on the 15th inst. There were present sixteen ministers and six elders. The Commission of Presbytery invested with presbyterial powers, appointed to visit Bobcaygeon, and dispose of Mr. A. F. Tully's resignation of his pastoral charge, reported that the said resignation had been accepted, and that they had agreed to put on record the following minute: "In consenting to accept Mr. Tully's resignation, the Presbytery desire to express their deep regret at his removal from the bounds, and their high appreciation of his many admirable qualities. Cordial and genial in manner, he has greatly endeared himself to his brethren. They feel that in agreeing to release him from his pastoral charge, they are parting from a co-worker who was always willing to assume his proper share of their common burden in the Church's service. They are glad to testify that he has proved himself a faithful, as well as a popular preacher;

and that as a pastor, he has been earnest and diligent in a superior degree. Their best wishes go with him and with his partner in life; and their prayer as well as their hope, is, that a suitable sphere of labor may soon open for him, and that there he may enjoy abundant and permanent success." The committee appointed at last meeting to visit the congregations of Springfield and Bethany reported, that these congregations now agree unitedly to raise the full salary of \$600 per annum, and that they are both exceedingly anxious to retain the services of their present pastor. Mr. Bennett in view of the altered circumstances, agreed to withdraw his resignation; at which result the Presbytery expressed its cordial satisfaction. Mr. Donald's resignation as clerk of Presbytery of which notice was given at last meeting—was accepted. Mr. Bennett was then unanimously appointed clerk. A circular respecting the more liberal support of the colleges was considered. It was unanimously agreed to urge congregations to greater liberality in this direction; and in order thereto, ministers were requested to arrange for an exchange of pulpits, so as to impart greater variety and interest to the Church's pleading in behalf of these institutions. A commission appeared from the missionary congregation of Minden, representing the extreme and urgent need of help in paying for their manse, or which a heavy load of debt is resting. After full consideration of the case, Presbytery agreed to aid in the liquidation of the Minden Manse debt. Congregations were requested to give help towards this object. Contributions were remitted to the Rev. W. A. McKay, Baltimore. Mr. Hodnett laid on the table his resignation of his pastoral charge at Perrytown, Oakhill, and Knoxville. Committees were appointed to visit those congregations; and arrangements were made to cite them to appear for their interests at next regular meeting of Presbytery. Messrs. Smith and Donald were appointed to draw up a suitable minute with reference to the decease of the Rev. J. M. Roger, M.A., Peterborough. The minute is as follows: "The members of Presbytery felt deeply touched when the intelligence reached them of the sudden death of their beloved friend and father, the Rev. J. M. Roger. Their deep sorrow is, however, greatly mitigated by the assurance which they all cherish, that according to his own hope and confident expectation, he has gone into the blessed and glorious presence of that Lord whom he loved so well and served so faithfully. The Presbytery, many of whose members, were familiarly conversant with his life and labors, and knew him in the mellowed maturity of his character and powers, cannot fail as they recall his kind face, cordial manners, brotherly spirit, and saintly life, to glorify God for the grace so conspicuously displayed in their venerable father. He has left behind for the imitation of his brethren the example of one who with his whole heart believed, and with his whole soul taught the great doctrines of our most holy faith. While his strength permitted, he was most exemplary as a pastor, encouraging the down-cast and the doubting, warning the backslidden, strengthening the weak, and comforting the sorrowing. His public devotions were, beyond those of most ministers, remarkable for their unction and elevation, their spirituality and appropriateness; while it is confidently believed, that secret prayer to an unusual degree sanctified his studious and solitary hours. His extensive and varied knowledge, the soundness of his judgment, and his long experience as a minister of Jesus Christ, made him a most valuable member of Presbytery; and his absence will be long felt at meetings of our Church courts. His brethren will hold his character in long remembrance, as one distinguished for its spiritual beauty, for its sterling worth, and for the harmony of the graces with which it is adorned. They are thankful that a life so spotless and so useful, ended so well; that he was serene and cheerful up to its solemn close; and that the Lord fulfilled so abundantly to His aged servant the sweet and precious promise, 'Even to your old age I am he; and even to hoar hairs will I carry you; I have made and I will bear, even I will carry and will deliver you.'" Several session-records were, on the recommendation of the committees appointed to examine them, ordered to be attested as carefully and correctly kept. Leave was granted to the congregation of Springville to dispose of the old church at that place. The next meeting of Presbytery was appointed to be held at Peterborough, and within St. Andrew's Church there, on the last Tuesday of March at 1:30 p.m. Answers to the questions on the State of Religion are to be sent to the undersigned.—W. DONALD, *Pres. Clerk*.