

MINISTERS AND CHURCHES.

WE understand that Mr. McDiarmid has declined the call to Kemptville and Oxford Mills.

AT Prince Arthur's Landing the ladies of the Presbyterian church held their annual social and bazaar in the Town Hall, on New Year's eve. There was a large attendance, and a good beginning made in funds for the building of a new church.—COM.

ON the 20th inst. the Rev. G. M. Milligan, of Toronto, gave his lecture on the "Contented Man—Who is he?" to an audience of about 400, in the Presbyterian church, Orillia. All were delighted with the lecture, which for two hours kept unflaggingly the attention of all the hearers.

THE Presbyterians of Greenbank had a very successful soiree on Christmas evening, when Prof. McLaren, of Knox College, gave an interesting lecture, subject, "Man and His Dwelling-place;" also a social on the following Tuesday evening. Proceeds of the soiree and social, \$150.—COM.

THE Sabbath school anniversary of the Sabbath schools of St. John's Church, Hamilton, was held on Friday, the 23th inst. From the reports read, these schools seem very prosperous, both numerically and financially. The names on the roll of all these connected schools amounted at the end of the year to 382.

THE annual missionary meeting in connection with St. Andrew's Church, Perth, was held in the church on Friday evening, 16th inst., and was unusually well attended. The Rev. Dr. Bain, pastor, occupied the chair. The speakers were the Rev. Messrs. Scott, McAllisier, Wilson, Burns and Sym. The choir furnished excellent vocal music. The collection at the close was the handsome sum of \$46, making the aggregate amount contributed for Missions during the past year \$436. This is an excellent record.

THE annual missionary meeting of the Orillia Presbyterian church was held on the 21st inst. There was a large attendance. Addresses were given by Rev. J. Gray and Rev. G. M. Milligan, of Toronto. The former gave a description of the mission fields and the work required to be done, and the latter shewed in his forcible, eloquent and impressive address the manner in which the funds could be raised to do the work. He urged methodical giving to the Lord—laying aside on the first day of the week the Lord's portion.

THE annual missionary meeting of Central Presbyterian Church, Hamilton, was held on the 21st, and was in every respect a great success. The congregational Sabbath school attendance had averaged 263, with 385 on the roll. The total mission contributions amounted to \$1,631, being an increase of \$306 over the amount of 1878. These funds were distributed as follows: Home Missions, \$745; Foreign Missions, \$255; French Missions, \$285; College Fund, \$238; Bursary Fund, \$60; Students' Missionary Society, \$28; Dayspring Mission, \$20.

A PLEASANT surprise meeting took place on New Year's night at the residence of Rev. Mr. Findlay, Bracebridge, when Mrs. Findlay was presented with an address of the most affectionate kind, together with a beautiful set of china and other valuable and useful gifts. This is as it ought to be. The minister's wife very often deserves and needs such expressions of kindly regard quite as much as the minister, and sure we are that the husband is better pleased with what is done in her honour than with what is more especially intended for himself.

ON the evening of the 14th inst., one of the Bible classes of the Rev. L. Cameron, Thamesford, accompanied by some other kind friends, in all about sixty, proceeded to the manse and presented him with an address and a valuable gold chain; also Mrs. Cameron with an address and a handsome silver ice pitcher and butter cooler. The addresses were of a most affectionate and appropriate character. Mr. Cameron briefly replied, thanking them for the kind and thoughtful addresses presented to himself and Mrs. Cameron, and also for the valuable gifts which accompanied them.

THE new Presbyterian church at Fort William, Lake Superior, was formally opened on Sabbath, Dec. 14th. There was a good congregation present, notwithstanding the exceedingly cold and stormy day. The Rev. D. McKencher preached in the morning from Psalm lx. 12. The Rev. J. W. Cathcart (Met-

odist), from Prince Arthur's Landing, preached in the afternoon. The ladies held a social and bazaar in aid of the Building Fund, from which \$126 have been realized. Since the opening, although the weather has been unusually severe, the attendance has been good.—COM.

