

MINISTERS AND CHURCHES.

THE Presbyterian congregation of Seaforth enjoyed the privilege of hearing the Rev. Mr. Coull, of Nova Scotia, last Sabbath.

ON Friday evening, 8th ult., the Rev. Mungo Fraser of St. Thomas was presented by his Bible class with a very handsome chair accompanied by an address.

THE anniversary services in connection with the Presbyterian Church, Seaforth, will be held on the 15th inst., on which occasion the Rev. A. D. McDonald of Elora is expected to preach.

ON Wednesday evening, 27th ult., Rev. Mr. Fraser of Orono was visited by a large deputation from his congregation who presented him with a number of articles such as cutter, robe, dining-table, etc., to the value of \$65.

A SOCIAL was held in the Presbyterian Church, Dundalk, on Wednesday evening, the 27th ult. It was quite successful, and its success is enhanced by the fact that the greater part of the entertainment was contributed by the children.

PREVIOUS to the departure of Mr. Joseph Builder, student, of Knox College, from Manitoulin Island, where he has been laboring during the past season, the ladies of the Manitowaning congregation presented him with a purse of fifty dollars and an address warmly expressing appreciation of his work.

THE induction of the Rev. John Pringle into the pastoral charge of the united congregations of Georgetown and Limehouse took place on Tuesday, the 26th ult. In the evening addresses were delivered by Revs. Dr. Robb and Messrs. Milligan; Pringle, Brampton; Masson, Galt; Cameron, and several ministers belonging to other denominations.

ON the evening of Monday, the 25th ult., Rev. Alex. Bell delivered a lecture in St. Andrew's Church, Peterboro', to the Young Men's Presbyterian Association of that town, on the question, "Why am I a Presbyterian?" The answer to this question included a full description of church polity in general and of Presbyterian Church polity in particular, with scriptural reasons why the latter should be preferred.

AT the annual social meeting of the St. Thomas congregation on the 25th ult., the chair was occupied by Dr. McLarty, Mayor of the town, and addresses were delivered by Rev. Mr. Fraser, the pastor; Rev. Dr. Cochrane, of Brantford; Colin McDougall, Esq., ex-M.P.; and the Rev. Geo. Simpson. In the course of the evening an address from the congregation was read by Mr. James McCrone and presented to Mr. Fraser along with a handsome set of drawing-room furniture.

THE indefatigable Convener of the Home Mission Committee, the Rev. Dr. Cochrane, conducted the anniversary services of the Hyde Park Presbyterian Church on the 24th Nov. The congregations in the country are indebted to such brethren as represent important interests of the Church, and also to their congregations for sparing them, while they seek thus to awaken interest in the church's work. His address to the children in the afternoon was pleasingly instructive, and will not, it is hoped, be soon forgotten.—COM.

A CORRESPONDENT writes that the village of Henfryn, in the county of Huron, containing about fifty families, enjoys neither preaching nor Sabbath School work, and is even without a day-school. The village is situated on the line of the Wellington, Grey & Bruce Railway. The people generally are poor, depending largely for support on one or two saw-mills in the neighborhood. There is at present a proposal on foot to build a "Union church," that is, a church that will be open to all evangelical denominations. But in order to do even this the inhabitants will need aid from without. It is to be hoped that the required assistance will be forthcoming and that a place of such present and prospective importance will not be left long without religious ordinances.

THE congregation of Chalmers' Church, Kingston, has during the past season built a very fine manse on the lot adjoining the church. This movement was inaugurated by the Ladies Aid Society, who recommended it to the annual congregational meeting and offered to head the subscription list with \$1,200. The matter was taken up in earnest by the congregation. In a few days the whole amount necessary was subscribed, and in nine months the manse was finished,

occupied, and nearly all paid for. On Monday evening, the 18th inst., a social was held to welcome the pastor, Rev. F. McCuaig, and his family into the new manse. The following day several members of the congregation sent some useful and valuable articles of furniture, and a committee of the Ladies' Association called and presented Mr. and Mrs. McCuaig with a sum of money to assist in completing the furnishing. These are only some of the indications of the marked prosperity of the congregation since the induction of Mr. McCuaig some fifteen months ago.

