

On Sunday, Dec. 17th, the Rev. James Stuart, of Prescott, conducted the anniversary services in the united congregation of Hickston and South Mountain. Sickness and bad roads prevented quite a number from listening to the excellent services preached by Mr. Stuart. Under the able management of the pastor, Rev. J. F. Macfarland, B. A., this congregation has become entirely free of debt on both church and manse. The example thus set is one which many of our congregations might well follow.

Presbytery of Peterborough.

The Presbytery of Peterborough met on the 19th December. There were 16 ministers and 6 elders. Leave was granted to Mill St., Port Hope, to moderate in a call so soon as the people are prepared for the step.

The Rev. Mr. Dowsley, being present was invited to sit with the presbytery.

On motion of Mr. Carmichael, seconded by Mr. Thomson, the following resolution was adopted unanimously on the subject of the coming plebiscite: "The Presbytery would repeat the deliverance of the Supreme Court of our Church that the general traffic in intoxicating liquors is contrary to the Word of God and to the Spirit of the Christian religion, and that it ought not to be legalized by the votes of the Christian people, and in view of the fact that the Ontario Legislature has appointed a Plebiscite for the 1st of January, by which the electors of our Province may express their judgment on the prohibition of the liquor traffic, the Presbytery express the hope that our People may be found united in their efforts to oppose this traffic and urges upon our ministers to bring this subject before our congregations."

The following committees were appointed to consider the several remits of Assembly with instructions to report at next meeting, viz: Enlarged Powers of Synod—Messrs. Carmichael, Cleland and Roxburgh. Relation of Colleges to the Church—Messrs. Smith, Terrence and Tutley. Recommendations of Hymnal, Committee—Messrs. Roxburgh, Scott, Thomson and Wright. Representation of Missionary Stations in Church Courts—Messrs. Lord, Hay and Clarke.

Mr. Carmichael reported regarding Presbyterial Visitation Meetings held in Campbellford, Hastings and Norwood with most satisfactory results. Mr. Cattenach was appointed to represent the Presbytery at the forth coming of annual meeting in Cobourg of the Womans' Foreign Mission Presbyterial Society. The next meeting of Presbytery was appointed to be held in Mill St. Church, Port Hope, on the third Tuesday of March, at 9 o'clock. Delegates were appointed to visit Augmented congregations as follows:—Springville and Bethany—Mr. Terrence. Warsaw and Dummer—McCarmichael. Havelock—Mr. Thomson. Janetville, &c.—Mr. MacWilliams. Bobcaygeon—Mr. Bloodsworth.

The resignation of Mr. Ewing was accepted of on the ground of age and infirmity. Mr. McNaughton was appointed to declare the pulpit vacant on Dec. 31st. Mr. Bloodsworth was appointed Moderator of Session during the vacancy. Steps were taken to secure for Mr. Ewing a suitable retiring allowance. In the evening a profitable conference was held in St. Paul's School room on the state of Religion.—Wm. Bennett, Presiding Clerk.

Presbytery of Brockville.

Met in First Church, Brockville. In the absence of the moderator Mr. A. Robt. Toye, an elder, was appointed to the chair. Elder's commissions in favor of Messrs Andrew Reily, Newton Casselt and N. H. Cochrane were re-

calved. Permission was granted to Mr. Jas. Madill to remain in California on condition that an ordained minister shall take charge of his congregation. A reference from the Toledo and others anent the minister's residence was received, referred to a committee and disposed of as follows: (1) That the minister reside at Athens. (2) That Athens contribute \$250 per annum towards stipend fund and a manse, and that Toledo contribute \$275 per annum. (3) That the Presbytery express its surprise that the contributions per family at Toledo should be so far below that of Athens, and earnestly entreat them to contribute according to a more equitable rate. (4) That Mr. Sinclair be appointed to preach at Toledo and Athens and advocate this finding of the Presbytery. A letter accompanied by a doctor's certificate was received from Mr. Joseph H. Higgins asking to have his leave of absence extended to May 1, 1894. This leave was granted. Mr. McCulloch's certificate from the Presbytery of Kingston was received and acknowledged. Messrs. Sinclair and Graham were appointed to address the W. P. M. S., at the next regular meeting of the Presbytery. A letter from Dr. Torrence in regard to the probationer's scheme was read and contents noted. Mr. Macfarland gave notice that at the next regular meeting he would move that the Sunday School Association be discontinued. Mr. MacKenzie reported on behalf of the committee appointed to prepare a deliverance on the Plebiscite as follows: In as much as a vote is soon to be taken as to the advisability of taking the matter into their serious consideration with a view to giving it their support both by their influence and by their votes. The above became the judgment of the court. Mr. Stuart, Presbytery's H. M. Convener, presented the H. M. report and showed that at present there were only two groups of mission stations and that these were regularly supplied with Gospel ordinances. Stone's Corners and associated stations were advised to hear students of the graduating class of Queen's College with a view to calling one of them next summer, and to make application for a grant of \$125 per annum from the Augmentation Fund. The committee on A. I. M. F., was instructed to arrange a system of exchanges with a view to canvassing the Presbytery in the interest of that fund. The next regular meeting was appointed to take place at Prescott on the last Tuesday in February, 1894, 2:30 p. m.—George MacArthur, Clerk.

