

MINISTERS AND CHURCHES.

REV. E. GILLIES was ordained and inducted at Earlton, N.S., on the 24th ult.

REV. R. J. BEATTIE, of First Church, Port Hope, has returned from his trip to Muskoka.

THE Rev. A. D. McDonald returned to Seaforth on the 23rd ult., after a three months' visit to Scotland.

REV. MR. NICHOL, of Montreal, has been supplying the pulpit of St. Andrew's Church, Chatham, for the last two Sabbaths.

THE Clandeboye mission station, Manitoba, has been put under the charge of the minister and session of Little Britain.

THE Sabbath school in connection with McNab street Church, Hamilton, held a picnic at Dundurn on the 25th ult.

THE congregation of Mitchell have agreed to extend a call to the Rev. Donald Tait, of Berlin—stipend \$1,000 and free manse.

THE Rev. John Hogg of Charles street Church, Toronto, has returned from his holiday trip looking well, and resumed his pulpit duties.

THERE is a movement on foot in the congregation of Upper Musquodoboit, in the Presbytery of Halifax, N.S., for the erection of a new church.

THE anniversary services of Erskine Church in this city will be held next Sabbath. Rev. Principal Grant is expected to preach morning and evening.

THE congregation of Sheet Harbour, N.S., realized \$250 by a bazaar which they recently held, thus removing the last dollar of debt from their church and manse.

A LARGE number of the Presbyterian Sabbath school children of Fenelon Falls went to Bobcaygeon on Tuesday, the 16th ult., by steamer and enjoyed a very pleasant picnic.

REV. E. F. TORRANCE, M.A., has returned from his holidays much improved in health, and resumed his pulpit duties in St. Paul's Church, Peterborough, on the 21st ult.

THE Presbyterians of Enniskillen have placed a new fence in front of their church, and considerably improved the appearance and convenience of the grounds and sheds.

ON the evening of the 22nd ult. Rev. Mr. Thompson, who has for some time taught the Bible class of McNab street Church, Hamilton, was presented by his pupils with a beautiful gold chain.

AT the recent meeting of the Presbytery of Stratford the resignation of the Rev. Robert Renwick, of Elma Centre and West Monckton, was accepted, and arrangements made for a retiring allowance.

THE Presbyterian church at Newtonville was much damaged by lightning some time ago, and has since undergone extensive repairs and improvements. Rev. Dr. Ormiston, of New York, will conduct the re-opening services next Sabbath.

THE pulpit of the First Presbyterian Church, Brantford, was occupied last Sabbath by Mr. R. Y. Thompson, B.A.; Rev. Donald Currie will preach there next Sabbath, and Rev. Mr. McAdam, from Glasgow, Scotland, on the 11th inst.

THE Rev. D. H. Fletcher, of McNab street Church, Hamilton, has returned from his five months' tour in Europe and Asia, looking, it is said, well and hearty. He has travelled through Egypt, Palestine, and Asia Minor; sailed up the Black Sea, visited Constantinople, and passed through Greece, Italy, Switzerland, Germany and France.

MR. ALEX. ROBERTSON, of Dutham, an energetic Christian worker, who took an active part in the formation of the congregation of Knox Church there, has recently fallen into ill-health, and the ladies of the congregation have very thoughtfully presented him with an excursion ticket which will procure him a six days' trip by steamer on the upper lakes.

MR. JOHN TURNBULL, B.A., has accepted the call to Knox Church, Goderich, as colleague and successor to Rev. Dr. Ure. The salary is \$800. Mr. Turnbull's ordination and induction will take place on the 13th inst.—Rev. Dr. Ure to preside, Rev. Mr. McDonald to preach, Rev. Mr. Lohead to deliver the charge to the minister, and Rev. Mr. Musgrave to address the people.

REV. R. WALLACE, of the West Church, Toronto, has gone to the sea-side by order of his physician.

His injured limb is doing well, but he cannot yet walk without the aid of a crutch, and his foot swells with very little exertion. The Doctor thinks the sea air and bathing will be beneficial, as the reverend gentleman's general health has to some extent run down. He is expected back about the 16th inst.

AT a meeting of the congregation of Knox Church, Winnipeg, held on the 16th ult., it was decided that upon the organization of a new congregation \$10,000 be paid over to it on condition that the same be expended in the erection of a place of worship. On the following evening an informal meeting of those who propose forming the new congregation was held, and steps were taken to petition the Presbytery with a view to immediate organization.