IN the communication regarding mission work on Manitoulin Island, which appeared in our issue of 15th Nov., Mr. McKay stated that not having taken notes of the report presented by the treasurer he was unable to give statistics of the amounts received in aid of the Manitowaning church. A correspondent furnishes the required figures as follows: The congregation and Sabbath school of Agincourt, Scarboro, per J. Milnie and Rev. R. P. McKay, \$56; J. O. Anderson, of Montreal, formerly of Toronto, \$25; A. McGill, Chatsworth, one stove, \$14; the Chatsworth congregation, \$5; G. M. Butchart, Owen Sound, \$6.97; Francis Law & Co., Meaford, \$5; S. J. Dawson, M.P., \$5; Robert Little, Acton, \$3; Col. Rankin, \$2; W. S. Williamson, \$5; James Kilgour, \$5; Arch. McDonald, \$2; W. G. Reid, \$5; Ogilvy & Co., \$10; — Johnston, \$5; Wm. Kerr, \$5; A. Nairn, \$2; James McLennan, \$2; James Michie, \$5; O. Mowat, \$5; A. Friend, \$2; A. Friend, \$2; Creaser and Morrison, \$2; Passengers on steamer "Celtic" at Little Current, per A. McKay, \$9.25; Little P. S. Inspector, \$3; Robert Kilgour, Toronto, \$10; Presbyterian congregation of Georgina, \$17.45; Mrs. John McKay, Thamesford, \$5; Captain Foote, \$2; Robert Stone, \$2. Our correspondent further states that there is still a debt of \$200, and that any sums sent will be thankfully received.

THE annual soiree of the West Church, Toronto, was held on the evening of Thursday, the 28th ult. After tea, addresses were delivered by Revs. Mr. Hunter, Dr. Castle, and Dr. Robb. On the following evening the Sabbath school anniversary was held, when about 350 children assembled besides a large number of their parents and friends. The pastor, Rev. R. Wallace presided and gave a short address, after which the superintendent, Mr. W. B. McMurrich read the report for 1878 which showed that the attendance was largely increased and that much progress had been made otherwise. The monies collected were then distributed to various objects. On motion of Hon. John McMurrich, late superintendent, seconded by Mr. John Kennedy, deputy superintendent, the report was adopted. Addresses were afterwards delivered by Messrs. John Gordon and John Winchester, teachers. About fifty volumes, provided by the superintendent, were awarded as prizes, chiefly for attendance every Sabbath. A medal was presented to Miss Muirhead for gathering the largest number to the school, and another to Miss Wylie for being second in this good work. These presentations were made by Mrs. Harvie. Honorable mention was made of several who missed only one or two Sabbaths. A delightful evening was then brought to a close.

PRESBYTERY OF BARRIE.—This Presbytery met at Barrie on Tuesday, 26th November. Present, seventeen ministers and four elders. Among the items of business were the following: A committee was appointed to prepare a circular setting forth the measure of giving in each congregation as compared with the average of the whole Church and that of the Presbytery, and to send the circulars to the sessions and congregations of the bounds. Steps were taken towards the settlement of long standing difficulties connected with the Mulmur Glebe, by instructing the Session of Mulmur and Toronto to enquire how the terms of the deed as to the appointment of trustees have been complied with, and by agreeing to refer to an arbitrator the question of the ownership of the property. Dr. Fraser addressed the Presbytery on behalf of the Assembly's Foreign Mission Committee and enforced the claims of the Committee to more liberal support. The necessities of the Home Mission Committee also were presented by a circular, showing the indebtedness of the fund, and giving warning that the claims for supplement would not be fully met in the spring unless larger contributions than in the past were made. The Presbytery's Home Mission business engaged its consideration for a considerable time. Arrangements were made for meeting