Presbytery of Barrie.

At the meeting of this Presbytery on Nov. 23, the resignation of the charge of Stayner and Sunnidale by Mr. R. Moodie was accepted and the Rev. Alex. McDonald, of Duntroon, was appointed to declare the pulpit vacant on Dec. 10, and thereafter to act as moderator of session. Mr. R. W. Goodall intimated his desire to be employed in the Home Mission work of the church, and, on the recommendation of a committee appointed to examine him, it was agreed to employ him as a Catechist. The Presbytery engaged in consideration of re-arrangement of congregations in the bounds. Reports of committees formerly appointed to visit congregations in this interest were received and discussed. It was agreed to effect, if practicable, the following changes: Central Church, Oro, to be united with Guthrie and Mitchell Square Churches and Oro Station; Bondhead and Cookstown to be disunited with the view of uniting the former to Monkman's Station in Tecumseth, and the latter with Townline and Ivy. A committee was appointed to visit other congregations and consult as to further changes.

These steps have been taken in order to lessen the claims of this Presbytery on the Home Mission and Augmentation Funds. It was agreed to procure assistance to the Rev. A. McDonald in supplying stations at Nottawa and Valley Road connected with the large charge of West Nottawasaga. Leave was granted to the congregation of Bradford to mortgage their church property for \$2,000. The Presbytery adjourned to meet at Barrie on Tuesday, Jan. 9, at 10:30 a. m., to consider remits of the assembly and emergent business in the forenoon and to hold a conference on spiritual topics in the afternoon and evening.—Robt. Moodie, Clerk.

Presbytery of Owen Sound

The Presbytery met in Knox Church Dec. 18, at 10 a. m., Mr. McAlpine moderator. Judge Creaser for the committee appointed to consider enlarged powers of Synods recommended: That Synods shall issue and finally dispose of all complaints and appeals not involving polity or doctrine, reserving the power of the General Assembly on application to grant special leave to persons dissatisfied with the judgment of Synod to appeal to the assembly. This was adopted. It was agreed to hold an adjourned meeting to consider the committee's report on the Hymnal. Other remits shall be reported on at the meeting in March. Presbytery resolved to meet in Lion's Head, Tuesday, Jan. 10, at 2 p. m. to license and ordain Mr. John Maxwell who is laboring as a missionary there, Mr. Rodgers to preside, Mr. Hamilton to preach, Mr. D. A. McLean to address the minister and Mr. P. McVrob the people. Mr. McLaren was appointed to conduct the devotional exercises at next meeting. The ministers of the town, Dr. Waite, convener, were appointed to prepare a programme for conference on Monday afternoon and evening preceding the next regular meeting in March. The evening meeting to be public. The Presbytery then adjourned to meet in Knox Church, Owen Sound, Tuesday, Feb. 13, at 10 a. m., and the meeting was closed with the benediction.—John Somerville, Clerk.

Presbytery of Kamloops.

Met at Vernon, Dec. 13.—Arrangements were made for carrying on the Chinese work begun some time ago by the Pres. of Calgary.

Temperance.—Resolved to correspond with the Presbyteries of the Synod asking them to unite in suggesting that some such question as "What is your opinion upon making total abstinence and separation from the liquor traffic a condition of membership in our church?" should be sent down to sessions next year. Or in sending a memorial to the General Assembly asking it to consider whether the declaration of such condition is not necessary as a matter of consistency in view of its own repeated declaration on the temperance question. It was agreed that a conference upon state of religious Sabbath observance, temperance and missions be held at the first evening sederunt of next ordinary meeting upon the question of the "relation of the colleges to the church" it was agreed to approve heartily all the recommendations of the Assembly's committee.

A considerable time was spent upon the proposals of the Hymnal Committee. The following resolutions were adopted:

- (1.) To approve the recommendation that the present hymnal be enlarged and revised.
- (2.) To approve the resolution that the whole Psalter be retained.
- (3.) To suggest that the whole book