

MINISTERS AND CHURCHES.

THE Ormstown branch of the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society contribute seventy dollars this year in aid of Foreign Missions for Women. The Sabbath schools of that charge are undertaking the support of an orphan at Indore.

THE Sabbath school teachers and Bible class of Cumberland surprised their pastor on Saturday evening, 21st inst., and after having taken possession of the manse, presented Rev. Robert Hughes with a valuable fur coat accompanied with an affectionate address.

MR. D. D. McLENNAN, elder, was on the 3rd inst., presented with a gold watch and an address by the members and adherents of Hephzibah Church, Williamstown, as a token of their appreciation of his valuable services as precentor for upwards of thirty years.

ON the evening of Wednesday, 11th inst., Misses E. Hyndman, J. Campbell, and L. Cooper waited on Mrs. Fraser, wife of Rev. Alex Fraser, of Ekfrid, and presented her (on behalf of the ladies of Guthrie's Church, Ekfrid, and Cooke's Church, Caradoc,) with a set of mink furs, and also a china tea set.

A LARGE donation party of the members and adherents of the Second Presbyterian Church congregation, Medonte, paid the Rev. R. Scott (who resides at Wyebridge) a visit on Monday the 9th inst., taking with them a very handsome and useful present. The ladies provided a sumptuous repast, and an address was read, to which Mr. Scott replied in a very appropriate manner. The ladies of the congregation also made Mrs. Scott a very nice present.

THE ladies of Knox Church, Gravenhurst, recently held a bazaar in the town hall, and realized about \$200 for the building fund of the congregation. The Managing Committee of Knox Church, Gravenhurst, also gratefully acknowledge the receipt of the following amounts, for the church debt, viz.: \$5 (additional, from Westminster congregation); \$15 from the Sabbath school of Chalmers' Church, Woodstock; and \$5 from Knox Church, Vaughan.

AT the close of the Wednesday night prayer meeting, on the 15th inst., the members of the Central Presbyterian Church, presented their late pastor, the Rev. D. Mitchell, with an address and a purse of \$300. Mrs. Mitchell was also remembered by the gift of a handsome gold brooch and a silver cake basket. Mr. Mitchell made a suitable reply, and expressed his regret at leaving the congregation just when they were becoming endeared to him, but predicted a bright future for them.

ON Thursday evening, 5th inst., a tea meeting was held in connection with the Presbyterian Church of Keene, and was very largely attended. Tea was served in the Town Hall, after which an interesting and instructive lecture on "Why am I a Presbyterian?" was delivered in the church by Rev. Mr. Bell, of Peterborough. The meeting was enlivened by excellent music by the choir. Proceeds over \$100. A social was held the following day when about \$30 more were realized.

A VERY successful tea meeting was held in Knox Church, Lancaster, on the evening of the 19th February. Addresses were delivered by the Rev. Messrs. Matheson, McGillivray, Fuller, and Chown. A sumptuous repast was provided by the ladies of the congregation in their usual liberal style; the choir discoursed very excellent music; and happiness and good cheer characterized the night's proceedings. On the succeeding evening a juvenile social was held, when the youth of the congregation collected to do justice to what remained of the good things of the preceding night. The entertainment consisted of speeches from several local gentlemen; several well-rendered pieces of music, readings, recitations, etc. The proceeds amounted to \$100, which are to be devoted to replenishing the funds of the congregation.

ON the evening of the 13th February, a number of the members and adherents of Knox Church, St. Vincent, in all about eighty, proceeded to the manse and after serving tea, presented the Rev. Archibald Stevenson, with a very flattering address and a handsome parlour clock for his study. Mrs. Stevenson was also presented with a very pretty silver spoon holder. Mr. Stevenson replied in suitable terms, thanking them for their handsome gifts and for their kind ad-

dress. Mr. Stevenson has been settled in his present charge six years, and this is not the first time that the congregation have in similar manner shewn their appreciation of his services.

THE annual Sabbath school social of the Presbyterian church in Bobcaygeon was held on Friday evening, Feb. 6th. Tea was served in Taylor's Hall. The night being favourable, and the roads good, the attendance was large. After tea, the company removed to the church. The Sabbath school report was read, which shewed the school to be in a prosperous condition. The prominent feature of the evening was the dialogues and recitations by the children, which were performed in a manner creditable both to themselves and their teachers. Short and appropriate addresses were then delivered by Rev. Messrs. Wilkinson, Wright and Smylie. The whole was interspersed with excellent music and singing. At the close it was announced that \$43.25 had been realized.

THE annual meeting of Knox Church congregation, Stratford, was held on Monday, the 16th. The reports presented were very encouraging. The addition to the membership during the past two years was 230, the removals 55, so that the roll at the close of the year numbered 489, as against 314 at the end of 1878. The income for the past year for ordinary purposes amounted to \$4,341; Mission schemes, \$909, including \$180 contributed by Sabbath school, and \$78.73 contributed by Woman's Foreign Mission Society. There was also contributed during the year \$1,218 towards the reduction of the debt on the church. The total receipts for all purposes amounted to \$6,786.33, an amount considerably larger than has ever been reached before, and when the pressure of the times is considered and the fact that during the year a new system of finance was adopted, an amount which reflects credit on the congregation and gives hope of greater things yet, in the years to come.

THE 29th anniversary of the Orillia Presbyterian Sabbath school was held on Wednesday, the 18th inst. About three hundred and fifty children and upwards of one hundred adults were present. The children, at six o'clock p.m., sat down to a sumptuous tea, to which they did ample justice and which they enjoyed amazingly. The Rev. J. Gray occupied the chair, and the Rev. M. Fraser, of St. Thomas, gave one of his felicitous addresses, keeping up the attention of his youthful audience to the last. Prizes were distributed to four of the pupils for reading the whole Bible through in a single year; to twenty-nine for regular attendance throughout the year; and to four for repeating the Shorter Catechism correctly. Of these last three were little daughters of Mr. John Perry, one of them only six years of age. A very enjoyable evening's entertainment was brought to a close about nine o'clock, and the children, as they retired, were ready to say that they never before partook of such fine cakes and tea, or heard such a telling address.—COM.