A TEA meeting was given on Monday, 17th inst., by the ladies of the Presbyterian church, Waldemar. Tea was served in Hick's Hall. After the company had taken tea they adjourned to the church, where the intellectual part of the programme was provided. The addresses by Rev. Mr. Brown, Dr. Lewis, and Mr. W. T. Lathwell were very good, and were well received. The solos, duetts, trios, quartettes and choruses, by Mrs. Reid, the Misses Brown, Smith, and Fitzgerald, and Messrs. H. Reid, J. H. Hughes and W. T. Lathwell, were rendered with credit to themselves and pleasure to the audience, who encored the different pieces with rapturous applause. The amount realized was \$66. The meeting broke up at a late hour by the singing of the national anthem.

ON Christmas morning Mr. F. N. Beattie waited on the Rev. D. Paterson, at the manse, St. Andrew's, Q., and presented him in the name of the young men, with a pair of valuable and handsomely-trimmed buffalo robes and blanket. On the 30th ult., the annual soiree was held. After a sumptuous repast dispensed by the ladies, the pastor took the chair and was assisted by the Rev. Mr. Fraser of Chatham, and Messrs. Forlong and Mackie, of Lachute, who instructed and entertained the large assemblage by readings and speeches. The choir furnished music of a high class; solos, anthems, and particularly a cantata—"Ruth," which last occupied above twenty minutes, and was rendered in quite an admirable style, giving a treat such as is seldom enjoyed in the country.

THE late soiree in the Town Hall, Port Perry, under the auspices of the Presbyterian church, was a successful one. The edibles partaken of in the basement were served with liberal and willing hands, and those who shared them were well pleased with the efforts made to entertain them. The intellectual part of the programme took place in the body of the hall, and consisted of addresses and music, the former being ably contributed by the Rev. Messrs. Prosser, Carmichael, Cockburn, Abrams and Simpson, and the latter by Mrs. Swift, Miss Cleghorn, and others. The proceeds amounted to \$57. To their credit be it said, the members of this congregation have raised and paid, within the last twelve months, for the maintenance of the cause and for payment of debt, no less a sum than \$2,308, or nearly half as much as the entire tax of the corporation.

THE first public meeting of the Young Men's Literary Society, Three Rivers, took place on Friday, the 16th inst. The lecture room of St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church was well filled. The Rev. C. E. Amaron, the President, opened the meeting with prayer, followed by a few appropriate words of welcome. Messrs. L. Hoerner, J. M. McDougall and Amaron then favoured the audience with a trio, "There's music in the air." Then followed a recitation, "The Huguenot's battle song," by Mr. C. Kerr. Mr. J. Shortis read an interesting essay on the "Seasons." The event of the evening was a debate on the question: "Is the reading of works of fiction more beneficial than injurious?" The affirmative was ably supported by Mr. J. W. McDougall, B.C.L., and by Mr. R. W. Williams; the negative was then taken up by Mr. Alex. Houlston, B.C.L., followed by the Rev. C. E. Amaron, B.A. The question being then put to the meeting, the vote stood: for the affirmative, 33; and for the negative, 48. After a second trio, "Le Petit Oiseau," and the singing of the national anthem, the assembly dispersed, highly satisfied with the first and successful effort of the young men of Three Rivers.

