

Ministers and Churches.

THE Mite Society of the Presbyterian Church, Moncton, collected \$503 last year.

BRANDON Presbyterians still hope to get Rev. Mr. Pitblado to take charge of the church there.

THE Meaford Presbyterian Sabbath school has recently given some \$40 for the cause of missions in China and India.

A HIGHLY successful entertainment under the auspices of the Presbyterian Church, Kemptville, was held in the Town Hall on Christmas night.

THE next meeting of the Lindsay Presbyterial Society of the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society is to be held in Sunderland on Tuesday, Feb. 26.

ON New Year's morning the Rev. W. G. Mills, of Sunderland, was handed a purse containing about \$50 as a token of appreciation on the part of his people.

THE Rev. J. M. Duclos, Presbyterian minister at Portage du Fort, Que., and a graduate of Queen's, was married on Tuesday to Miss Nella Purvis, of the same village.

THE Rev. M. McKinnon, B.A., of F'don, was lately presented by the young men of his congregation with a cutter and robe, and by the young ladies with a sideboard and set of dishes.

THE congregation of St. Matthew's Church, Woodlands, called at the manse, and presented their pastor, Rev. J. J. Cameron, with a handsome cutter and robe as a mark of their appreciation of his labours.

ON Friday, Dec. 21, the minister's Bible class spent a pleasant evening at the manse, Bracebridge, and presented their teacher, Dr. Clarke, with an affectionate address and a handsome set of Persian lamb furs.

THE census of North Bay, recently taken, gives a total population of 1623, of which 496 are Presbyterians, 216 Methodists; 242 Church of England; 542 Roman Catholics, and 127 divided among other denominations.

THE Rev. J. Stenhouse, M.A., gave a lecture in the Presbyterian Church, Collingwood, on Thursday evening week, in the interest of the band of "Christian Endeavour" of the church. He was listened to by a large audience.

THE *Dumfries Reformer* says: The session of the Central Presbyterian Church have given their sanction to the introduction of an organ. It is likely that the matter will be taken in hand by the young people of the congregation.

MRS. McMARTIN was the recipient of a beautiful hanging lamp presented to her by the members and adherents of Knox Church, Harvey. Mrs. McMartin has been untiring in her efforts for the general advancement of the church's welfare.

ON Sunday week a special collection was taken up in the Presbyterian Sunday-school, Sarnia in aid of missions, which netted \$40.20. This is a large collection for a Sunday school and the scholars may justly feel proud of their liberal contribution.

AT the close of a very successful Sabbath school New Year entertainment the ladies of the congregation of Knox Church, Cannington, presented the Rev. J. B. McLaren with a handsome easy chair, and Mrs. McLaren with a fine set of dinner dishes.

A CONFERENCE of the Episcopal clergy in the east part of the Diocese of Algoma, lasting three days, was held in Huntsville. At one of the meetings, by invitation of the Bishop, Rev. J. Sievwright was present. His brief address met with a most cordial reception.

ON the night of the Christmas tree in the Presbyterian Church, Mr. L. Grant, was presented by the S. S. teachers, and scholars of the Bible Class, Georgetown, with a Bible and four volumes of poems, and a suitable address, which was gracefully acknowledged.

REV. W. C. ARMSRONG, of the Presbyterian Church, Hillsburg, has resigned his charge. He has had pastoral charge of the church for about eight years. He is an earnest faithful minister of the gospel and his departure from this community will be very much regretted by his numerous friends.

THE tea meeting in connection with the Heathcote Presbyterian Church was a grand success. After the eatables were satisfactorily disposed of, Mr. Geo. Clark was appointed chairman, and the Revs. Messrs. Fleming and McLaren and others made excellent speeches. The choir gave some select music.

THE *Wingham Times* says: The Seaford Presbyterian Church dispensed with the usual tea at their anniversary services and had a literary entertainment. The experiment was a splendid success. But then perhaps Dr. Ormiston, of New York, is a bigger attraction than is ordinarily obtained on such occasions.

ON Christmas Eve a large audience assembled in the town hall, Regina, on the occasion of the annual entertainment of the Presbyterian Sunday-school. A tea had been previously partaken of by the scholars. The programme passed off very successfully. The band was present and gave selections at the beginning and at intervals throughout the programme.