THE congregation of St. Andrew's Church, East Oxford, held a soiree on the evening of Tuesday, the 17th inst. Owing to the mild state of the weather the roads were in a very muddy state. Notwithstanding this, however, a large crowd gathered out to the entertainment. A sumptuous tea was provided by the ladies in the school-house adjoining the church. After tea the audience assembled in the church. The duties of chairman were efficiently discharged by Rev. D. M. Beattie, pastor of the congregation. The choir of Chalmers' Church, Woodstock, was present and delighted the audience with a number of choice selections. Addresses were delivered by Rev. J. Little, Princeton, Rev. W. A. McKay, Woodstock, Rev. R. N. Grant, Ingersoll, and Rev. J. M. Aull, Ratho. Heartly congratulations were tendered by the various speakers in view of the recent settlement of a pastor over the congregation, and much excellent advice was given in regard to the carrying on of the work. After a general vote of thanks, a very pleasant and successful social gathering was brought to a close. The amount realized was about \$80.

ON Tuesday evening, 17th inst., was held an entertainment of unusual excellence in the Presbyterian church, Orillia. At six o'clock the visitors found the large school room filled with several tables loaded with all kinds of tempting food. Nothing comparable to this feast has ever before been seen in the town, and the entertainment did great credit to the ladies of the Presbyterian congregation who had charge of the management. After partaking

of the liberal supply of good things before them, the people adjourned to the church. The chairman, Rev. J. Gray, gave a short address, and, at its close, introduced the Rev. M. Fraser, of St. Thomas, the lecturer of the evening. Mr. Fraser announced as his subject, "Man with Four Heads," and treated it with skill, tact, and vigour. His many telling anecdotes gave point and interest to his theme, and his subject was well handled to the close. The lecture was listened to with attention and interest by a large audience and seemed to leave a very favourable impression. After the usual votes of thanks the meeting was closed about ten o'clock. We understand that the proceeds, upwards of \$70, are to be devoted towards the purchase of new chandeliers for the church.

THE soiree held a short time ago by the Presbyterian congregation of Dunnville was the best thing of the kind that has been held this season. The church was filled up stairs and down, the chairs in the aisles, the benches in the vacant places, even the standing room being occupied, and as seats were provided for 350 persons, there must have been that number if not more present. The meeting was called to order soon after the hour appointed, by the pastor, Rev. Geo. A. Yeomans, B.A., who offered a prayer for the Divine blessing upon the social enjoyment of the hour, when the ladies immediately began serving the refreshments, which were handed about by the young men of the congregation. After tea the choir called the audience to order by a voluntary piece of music, when the pastor introduced the chairman of the evening, D. McDougall, Esq., of Berlin, Ont., whom he spoke of as an old friend, a man popular at social meetings in his own county (Waterloo) and an eligible bachelor. Mr. McDougall, taking the chair and rising to address the audience, began at once a series of racy and witty remarks which kept the audience full of laughter, and finally broke out into an energetic and forcible speech on the duties of congregations to their churches, concluding by submitting to the ladies a plan of extinguishing church debts by small weekly payments. The programme was then taken up, and with music and speeches, the evening was spent most pleasantly by old and young. Proceeds, \$80.

FROM the annual report of St. Andrew's Church, Toronto, we glean the following very gratifying facts:—Number of families in the congregation, 290; number of single persons not connected with families, 144; number of communicants on roll in January, 1880, 591; number reported last year, 540; number added during 1879, 92; number removed by certificate to other churches, 34; number removed by death, 5; number struck off on account of removal from the bounds of the congregation, or long continued absence from the services of the church, 12; net increase during the year, 51; average attendance at Lord's supper during the year, 393; baptisms (all public, except in cases of sickness, and in one other case of a peculiar character), 38; deaths, 14; number attending Young Men's Bible Class (held only during early part of 1879), 10; number attending Young Women's Bible Class, 30; average attendance on public worship has been about 1,000. For missions and the various schemes of the Church, \$1,881.51 have been contributed. This has been allocated as follows:—Home Mission, \$865; Foreign Missions, \$175; College Fund, \$120; French Evangelization, \$40; Manitoba College, \$40; Ministers' Widows' and Orphans' Fund, \$60; Aged and Infirm Ministers' Fund, \$40; Assembly Fund, \$27; Synod and Presbytery Fund, \$23.80; Queen's College Scholarship Fund, \$97.24; St. Mark's Lot—(instalment, \$143.75; interest, \$35.26)—\$179.01; St. Mark's Sabbath school, \$20; Dorset S.S., \$93.61; "Presbyterian Record," \$67.50; binding volumes of magazines for Mission on Canada Pacific Railway (this amount, it is expected, will be refunded by the men), \$29.55; loss on Mechanics' Bank bill, \$3.80; total, \$1,881.51. The total debt on church and manse has been reduced to \$59,531.90, and an effort is being made to pay off the whole of the floating debt, amounting to \$17,865.24, in the course of the present year, which bids fair to being entirely successful. The total congregational income for the past year was \$24,079.84, of which \$14,533.68, were for congregational, and \$9,546.16 for other purposes. Average contribution from members for all purposes, \$40.27.

AT a special meeting of the Presbytery of Brockville, held in Prescott, Feb. 10th, the remits of Assembly respecting the standing of retired ministers, and