THE annual missionary meetings of the two congregations at Smith's Falls took place last week, that of Union Church being held in the evening of Tuesday, the 13th inst., the pastor, Rev. Mr. Crombie, in the chair. The members of the deputation were the Rev. Messrs. Scott and Ross of Carleton Place, McAlister of Ashton, Wilson of Lanark, Burns of Perth, and Mylne of St. Andrew's Church, who, each in turn, delivered able and interesting addresses upon the various mission schemes of the Church. The Smith's Falls congregations have always been noted for their successful

missionary meetings, both as regards attendance, and the liberality of the people, and the meetings of this year fully maintain the reputation hitherto held by them. The meeting in Union Church was in every way a success, good addresses, excellent singing, and last but not least the usual good collection, which amounted to \$231, a considerable increase upon that of last year. The meeting in connection with St. Andrew's Church was held on the Thursday evening following, the pastor, Rev. Mr. Mylne, presiding. The speakers were the same as upon Tuesday evening, and the addresses were delivered with more life and even better effect than upon the previous occasion, the large attendance and the interest shewn by the people in the cause of missions, having a perceptible effect upon the speakers. The very efficient choir of the church under the leadership of Mr. D. McGregor, Miss Hunter presiding at the organ, rendered several pieces of music very suitable and appropriate to the occasion. Quite a healthy rivalry exists between the two congregations as regards the collections at their annual meetings. The amount contributed at this meeting was certainly a very liberal one, and although not so large as that of Union Church, shewed a greater increase over that of last year. The amount raised was \$181, making the total sum contributed by these two congregations \$414, which is certainly doing well, and it is to be hoped that other country churches will endeavour to do equally as well. If they only do so the large sum required by the Church this year will soon be made up, and our people will be none the poorer.—COM.

CHALMERS' CHURCH, Woodstock, after being for some time past closed for repairs and additions, was re-opened on Sabbath, the 18th inst. Rev. Prof. McLaren, of Knox College, conducted the service in the morning. The Rev. Professor took for his text James i. 25, "But whoso looketh into the perfect law of liberty and continueth therein, he being not a forgetful hearer but a doer of the word, that man shall be blessed in his deed." In the afternoon at two o'clock, a Sabbath school meeting was held, which was addressed by some of the ministers of the town. At four o'clock Rev. Mr. Munro, of Embro, preached a sermon in Gaelic. In the evening Rev. Prof. McLaren again conducted the service. Rev. Mr. McMullen, pastor of Knox Church, generously arranged to have no service in his church so as to give his congregation an opportunity of uniting with their brethren of Chalmers' Church in their interesting service. The church was crowded. The preacher took for his text Luke xiii. 23, 24: "Then said one unto Him, Lord, are there few that be saved? and he said unto them, strive to enter in at the strait gate, for many I say unto you shall seek to enter and shall not be able." On Monday evening a soiree was held which was also highly successful. The tables were spread in the lecture room and were loaded with everything tempting to the palate. They were filled again and again. Everyone went away satisfied. Supper being over the intellectual part of the entertainment was entered upon. The church was full; so much so that chairs had to be placed in aisles to accommodate the crowd. The proceedings opened with a selection by the choir under the leadership of Prof. Tanney. Rev. Mr. McKay, pastor of the congregation, occupied the chair. The speakers for the evening were Revs. P. F. McLeod, of Stratford, D. D. McLeod, of Paris, Jas. Little, of Princeton; McMullen, Carson, and Milner, of Woodstock, all of whom delivered exceedingly appropriate addresses. They congratulated the congregation of Chalmers' Church, and the pastor, upon the improvements made, and trusted that the good work would go on and prosper in their midst. On Tuesday evening the Sabbath school anniversary services were held. There was an ample supply of provisions and about three hundred children sat down to tea. After tea an adjournment was made to the church. Rev. Mr. McKay occupied the chair. Mr. Thomas Mair, superintendent of the Sabbath school, read the annual report. The collections are for missions and amount to about \$5 per Sabbath. Addresses were delivered by Rev. Mr. McEwen, of Ingersoll, and Rev. Mr. Hallam, returned missionary from India. Mr. Hallam exhibited a collection of Indian idols, which excited quite an interest among the young people. During the evening the children of the school sang several selections which were well rendered. The collections on Sabbath amounted to \$202, and the proceeds of the soiree were about \$220.