the deficiencies of the stipends of missionaries laboring in the stations during summer; and the deputies holding missionary meetings were instructed to obtain pledges from the stations as to the amount they will give for the support of ordinances among them. A committee consisting of Dr. Fraser, Messrs. Gray and Leiper, ministers, and Mr. D. Carmichael, elder, was appointed to confer with Mr. Alexander McDonald, of Nottawasaga, and Mr. Rodgers, of Collingwood, to effect, if possible, a more satisfactory arrangement than the present for supplying the district with ordinances. Mr. Rodgers was instructed in the meantime to arrange supply for Nottawa, to be given by members of Presbytery. Another committee was appointed to confer as to the expediency of a more extensive re-arrangement in another part of the Presbytery's field, comprising the Townships of Innisfil, West Gwillimbury and Tecumseth. The members of this committee are the ministers whose congregations are affected by the proposed changes, namely, Dr. Fraser, (Convener), Messrs. W. McConnell, J. A. McConnell and E. W. Panton. They are to meet on call of the convener, and to report to next meeting of Presbytery. Mr. T. B. Roy, a native of India, appeared and intimated a desire to be educated as a medical missionary for service in his native country. Messrs. Leiper and W. McConnell were appointed to examine his papers, and to aid him in preparing a statement of the object of his application to the Presbytery. Next regular meeting, Tuesday, 28th January, 1879.—ROBERT MOODIE, *Pres. Clerk*.

PRESBYTERY OF LANARK AND RENFREW.—This Presbytery met in Carleton Place on the 19th ult. Twenty-seven ministers and seven elders were in attendance. Rev. R. Campbell read the Home Mission Committee's report. Special attention was called to the state of the Home Mission Fund, and a resolution was passed that the missionary deputations meet and confer with sessions and boards of management of the congregations visited to secure, if possible, larger contributions to the fund; and that student missionaries be required to take up collections for home missions in their fields. Leave was granted to moderate in calls at Ross and Bristol whenever the congregations are prepared. The committee appointed to visit Middleville and Dalhousie reported and was re-appointed, with instructions to report the Presbytery's belief that a division of the charge would be for the general good. The following students were certified to the boards of their respective colleges, viz., Messrs. McKenzie, Fitzpatrick, Somerville, Brownell, McArthur, and Blakely. A committee was appointed to prepare an overture to the General Assembly on the qualifications of student-missionaries. It was agreed that a rate of ten cents per family be raised for the Synod and Presbytery funds. The subject of employing qualified teachers to train preceptors, and also how best to improve the service of praise in the Sabbath schools, was remitted to a committee, of which Mr. Burns, Perth, is convener, to mature a plan to be submitted at next meeting. Notice of motion for the formation of Women's Foreign Missionary Associations was given, the same to be considered at next meeting. The times for the regular meetings were again considered, and in consequence of the nearly equally divided state of opinion, it was agreed to defer final action till next meeting; meanwhile it was agreed to hold the next meeting at Almonte, in St. John's Church, on the third Tuesday of January next, at 1.30 p.m.

ELOPEMENT OF A NUN.

The "Italie" relates that a young French Sister of Mercy, Mlle R—, attached to the hospital of the Santo Spirito, in Rome, has just eloped under romantic circumstances. She entered the order of St. Vincent de Paule five years ago, at the age of fifteen, and at the commencement of August last was sent to tend the sick in the above-named hospital. Her youth and beauty soon attracted the attention of the doctors; the Lady Superior became disquieted on remarking that she lent a willing ear to the compliments addressed to her, and had more than once occasion to reprimand her. This only irritated the young nun, and caused her to become disgusted with her life. "I cannot remain here," she said; "I am resolved to recover my liberty." About ten in the evening of Friday last, the gate-keeper of the hospital was awakened by a woman dressed all in black who wished to go out, showing a pass signed by the house doctor. He at first refused, as this was not sufficient; but he allowed himself to be persuaded. A carriage had been waiting near for an hour and a half. The female, who was no other than Sister R—, entered the vehicle, in which a male companion was already seated, and they were driven off rapidly. No traces have yet been obtained of the fugitives.