AT Chalmers' Church, Guelph, Rev. Dr. Wardrope preached appropriately and impressively for the closing Sunday of the year, and in the evening Rev. Dr. MacVicar, Principal of the Presbyterian College, Montreal gave an able lecture and exposition of the scenes recorded in connection with the resurrection of Christ in the twentieth chapter of John. A New Year's service was also held.

THE New Year's arch treat for the children of the Presbyterian Sunday school, Oil Springs, came off at the Masonic Hall on New Year's night and was a success in presents and financially, realizing \$23 towards books for the Sunday school. The arch was loaded with presents for the children, and great credit is due the superintendent, Mr. A. Wilson, for the manner in which the children were trained in the singing, dialogues and recitations.

THE *Guelph Herald* says: The Rev. R. S. Anderson, graduate of Glasgow University, filled the pulpit of Melville Church, Fergus, most acceptably on Sunday. Many are in favour of him as their pastor. Mr. Pomery preached in St. Andrew's in the evening. The "Christmas Tree" for St. Andrew's Sunday-school, which was heavily laden, was stripped of its bounties on Thursday evening. The youngsters left well satisfied with their good gifts.

THE annual festival and entertainment in connection with Knox Church Sunday-school, Cornwall, took place on New Year's night, and was a highly successful and enjoyable affair. The school-room which was handsomely decorated, was literally crowded with scholars and spectators. After partaking of refreshments, an exceedingly entertaining programme was gone through with, reflecting great credit upon the officers and scholars connected with the school.

THE annual meeting of the Bracebridge Presbyterian Church was held on the 7th inst. The usual reports from Session, Board of Management, Sabbath school, minister's Bible class, Ladies' Aid Society and Band of Hope, were all of a satisfactory and encouraging character, and the congregation heartily and unanimously voted an increase of \$100 toward the stipend fund, besides the payment of \$35 to make up for a deficit arising from reduction of augmentation grant for the past year.

THE Presbyterian Sabbath school at North Bay held their annual entertainment on the evening of the 31st ult. A tree, laden with presents for young and old, was a principal source of attraction. An interesting musical and literary programme was gone through, after which the presents were distributed to the children of the Sabbath school. At the close of the proceedings the chairman of the Board of Managers presented the pastor, Rev. J. M. Goodwillie, with a well-filled purse as a New Year's offering from the congregation.

THE dinner given by the ladies of the Presbyterian Church, Moncton, to the poor of the town, was held in the basement of the church, and attended by upwards of sixty persons. The great majority of those who attended were children, only about two men and two women being present. Gifts of warm clothing were distributed, as well as fruit and confectionery for the children. The tables were waited upon by a number of ladies of the congregation, who are to be congratulated on the success of their efforts to provide a pleasant holiday for the deserving poor.

THE *Montreal Gazette* says: A lot of communion tokens issued by the Presbyterian churches of Canada, and also of the United States, were sold on an average of two dollars each. They are of tin, pewter and lead, and are said to have been issued to permit Presbyterians who were in good standing to partake of the communion. One of these, of the date of 1784, that had on the reverse a burning bush, was said to have been issued by the Presbyterian Church, Halifax, that was founded in 1750 by the Rev. Aaron Cleveland, an ancestor of President Cleveland.

THE Presbyterian Sunday school, Carberry, held their annual Christmas tree in the church, and it was a great success. The building was filled with the scholars and visitors. The programme consisting of songs, recitations, and hymns, rendered by the scholars was excellent and well received by the audience. At the close of the programme the presents were taken from the tree and distributed to the scholars, who received them in the manner usual with children. Many of the presents were well selected and costly, and so liberally had the people contributed to the funds that after paying everything more than \$22 was left over.

THE Bobcaygeon *Independent* says: The tea-meeting and concert on New Year's night in the Town Hall under the auspices of the Presbyterian congregation was a most brilliant success. From five o'clock there was a continual relay of tables, and the ladies were taxed to their utmost. Shortly before eight, Mr. Fairbairn took the chair, and a programme of twenty pieces was run through in capital style. Between the two parts the reverend gentlemen addressed the meeting, and had the good taste to make their remarks appropriate, and above all to cut them short.

