

MINISTERS AND CHURCHES.

A TEA-MEETING held in connection with Knox Church, Ayr, on Friday evening, 7th inst., produced \$40, which will be applied to the interior adornment of the church.

ON the evening of the 5th inst., a soiree was held in the Presbyterian church, Merriton. The programme was chiefly made up of speeches, readings and music. The proceeds amounted to nearly \$100.

THE Rev. Joseph Elliot, formerly of the Nazareth Street church, Montreal, has received a cordial and unanimous call to Cannington, in the Presbytery of Lindsay. We understand that the congregation entertain strong hopes of Mr. Elliot's acceptance.

REV. J. B. FRASER, M.D., gave one of his interesting lectures on China, at Queensville, on the 7th ult. The proceeds of this and of another lecture delivered previously by Dr. Fraser, are to be applied to the purchase of an organ for the Queensville Presbyterian church.

THE anniversary services of St. Paul's Church, Hamilton were held last Sabbath. Rev. D. J. Macdonnell, of Toronto, preached both morning and evening. The attendance was very large. Collections were taken up at the close of each service which yielded a handsome amount in aid of the building fund.

A SOCIAL was held at Little's school-house, in the neighbourhood of Galt, on Wednesday evening, the 5th inst. It was one of a series now being held by the Young People's Association of Knox church, Galt, and yielded the sum of \$35, which will go toward paying the expenses of Mr. Jacob Corsbie, missionary to Trinidad.

THE congregation at St. Hyacinthe, Que., under the care of the Board of French Evangelization of our Church, have recently completed the erection of a handsome brick church edifice, at a cost of upwards of \$4,000. It is to be dedicated to the worship of God on Sabbath first, the services being conducted by the Rev. Professor Campbell of Montreal and Mr. C. E. Amaron.

THE ladies of the Presbyterian church, Demorestville, held a fruit social and concert on the evening of Thursday, the 6th inst. The vocal and instrumental music were apparently much appreciated by the audience, as were also a reading given by Mr. Bell, of Acton, and an interesting and instructive account given by the Rev. John Burton, of Belleville, of a tour through England and Scotland.

A TEA-MEETING was held in Chalmers' Church, Scotch Settlement, Presbytery of Chatham, on Tuesday evening, 4th inst. The pastor, Rev. D. Currie, occupied the chair, and addresses were given by Rev. Messrs. McColl, Walker, Battisby and Cairns. The amount realized was \$60 by sale of tickets, and \$106 in the shape of voluntary contributions towards the payment of the debt on the church.

THE Rev. W. Galloway was inducted into the pastoral charge of the Presbyterian congregation at Lucan, on the 19th ult., Rev. Mr. Ballantyne preached. The minister was addressed by Rev. J. Rennie, and the people by Rev. H. Currie. Ten months ago, Lucan was but a mission station. Mr. Galloway went to labour there as a student-missionary, and has already worked it into a very promising charge.

ON the 10th inst., a social festival was held in the new Presbyterian church, Mount-pleasant, of which Rev. Thos. Alexander is pastor. Owing to the state of the roads the attendance was smaller than it would otherwise have been. Still a good number was present to hear a most interesting and instructive lecture from Rev. John Smith, of Bay Street church, Toronto, on "The sins of the pews." Full justice was done to the subject. It was highly appreciated by the audience, and a cordial vote of thanks tendered to him. Several pieces of music were given by young friends from Brantford, which, together with the very bountiful repast prepared by the ladies, helped to make the evening's proceedings both pleasant and profitable.—COM.

THE annual report of Crescent Street Presbyterian Church, Montreal, indicates energy and liberality very creditable to a congregation working at present under unusual disadvantages. The total amount contributed for all purposes was \$31,431.92, as follows:

Sustentation Fund, \$4,228.81; Poor Fund, \$437.54; Visiting and Aid Society, \$109.90; Missionary and Benevolent Society, \$2,500; Sabbath School, \$436; Building Fund, \$21,322.17; Presbyterian College, Montreal, \$2,397.50. Of the amount collected for missionary and benevolent objects, the following sums were apportioned to the various schemes of the church: Home Missions, \$350; Foreign Missions, \$250; French Evangelization, \$175; Ministers' Widows' and Orphans' Fund, \$56.60; Presbyterian College, Montreal, \$500; Assembly Fund, \$30. Although without a preacher for over four years, the congregation has been able to keep well together, contribute largely to the schemes of the Church, and erect a handsome building, the cost of which is all provided for, leaving it practically free from debt. From the figures given above, it will be seen that nearly \$6,000 has been contributed for missionary and benevolent purposes during the year, and over \$25,000 on account of ordinary revenue and building fund. It is to be hoped that the example of Crescent Street will stimulate other congregations to get rid as soon as possible, of the debt on their new churches.

