

MINISTERS AND CHURCHES.

THE evangelistic meetings at Bradford have been well attended, and much good has been accomplished.

A PLEASANT anniversary was held lately, in connection with the Bond Head Presbyterian Sabbath school.

THE Rev. Professor McLaren conducted anniversary services in the Presbyterian church, Georgetown, on the 16th ult. The audiences were large both morning and evening. The congregation is prospering under the care of Rev. Mr. Wallace.

At the close of the weekly meeting last week, Miss Annie Drummond, organist of Newcastle Presbyterian Church, was presented with a Christmas present of \$34 as a mark of the congregation's appreciation of her services.

THE Knox College Glee Club, accompanied by Prof. Collings, visited Milton on the 13th ult., and gave a grand concert in behalf of the Presbyterian church. They drew a crowded house, a hundred dollars being realized. A local paper said "it was one of the best concerts ever given to a Milton audience."

On the evening of last Monday week, the Rev. Dr. Fraser, Queensville, was presented with an address containing warm expressions of appreciation for the value of his ministerial labours in the congregation and neighbourhood, as well as for his high personal character. The address was accompanied with a valuable fur coat, cap and whip, and a beautiful cape for Mrs. Fraser, on whose behalf and his own Dr. Fraser made a suitable and feeling reply.

On the evening of Friday, 21st ult., a pleasant surprise was given to Mr. and Mrs. Thomson at the manse, Hastings. The congregation desiring to show in some tangible form, their appreciation for their minister and his better half, appointed Mrs. Peters, Mrs. H. Fowlds, and Mrs. Moore to present them with the compliments of the Christmas season and also with a purse of sixty dollars and numerous other presents. Mr. Thomson thanked the congregation on the Sabbath following in suitable terms for their kindness.

COLLESTON Presbyterian church, nine miles from Prince Albert, North-West Territory, was opened for divine service on Sabbath, the 18th of November. The service was conducted by the pastor, Rev. R. G. Sinclair, who preached from Ps. lxxxvii. 2. The building is well finished and reflects credit upon this small settlement considering the great cost of building material and that most of the settlers are only making homes for themselves. Besides the voluntary labour given by the settlers themselves, it cost over \$500, \$100 of which was obtained from the Church and Manse Building Fund.

ON Christmas eve the Rev. W. Hamilton, D.D., of this city, and his good lady completed their golden wedding. The happy event was celebrated by a family gathering at the residence of Mrs. Hamilton's brother, Hon. C. S. Patterson. Many relatives and friends had come a long distance in honour of the occasion, and those who could not be present sent their best wishes. Dr. Hamilton, although having retired from the active ministry, is not entirely out of harness, and preaches once every Sabbath in his little suburban church, which has during the year been enlarged and improved. All Dr. and Mrs. Hamilton's children are doing well. Of his sons, the eldest is a doctor of divinity, professor of mental science, and an author of distinction. The second is a well-known barrister of this city; the third is a farmer, and the fourth an architect, the two latter being now settled in Minnesota. There are also two daughters surviving and twelve grandchildren. Most of these were gathered in that happy company, and the warmest greetings were given the Dr. and his wife on the joyful occasion.

AT the annual meeting of the Lakefield congregation, on the 20th of December, the treasurer presented one of the most encouraging reports of any year in its history. Not only was there no indebtedness in any department of church work, but a surplus of more than eighty dollars in the treasury. The growth of the congregation has been continuous during the present pastorate, its membership being nearly three times larger than it was when he assumed the oversight.

The Sabbath school has been even more prosperous under his superintendence, and assisted by an efficient staff of willing workers, conducted on the most approved principles, and the missionary spirit fostered. During the past year the sum of one hundred and three dollars (one dollar per member) was raised for missions. The teachers and friends of the school on Christmas eve showed their appreciation of their pastor's efforts for their moral and spiritual improvement by presenting him with a great coat trimmed with Persian lamb skin, and gauntlets of the same material. On the same evening, with their usual quiet and thoughtful consultation of the pastor's needs, the members of North Smith handed him a wolf-skin robe for his cutter. The whole amounting to about one hundred dollars.

THE Rev. J. McEwen, secretary of the Sabbath School Association of Canada, visited Collingwood last week in the interest of Sabbath school work. He preached in the Presbyterian church on Sabbath morning, the 15th ult., when he set forth in a very able discourse, the high place which Home occupies in the divine economy, and the responsibilities of parents and teachers in the religious training of children and youth. In the afternoon a mass-meeting of Sabbath school children was held in the Methodist Church. A goodly number of parents and others were in attendance, there being in all nearly 700 present. The opening exercises were conducted by the pastors, after which Mr. McEwen spoke to the young people in a very happy and effective address which was listened to with marked attention. On Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday evenings, a Sabbath Institute was held in the vestry of the Methodist church. The true methods of Bible study, and the fundamental principles of successful teaching were well set forth by Mr. McEwen. The large attendance of teachers and parents evinced a deep and living interest in Sabbath school work, and it is to be hoped, that a fresh impulse will be given by these meetings, to a more thorough preparation on the part of teachers, and to more zeal and earnestness in seeking the welfare of the children and youth of our land. At the close of the meeting a donation of twenty dollars was given to the Association to aid in carrying on the good work.

