

## Presbytery of Guelph.

At the meeting of this Presbytery, which was held in Knox church, Guelph, on the 21st ult., there was a fair attendance of both ministers and ruling elders. Payments were called for to the Synod, Presbytery and Assembly Expense Funds. The committee appointed to consider the report as to who might preside at the ordination and induction of ministers, whether the stated moderator, or another appointed for the purpose, gave in their report embracing the two following resolutions: 1. That the act of licensing, or ordaining, or the act of inducting is a radical function of Presbytery which can be performed only through and by the moderator of the Presbytery, while it is regularly constituted. 2. That in the absence or constitutional disability of the stated moderator the Presbytery shall appoint some other ministerial member of the court as moderator *pro tempore* to perform these functions. After a lengthened discussion of each of these resolutions, the report as a whole was adopted on a vote of fourteen to nine. From this decision Dr. Torrance dissented, and was joined by Dr. Dickson, Mr. Mullan, Mr. Hamilton, Mr. Blair, ministers, and Messrs. Webster and Hagar, ruling elders, for the following reasons: First, That it is in harmony with the fundamental principles of Presbyterian Church government for a Presbytery to appoint any one of the ministers on its roll to preside at the settlement of a minister or licentiate over a vacancy to which he has been regularly called; second, That the Presbyterian Church generally has recognized this principle as appears from the forms of procedure which they have adopted, and by which they have been governed in cases of settlement, and by their common practice founded thereon; third, That this is in accordance with the rules and forms of procedure of the Presbyterian Church in Canada, and has been the practice of this Presbytery, so that the adoption and carrying out of the principle that it belongs exclusively to the stated moderator to preside on such occasions is out of harmony with said forms and is a novelty in its procedure. A committee was appointed to arrange for the usual annual conference in March next, and St. Andrew's church, Berlin, was chosen as the place of meeting. The conference to begin on the evening of Monday, 16th March, and the Presbytery to meet for ordinary business at 9 o'clock in the forenoon of the following day. An extract minute from the Presbytery of Huron was submitted, setting forth the action of that court in declining to grant the translation of Mr. Anderson, Goderich, who had been called to the congregation of Knox church, Guelph. On application now made leave was granted to this congregation to have a call moderated in when they found it convenient. The Presbytery called for the report of its committee on filling the two chairs now vacant in Knox College, Toronto, and the same was given in and read by Mr. Horne, secretary of the committee. After a very careful and able representation and discussion, it was resolved to forward the Board of Management of Knox College the name of Mr. Hogg, now engaged in Oxford, for the chair of Old Testament literature, embracing all Old Testament studies, and that of Rev. Mr. Martin, M. A., of Morningdale Free Church, Edinburgh, for that of Apologetics and Church History. The remit on the proposed reduction of representation from Presbytries in the General Assembly was referred to a committee to report at the meeting in March. The clerk presented a report of the provision made of probationers and others for the supply of the pulpit of Knox church, Guelph, and gave the names of probationers appointed to Melville church, Fergus, and the same was approved. A communication from Eden Mills congregation, asking the continuance of Mr. Strachan's services as pastor, was read and the request granted. Obituary notices were submitted and adopted on the death of the late Mr. Porteous, who had been for several years a resident in the bounds, although his name was not on the roll, and of the late Dr. Reid, so long the able and esteemed agent of the church, and senior clerk of the General Assembly. Authority was granted to the moderator and clerk to call a special meeting of Presbytery to consider a call should one be forthcoming from the congregation of Knox church, Guelph. Public intimation having

been given of the time and place of next meeting, the proceedings were closed with the benediction.

## Presbytery of Hamilton.

THE Presbytery of Hamilton met on January 21st. Steps were taken towards transferring the congregation of Delhi to the Presbytery of Paris. Rev. Dr. Denny, of Scotland, was nominated for the chair of Apologetics and Church History in Knox College, and Rev. Dr. Robinson, of Princetown, N.J., for that of Old Testament Literature. A Presbyterial organization was formed of the young people's societies within the bounds. A proposal for uniting Albion with Ancaster was considered. The remit from the General Assembly proposing a reduced representation was not approved. The rest of the business was not of public interest.—JOHN LAING, Clerk.

## Presbytery of Maitland.

THIS Presbytery met *pro re nata* in Huron church, Ripley, on January 20th, and inducted the Rev. R. McLeod into the pastoral charge of the congregation of Huron church. The moderator, Rev. John Rose, presided. Rev. F. A. MacLennan acted as clerk, *pro tem*. Rev. S. M. Whaley preached an excellent sermon. Rev. A. MacKay delivered the charge to the minister, and Rev. F. A. MacLennan addressed the congregation. Mr. McLeod received a cordial welcome from the congregation.—JOHN MACNABB, Clerk.