THE Presbyterian congregation of Watford and Main Road held a meeting last week for the election of a minister. The Rev. T. Macadam acted as Moderator and preached a sermon suitable to the occasion; thereafter the meeting proceeded to take a vote on several candidates proposed. The result was that Rev. J. H. Graham, at present minister of Bristol, Que., was chosen by a large majority. The election was rendered practically unanimous by the cordial acquiescence of the supporters of others. The meeting throughout was most harmonious and agreeable.

THE Bowmanville *Statesman* says: The remains of the Rev. S. Porter were interred in Porter's Church burying ground (Presbyterian), on Thursday, 4th inst. The corpse arrived in Port Hope the preceding evening, from which place the funeral proceeded. Mr. Porter was pastor of this congregation about twenty-five years ago, and was much esteemed by all who knew him. Although he had passed the fourscore years it is only about a year since he visited his many friends in Clarke. It was his wish to be laid to rest where he used to tell the glad tidings of salvation.

THE children of St. Andrew's Sunday-school, Peterborough, were given a tea recently, and enjoyed themselves in a general manner immensely. Rev. Mr. Bell, the superintendent, and his able staff of teachers prepared the tables and attended to the wants of the children. After the happy scholars had partaken to their own satisfaction of the sumptuous tea, the tables were cleared and an hour was spent in a pleasant and enjoyable manner by the young folks, after which they went home, each carrying with her or him a toothsome package of sweetmeats given to them by the teachers.

THE *Moncton Transcript* says: The Young People's Institute in connection with the Presbyterian Church was re-organized Monday evening with the following officers: Rev. Mr. Robinson, president; D. Malcolm, vice-president; W. E. Staver, second vice-president; Thomas Richardson, secretary; D. I. Welch, treasurer. A course of lectures and entertainments under the auspices of the Institute will be held at regular intervals during the winter. The people of Moncton will be glad to learn that Attorney General Longley of Nova Scotia, has consented to lecture here at an early date.

THE usual festivities for the children were held in Burns Church, Moore Line, and in spite of the weather, proved very successful entertainments. The Christmas trees were loaded with appropriate presents for the children. No one was forgotten. The marked feature of the Moore line entertainment was the children's singing of Kindergarten songs under the supervision of Miss Mary Duncan. At the conclusion of the distribution in Burns Church a complimentary address accompanied by a purse containing forty-one dollars was presented to the pastor, Rev. J. C. Tibb, B.D., who made a neat acknowledgment.

ST. JAMES, Antigonish Sunday school gave a Christmas tree entertainment in McDonald's Hall. The affair was very successful, the attendance being extremely large and well pleased with the entertainment, which consisted of music, vocal and instrumental, songs, recitations, dialogues and tableaux by the children of the school. A quintette consisting of Messrs. W. K. McMillan, W. B. Robb, Frank Dexter, S. Edwards and John Turnbull, with brass instruments, rendered effective assistance. All the programme was well rendered; but the exercises by the little children deserve special mention and were appreciated by the audience.

THE Rev. Mr. McGillivray presided at a pleasant affair in connection with St. James Presbyterian Sunday school, London, recently. He spoke of the progress and good standing of the school, the attendance on the Sunday previous exceeding 100. A new library had been added last year. After a brief programme by the children, Miss Morton, the organist, was presented with a handsome dressing-case, and Miss Popham, who assisted in training the children, received a copy of Adelaide Proctor's poems. Mr. William Webster gave an appropriate address, and announced that the collection just taken up would, after meeting the expenses of the festival, add something to the Sunday school funds.

THE annual New Year's entertainment in connection with the Presbyterian Sabbath school, West Winchester, was held last week and was a pronounced success. There was a large attendance of sympathisers with Sabbath school work, and all enjoyed themselves to the fullest extent. The choir opened the proceedings by singing an anthem, after which an excellent programme of readings, recitations, and dialogues was given by the teachers and scholars of the school. The choir furnished appropriate music at intervals which heightened the enjoyment of those present. The chair was ably filled by Mr. J. P. Fox, Superintendent of the school. At the conclusion of the entertainment a collection was taken up, when about \$29 was realized.