PRESBYTERY OF BRUCE.—This Presbytery met within Knox Church, Paisley, on December 11th, fourteen ministers and twelve elders being present. The Rev. John Ferguson was appointed moderator for the ensuing six months, and took the chair. There was read a minute of the Presbytery of Stratford, intimating Mr. Kay's declination of the call to Knox Church, Paisley. Mr. Tolmie was empowered to moderate in a new call when the congregation is ready to proceed. The following minute anent the translation of Mr. Paterson was adopted: "The Presbytery in parting with Rev. J. T. Paterson would express their regret at the removal from among them of a brother for whom they cherish a sincere regard and affection. They would hereby testify to the diligence and zeal with which he performed his duties as a minister of the Gospel, and as a member of this court; and in releasing him from his present pastoral charge, would rejoice that he has been called to a larger and more important field of labour, where they trust and hope that the blessing of the Great Head of the Church will be with him and crown all his labours for the Master with success." The Rev. P. McF. McLeod, who was present as a deputy from the Home Mission Committee, was heard on behalf of the Scheme for the Augmentation of Ministers' Stipends, giving a full explanation of the plan, by the carrying out of which it is hoped that the proposed minimum stipend may be reached. On motion of Mr. Duncan it was agreed to as follows: The Presbytery would express their satisfaction at the visit of the Rev. P. McF. McLeod, as the representative of the Home Mission Committee, in the interest of the Augmentation Scheme; record there hearty approval of the statements and sentiments contained in his excellent address there anent, and resolve to co-operate with the Home Mission Committee in carrying this scheme into effect; and in order to do so appoint a committee of Presbytery to mature a plan to be acted upon, with the least possible delay. The following committee was appointed in terms of the above resolution. Dr. Scott (convener), Messrs. Anderson, Tolmie, Goulay, Rowand and McFerrlane; and before the close of the meeting arrangements were made for visiting the con-

gregations at present paying less than the proposed minimum stipend. Rev. Mr. Tolmie submitted the Home Mission Report, setting forth that the Assembly's Home Mission Committee had made all the grants and appointments asked for, but that only two of the ministers chosen had accepted their appointments, viz., Rev. E. B. Rodgers, to Manitoulin, and Rev. James Ferguson to Tarbut. The Rev. Messrs. Wardrope and Duff, who had each been appointed by the Presbytery to labour for a month at Manitowaning, gave a report of their work and of the general condition of our mission on the Manitoulin Island. The thanks of the Presbytery were tendered to them for their diligence. Sessions were instructed to forward their replies to the questions issued by the Assembly's committees, to the conveners of the corresponding committees of Presbytery, on or before Feb. 10th, 1884, viz.: those on the State of Religion to Dr. Scott; on Sabbath Schools to Dr. Moffat, and on Temperance to Mr. Wardrope. The next ordinary meeting of Presbytery was appointed to be held within Free St. John's Church, Walkerton, on the second Tuesday of March, 1884, at two o'clock, p.m.—JAMES GOURLAY, Pres. Clerk.

PRESBYTERY OF KINGSTON.—The quarterly meeting of this Presbytery was held at Belleville on the 17th and 18th days of December. There was a large attendance of ministers, but few elders. Rev. Walter Coulthard was appointed moderator for the ensuing six months. The first sederunt was devoted to the hearing of addresses on the claims of the several schemes of the Church, and also an address from the Rev. R. H. Warden, who explained the nature and requirements of the new Scheme for the Augmentation of Stipends. The Presbytery expressed thanks to Mr. Warden for his clear exposition of the scheme, and pledged itself to use its best efforts to carry it out to a successful issue. In furtherance of this a committee with Mr. Maclean as convener was appointed to make arrangements for the visiting of all the congregations within the bounds before the end of February. By a plan of exchange decided on it was expected that the work will be accomplished. Rev. Mr. Burnfield advocated a re-arrangement of the stations on the borderline between the Presbyteries of Brockville and Kingston. It was afterwards decided to ask the Brockville Presbytery to transfer Rockport to the Presbytery of Kingston. Mr. Young presented the report of the committee to visit the congregation of St. Andrew's Church, Seymour, in the matter of a retiring allowance to Dr. Neill. It appeared that the people were willing to pay an annuity of at least \$310 with the use of the manse and glebe during his lifetime. Dr. Neill resigned his charge, and a meeting of Presbytery is to be held in St. Andrew's Church, Seymour, on the 31st inst., at one o'clock p.m., to issue it. Mr. Kelso tabled a call from the congregation of St. Columba and St. Paul, Madoc, in favour of the Rev. Joseph Gandier of Fort Coulonge in the Presbytery of Lanark and Renfrew. The usual steps were taken. The salary promised is \$500 with manse together with supplement. An application for reception from Rev. Professor Ross, of Queen's College, was granted. Mr. Maclean, convener, presented the report of the Home Mission Committee. In accordance with its recommendations arrangements were made for the visitation of the North Hastings district during the winter, and for the supply of vacancies and mission stations. Grateful recognition was taken of the kindness of the directors of the Kingston and Pembroke Railway in granting passes to parties on mission business. Mr. Leishman was empowered to moderate in a call in the congregations of Camden (8th) and Tamworth. Committees were appointed to tabulate the returns on the State of Religion, Sabbath School Work, and Temperance respectively. Mr. Mitchell convener of the first, Mr. McCuaig of the second, and Mr. Young of the third—THOMAS S. CHAMBERS, Pres. Clerk.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.—Rev. Dr. Reid has received the following sums for schemes of the Church: viz.: Widow's Mite, Picton, for Foreign Mission, Formosa, \$1; A Friend, Welland, for Foreign Mission, Formosa, \$2; An Unknown Friend, Monreal, for Foreign Mission, Formosa, \$2.50; A Friend of the Cause, Grantly, for Foreign Mission, Formosa, \$1; A Friend, M.F., for Home Mission, \$10.25; A Lady Friend, Dunbar, for Foreign Mission, \$5; G. Leith, Toronto, for Home Mission, \$10, also for Foreign Mission, \$10.