A MISSIONARY meeting was held in the Crescent street Church lecture room on the evening of Wednesday last, which was largely attended, there being between 300 and 400 present. Rev. Principal MacVicar presided, and an address was delivered by the Rev. R. H. Warden in which he gave a bird's eye view of the mission work of the Church and urged increasing liberality to all the schemes. This congregation is to be congratulated on the success of their second invitation to the Rev. A. B. Mackay of Brighton, England. The London (Eng.) Presbytery met on Tuesday afternoon 11th inst., and the same evening principal MacVicar received a "cablegram" intimating that the call had been accepted and that the Presbytery had agreed to translate Mr. MacKay to Montreal. Mr. MacKay will be a great acquisition to the Montreal pulpit and to the whole Church. He is expected to begin his ministry in Crescent street in the month of May. From the annual report of this congregation just issued, we learn that the membership at present is 348. Additions have been made during the year both to the number of elders and deacons, there being now twelve elders and thirteen deacons. The congregation moved into their handsome new church in March 1878, since which time the Sabbath attendance has greatly increased. Upwards of 600 sittings are let, a number which will doubtless be largely augmented now that the call has been accepted. The expenditure last year for ordinary purposes was \$4,869, the receipts exceeding those of 1877 by \$838. Towards the building fund upwards of \$21,300 were received during the year. The balance due on the building has we understand been fully provided for by subscriptions extending over the next three years and by the proceeds of the sale of the old church property on Cote street. Notwithstanding the large amounts contributed towards the Building Fund upwards of \$2,500 were raised during the year by the Missionary Society of the congregation. The Sabbath school, which is under the superintendence of Mr. David Morrice, has 167 scholars and twenty-five teachers on the roll. The school contributed during the year \$436, including a special collection for the Building Fund of the church. Towards the support of one of the Theological chairs in the Montreal Presbyterian College special annual subscriptions from individual members of the congregation were paid last year to the amount of \$1,615, to the Bursary Fund \$282.50, and to the Endowment Fund \$500. The total receipts of the congregation for all purposes last year reached the sum of \$31,432, an average of fully \$90 per communicant.

PRESBYTERY OF SAUGEEN.—This Presbytery met in St. Andrew's Church, Mount Forest, on the 11th and 12th inst. There were ten ministers and seven elders present. Mr. McClung was appointed to moderate in a call at Ayton and East Normanby. Mr. D. Stewart was appointed Moderator of the Session of Waldemar, etc.; he was also appointed to moderate in a call in these congregations. The following were appointed commissioners to the General Assembly: Messrs. Wm. Park and A. C. Stewart by rotation, and Messrs. S. Young and D. Fraser by ballot; and Messrs. D. McMillan, Jos. Nisbet, Isaac Starrott and James Allan, elders. Mr. D. W. Cameron laid on the table a call from the Cotswold congregation in favour of the Rev. C. Cameron in the Pres-

bytery of Glengarry, when it was moved by Mr. Fraser, and seconded by Mr. Campbell, "That the call from Cotswold being from part of a charge only, and therefore illegal, be not sustained." It was moved in amendment by Mr. Moffat, and seconded by Mr. Nisbet, "That no further steps be taken in the meantime to sustain the call from Cotswold. But that it lie on the table, that an adjourned meeting of Presbytery be held to consider the whole matter, that all parties in North Arthur and Cotswold be cited to appear at said meeting, and that all steps be taken to continue or dissolve the union said to subsist; to give the people of North Arthur full opportunity of concurrence if so disposed, and should it be found inexpedient to continue the union that it be dissolved, and the call sustained as from Cotswold alone. Said meeting of Presbytery to be held in Guthrie Church, Harriston, on the 2nd Tuesday of April at 3 p.m." The Presbytery reconsidered the application of the Rev. Gilbert Smith and agreed to recommend him to the General Assembly to be received as a minister of this Church. Messrs. McLeod, Morrison and D. McMillan were appointed a deputation to visit Markdale, Flesherton and Berkeley to consider the advisability of disjoining Berkeley from Markdale and Flesherton and opening up a station at Williamsford to be wrought in connection with Berkeley. The Clerk was instructed to correspond with the Owen Sound Presbytery anent the matter, as Williamsford is either within or upon the borders of the Owen Sound Presbytery. The Presbytery considered the report of the Assembly's Committee for the preparation of a scheme for the continuous Supply of Mission Stations and unanimously approved of the same. The remit anent the Home Mission Fund was considered when it was moved and seconded, "That the Presbytery is in favour of the separation of the Home Mission Fund and Supplementary in terms of the remit." It was moved in amendment and carried, "That this Presbytery consider it undesirable to establish a Separate Supplementary Fund, as it would result in establishing an additional collection to the six already existing and doubts whether it would produce the desired result." The Presbytery unanimously agreed to nominate the Rev. Professor McLaren, Knox College, Toronto, as moderator of next Assembly. The next regular meeting was appointed to be held in Durham, on the 2nd Tuesday of July at 2 p.m.—S. YOUNG, Pres. Clerk.

DUFF'S CHURCH, EAST PUSLINCH.

This congregation is called after the famous missionary in India, Rev. Alexander Duff, D.D., who recently died at Edinburgh. He was for many years in Calcutta where he established schools among the natives and which are now numerously attended. The East Puslinch congregation have enjoyed the ministry of four settled pastors since its organization. Rev. Wm. Meldrum was settled as pastor here forty years ago and continued his ministry for fifteen years. Mr. Meldrum has retired from the active duties of the ministry, and is now a resident at Merriston, and regularly attends this church. He occasionally preaches here especially at communion seasons. He is well advanced in years, being in his eighth decade, but is still hale and hearty. Rev. Alexander McLean was the second pastor. He was ordained and inducted as minister of this congregation in November, 1855. He continued as pastor till his untimely end, which occurred on the Queen's birthday, 1864. He was paying a friendly visit to one of his parishioners at Morriston; in leaving the house which was at night, he fell from the steps at the door; when found he was unconscious and could give no account as to his fall; he died in the course of a few hours after the accident. He was a most promising and talented minister. His death cast a gloom not only over his own and neighbouring congregations, but over the whole Church. His library was reckoned the largest of any minister in the Church, containing thousands of volumes, some of which were very rare. He was a writer of considerable note, especially on Roman Catholicism. His treatise called, "The more Priests the more Crime," was widely circulated. He has ably written on other topics such as baptism, etc. During his ministry Duff's church was crowded to the door. There were two other A. McLeans settled as pastors in neighbouring congregations, both of whom have gone to their reward. The people in those days were in the habit of calling their ministers by shorter names than their proper ones. The minister of the West Church was called