THE *Winnipeg Sun* says: Brandon Presbyterians are still hopeful that Rev. C. B. Pitblado, formerly pastor of St. Andrew's Church, Winnipeg, will see his way clear to accept a call to the Presbyterian Church of this city. Rev. Mr. Hodges, of Oak Lake, who is here, expresses the opinion that Mr. Pitblado will return to the North-West. Mr. John Pitblado, of Portage la Prairie, has written to his father strongly urging him to come to Brandon. Taking into consideration all the circumstances the outlook is hopeful. More practical citizens say that the accession of a townsman like Mr. Pitblado would mean a great deal to Brandon, spiritually, and in a business way, and his movements are naturally watched by Manitobans and easterners, thereby attracting attention to the city or district in which he resides.

THE annual Sabbath school entertainment of Knox Church, Dunville, was held on Christmas night. The neat little church was beautifully decorated with evergreens. There was a large attendance,

in fact many more than could be seated. The programme of choruses, dialogues and recitations by the children and others, were well rendered and interesting throughout, showing careful training. At the conclusion of the programme the Christmas tree was relieved of its burden. Presents, numerous and costly, were distributed to young and old. The pastor, Rev. Robert MacKnight, and his estimable lady, who are very popular among their people, were not forgotten. Miss Blanche White, organist, was also the recipient of a very handsome donation. Rev. Mr. Hunt occupied the chair. Everybody seemed well pleased with the evening's entertainment.

A LARGE congregation assembled in Knox Church, Dutton, on Thursday week to witness the induction of the Rev. T. Wilson in to the pastoral charge of the congregation. After the usual services, conducted by the Rev. Mr. Kelso, who preached an excellent sermon, the Moderator, Rev. Mr. Urquhart, formally inducted Mr. Wilson as pastor. Rev. Mr. Sutherland then delivered a short and pointed address to the minister, and was followed by Rev. Geo. Francis, who gave the congregation some solid advice as to their position in relation to their pastor. Mr. Wilson was then welcomed by the congregation and members of the Presbytery present. Rev. Mr. Wilson, in his sermons on Sunday last, defined the standing of himself and the people towards each other, saying that he thought a good understanding at the beginning would ensure harmony in their work together. Mr. Wilson is a gentleman of ability and under his charge the congregation, already one of the most prominent in the London Presbytery, will receive a fresh impetus.

THE monthly meeting of the Canadian McAll Auxiliary was held in the library of the Young Men's Christian Association, Thursday, January 3rd. Mrs. Blake presided; Mrs. Howitt gave a very instructive Bible reading, the subject being "Thoughts for Christian workers appropriate to the New Year," full of thoughtful and suggestive lessons. A letter from Miss Grimston, a lady engaged in the McAll Mission in Paris, was read by Mrs. Matthews. Some extracts from Dr. Pierson's, "Crisis of Missions," were read by Miss J. Caven. The treasurer reported \$746.94 of the \$1,000 required for the support of the stations La Rochelle and Rochfort, and it was hoped the ladies would endeavour to raise the amount before the annual meeting, which will be held the first Thursday in February. Any wishing to contribute, if they will send to the treasurer, Miss Caven, 238 Victoria Street, she will be pleased to receive it. It was announced that the Auxiliary was endeavouring to arrange to have Dr. Pierson, of Philadelphia, address a public meeting, in behalf of their work, early in February.

THE *East Fife Record*, Scotland, says: The Rev. Andrew Dowsley, B.A., who has for eleven years laboured as missionary in connection with the Church of Scotland, first in India, and latterly in China, officiated in the Parish Church on Sunday. His address which extended to an hour, was listened to with marked interest and attention by a large audience, and he gave a very complete and thoughtful account of the latter great empire, and the recent progress of the Church of Scotland's mission. At the close he showed a sandal wood image of a female deity, which had been worshipped for many years by one of his converts, the wife of a Mandarin, and which she had presented to the missionary on her baptism. Mr. Dowsley is originally from Canada, and is a sample of the large staff of valuable and highly efficient men, who are at present serving the church abroad, as pioneers of Christian civilization. If ever it was true that she sent only her second rate men abroad it is no longer so. Men like Dowsley and David Scott (now in Central Africa) and the head of the India missions, stand in the first rank of ability and intelligence.