THIS Presbytery met at Wingham, 21st January, 1896. The Rev. D. Perrie was appointed moderator. Rev. F. A. MacLennan was appointed clerk *pro tem*, the regular clerk being absent owing to ill health. The Rev. James Little being present, was invited to sit as corresponding member. Elders' commissions in favor of Messrs. H. Warner and G. Acheson were received. The clerk was instructed to certify Mr. Finlay Matheson to the senate of Knox College, and Messrs. John Murray and Hector McKay, students, to the Home Mission Committee, recommending them for work in the Home Mission field during the summer vacation. The committee appointed to consider the jubilee of the Rev. A. Sutherland's ministry reported. The report was received and its recommendations adopted, and the following motion unanimously carried:—That the Presbytery meet in Ripley, Knox church, on Monday evening, March 18th, at 7.30 to celebrate the jubilee of Rev. A. Sutherland, that Messrs. Murray and Malcolm be a committee to prepare an address to be suitably illuminated and presented to Mr. Sutherland on that occasion, and that Messrs. J. L. Murray and D. B. McRae be the speakers, together with Rev. Mr. Murray of St. Catharines, Ont., who shall be specially invited; also, that the attention of the congregation of Knox church, Ripley, be drawn to the approaching jubilee of their minister, with the suggestion that they take steps in the celebrating of the same; also, that the congregations of Strathelbyn, P.E.I., Sootsburn, Pictou, Earlton, West Branch and River John, N.S., formerly ministered to by Mr. Sutherland, be notified of the jubilee time. Mr. R. Harrison presented a report of his attendance at the meeting of the Synodical Committee on augmentation of stipends. The report was received, and the following motion passed:—“That this Presbytery is of the decided opinion that the congregation of Walton should receive \$150 from the Augmentation Fund according to our former application, and that we now reiterate our request.” Mr. Hartley was appointed moderator of the session of Wroxeter congregation during Rev. Mr. Anderson's absence in Scotland owing to ill-health. On motion it was agreed that no change be made in the representation to the General Assembly. The Rev. J. Somerville, D.D., of Owen Sound, Ont., was nominated as Professor to the chair of Apologetics and Church History in Knox College, Toronto. The Rev. Professor D. M. Gordon, B.D., of the Presbyterian College, Halifax, was nominated moderator of the next General Assembly. The treasurer's and auditors' reports were received and adopted, and estimates for the year were passed. A circular from the Presbytery of Picton was read stating that said Presbytery will apply to the General Assembly for leave to receive as a minister of this church the Rev. John P. Macphie, a minister of the American Presbyterian church. The Revs. Messrs. Murray and Stewart were appointed to visit Pine River congregation re-

garding augmentation of stipend. It was intrusted to the moderator to appoint two members of Presbytery to speak on the occasion of the presentation of the annual report of the Women's Foreign Mission Society at Lucknow, on March 17th. The following resolution was passed:—“The Presbytery having heard of the sudden and unexpected death of Rev. Dr. Reid, the venerable and much esteemed senior clerk of the General Assembly of our church, expresses its sorrow that by Dr. Reid's death our church is deprived of the services which Dr. Reid had so satisfactorily rendered to the church as clerk of Assembly, and agent of the Western Branch of our church for the past forty-four years. The Presbytery further expresses its profound sympathy with Mrs. Dr. Reid and family in this, their hour of sorrow, and commends them to God for consolation, and instructs the clerk to transmit a copy of this resolution to Mrs. Reid and family.” The following resolution regarding the Rev. S. Jones, retired minister, at Brussels, Ont., and a member of this court, moved by Rev. A. Hartley, seconded by Rev. D. B. McRae, was unanimously carried:—“This Presbytery would express its gratitude to the great King and Head of the Church, for the long extended life of our venerable father, the Rev. Samuel Jones, at the completion of his eighty-eighth year. It would also put on record its appreciation of his long and valuable services as a minister of the Church of Christ, and rejoices that strength was given him to continue in active work to the almost unprecedented age of eighty years. The Presbytery would likewise testify to his ability as a preacher of the Gospel, whose talents were of no mean order, and would record its kindly remembrance of his faithfulness in discharging the various duties required of him as a member of this court, and his cordial, sympathetic and brotherly Christian intercourse with his co-presbyters. The Presbytery sincerely prays that our venerable father may be spared many more years, and that the evening of his days may be full of peace and joy from the spiritual presence of the Master, and the bestowal of covenant blessings.” Mr. Ross was appointed to convey a copy of this resolution to the Rev. Mr. Jones. A short time was spent in conference on the state of religion. The Presbytery will meet again in Knox church, Ripley, on Monday, March 16th, at 7.30 p.m., to celebrate the jubilee of Rev. A. Sutherland, Ripley, and at Lucknow the following day at 1.30 p.m., at which meeting the Presbyterial Women's Foreign Mission Society will present their annual report.—JOHN MACNABB, Clerk.

## Presbytery of Whitby.

OWING to St. Paul's church being occupied by the anniversary gathering of the Presbyterial W.F.M.S., the regular meeting of this Presbytery was held in the Sabbath school room of Trinity Congregational church, Bowmanville, on Tuesday, 21st of January, 1896, at 10 o'clock, a.m. As usual the first half hour was given to devotional exercises, including an address of ten minutes on the aggressive attitude the church should assume, by the Rev. Mr. Phalen, of Blackstock. The Presbytery being regularly constituted, the roll called, and the docket read and approved, the Rev. J. B. McLaren, of Columbus, was appointed moderator for the current twelve months, Mr. Armistead's term having expired. On motion of Mr. Fraser, seconded by Mr. Eastman, a telegram was prepared and forwarded to Mrs. Reid and family offering the Presbytery's deep sympathy on the death of the Rev. Dr. Reid, senior clerk of General Assembly, and for many years the trusted, faithful and successful agent and administrator of the schemes and funds of the Church. The resignation tendered at previous meeting of the Ashburn and Uira congregations by their pastor, Rev. R. B. Smith, was considered, and after the expression of the good opinion of Mr. Smith's earnest, able and faithful services, on the part of the brethren, accepted—his pastorate to terminate on the last Sabbath of February. The moderator, Mr. McLaren, was appointed interim moderator, and a committee, consisting of Messrs. R. D. Fraser, D. Armistead and A. McAulay, was appointed to visit the vacant congregations, also Claremont and Port Perry, with a view to the re-arrangement of the field. A report from Mr. Norris, secretary of the Presbyterial Y.P.S.'s, giving an account of the convention held on the 14th of October last in Bowmanville was received, and on