ON Saturday evening the Rev. Dr. Campbell, of St. Gabriel's Presbyterian Church, celebrated the anniversary of his silver wedding by an "At Home" at his residence, 68 St. Famille Street. A large number of members of the congregation and friends accepted the invitation. The presents were numerous and of the most chaste designs, and were from all parts of Canada. During the evening Dr. and Mrs. Campbell were the recipients of hearty congratulations, and a most pleasant time was spent. Mr. Frank Graham read an address from the Bible Class, in which the thanks of that body were extended to the happy couple for their labours amongst the young people; and Miss Maggie Darling presented an elegant and massive silver egg basket and a fruit knife holder on behalf of the class. Mr. John Stuart, in the name of the congregation, also read an address and presented the minister and his wife with a handsome silver card tray containing \$170 in silver coin. The gifts were fittingly acknowledged.

THE annual missionary meeting of the Presbyterian Church, of Wolfville, Kings Co., N.S., took place lately. The meeting was of a highly interesting character. The speakers were Rev. Mr. Nelson, of Windsor, and Rev. Dr. Burns, of Halifax. The former spoke on Home Missions and the Mission among the French in Quebec. He treated the subject in a very interesting manner and furnished statistics showing the vast amount of work that has been done in these fields and that is to be done. Dr. Burns spoke on Foreign Missions and Colleges. Never was Foreign Missionary work presented more attractively nor in a manner better calculated to inspire enthusiasm. He spoke with much feeling concerning those missionaries who had left for the foreign field and sacrificed their lives in the noble work there and spoke with great enthusiasm of the brave men and women who had left to fill their places. Colleges, he said were one of the greatest aids in this work. Without them the denominations would be able to accomplish but a small proportion of the work that is being done in the foreign fields.

ON Thursday evening, December 27th, under the auspices of the "Ladies' Aid Society," the good people of Cumberland were treated to one of the socials and concerts of sacred music for which, we doubt not, the Choir of the Presbyterian Church here will soon become noted. It is not too much to say that the programme of music rendered would have very heavily taxed many of our city choirs. The accuracy and precision of attack, smoothness and care paid to light and shade, was most commendable. One of the features of the evening was a male quartette, rendered with great spirit, and a duet for ladies' voices, with chorus, was marked by much sweetness and pathos. The children of the Sunday-school also contributed to the evening's entertainment with recitation and song, all most pleasingly given, especially a motto song "God is Love." The speakers were Mr. Reid, of the Baptist Church, the Rev. James Myles Crombie, the pastor, and his father, who is always welcomed by a Cumberland audience. The claims of the Ladies' Aid were well enforced, and much good is expected to result from this social.

THE New Year's tree in connection with the Presbyterian church, Angus, on New Year's night was admitted to be the greatest success of the season, and some say there never was such a treat given before in this place. Every available seat and standing room was taken up and some could not be admitted and went away. There were three magnificent trees erected in the church, handsomely decorated with mottoes and flags and gorgeously laden with presents. After everybody had done justice at the table, Mr. Neilly was called to the chair and presided over the meeting in an able manner. First on the programme were the children of the Sabbath-school who sang their numbers creditably. Miss Blackmore and Mr. Coulter, of Barrie, rendered a duet in a masterly style and in response they gave "The Larboard Watch." Mr. Coulter sang "Something for the Babies," and distributed several toys and candies through the audience; he was heartily encored. Mr. Coulter is possessed of a splendid voice. The Messrs. Mercer, of Tilsonburg, sang some selections and received applause. Mr. Clarke sang, "I did it," and it didn't take him long, which brought down the house and he was called back and gave a Dutch recitation that pleased the audience immensely. The church choir sang some selections among which was, "Come where the Lilies Bloom." Addresses were delivered by Rev. Mr. McLeod, of Barrie, and Rev. Mr. Cochrane, of Iry. Proceeds of the entertainment amounted to \$103.