AS we have before intimated, the Presbyterian Church at Port Sydney was on the 21st ult. opened for public worship by the Rev. Dr. Cochrane, of Brantford, who preached two excellent discourses to large and interested audiences. The Presbyterians in Port Sydney are comparatively few, and have had a good many difficulties to contend with in the erection of their place of worship, but thanks to their energy and to the kind assistance of friends, especially in Toronto and Orillia, they have succeeded in completing a very neat and commodious little church, and in being able to say at the opening services that it was entirely free of debt. At one time it was thought that all that could be done for years would be to use the building in a very rude, unfinished condition, but through the kind encouragement and help given by the Rev. Mr. Macdonnell and friends in Toronto, and by the Rev. Mr. Gray and the Presbyterians in Orillia, as well as by the strenuous efforts of the Presbyterians in Port Sydney themselves (and among these it will not be thought invidious to mention especially Mr. and Mrs. Jarvis and Mr. and Miss Kay), the work has been brought to a successful termination, and the Presbyterian church in Port Sydney is as neat and well-finished a place of worship as is to be found in any such locality in the Province. The opening services were followed on the succeeding Monday by a large and enthusiastic meeting held in the town hall, at which Dr. Cochrane delivered his well-known and justly-popular lecture on "Glimpses of the Old World," and fully sustained his well-earned reputation as an able and eloquent platform speaker. The Presbyterians in Port Sydney are to be congratulated on the successful issue of their building operations, and we have only to add our hope and prayer that this happy beginning may be followed by very blessed times of refreshing from the presence of the Lord.

COLLEGE FUND.

ANNUAL COLLECTION—SABBATH, 11TH SEPTEMBER, 1887.

REV. AND DEAR SIR,—By appointment of the General Assembly, the annual collection for the College Fund takes place on Sabbath, 11th September.

Since the union in 1875 there has been considerable diversity of opinion in regard to the best method of supporting the several theological institutions in the Western Section of the Church. The system adopted of setting apart a certain territory for the respective colleges has not proven successful from a financial standpoint, while it has been productive of a good deal of irritation, and has tended somewhat against the consolidation of the Church.

At last Assembly a large committee was appointed to consider this matter maturely, and after very full discussion it was unanimously agreed to recommend the institution of a common fund for the support of Knox, Queen's, and Montreal Colleges. This recommendation was unanimously adopted by the General Assembly as follows:

1. That the most satisfactory method of surmounting the immediate difficulties besetting the support of the Colleges in the Provinces of Ontario and Quebec is the establishment of a common fund for their benefit, the divisions of which shall be *pro rata*, according to their present requirements—such requirements for the current year being as follows, viz.:

Knox College	\$10,000
Theological Faculty, Queen's College	4,000
Montreal College	5,000
	\$19,000

and that such common fund be established by the authority of the General Assembly.

2. That this common fund shall be known as the College Fund, and the Rev. R. H. Warden appointed Secretary and Agent of the same, with power to bring the matter fully before the Church as early as possible.

3. That the Rev. Dr. Reid and the Rev. R. H. Warden be Joint-Treasurers.

Not only were these resolutions unanimously adopted, but representatives of the several colleges expressed their cordial approval of the scheme, and prayer was offered expressive of the gratitude of the Assembly at the happy solution of what has been a somewhat difficult problem for many years.

The success of the scheme depends, under God, upon the liberal and hearty support accorded to it by the congregations of the Church.

The amount required to be raised this year is \$19,000—a comparatively small sum from the 80,000 communicants in the Provinces of Ontario and Quebec. When it is remembered, however, that only \$12,320 was raised last year, it will be at once apparent that there must be largely increased liberality in order to obtain the *fifty per cent. additional* required this year.

To render the Union College Fund successful, I venture to urge the following points:

1. That every congregation (settled or vacant) and every mission station contribute to the Fund, as enjoined by the General Assembly. No loyal minister or missionary will fail to give his people the opportunity of doing so.

2. That the amount contributed by each congregation bear a fair proportion to the numbers and ability of the people, and to the amount required.

The average contribution needed per communicant is 23 cents. It is hoped that even the weakest congregations and stations will aim at this.

3. That the collection be made, if at all practicable, on the Sabbath appointed by the Assembly, and that from the funds of missionary associations an appropriation be made to the College Fund during September, and all collections and contributions forwarded as early as possible.

4. That owing to the precariousness of a Sabbath collection, collectors be appointed in those congregations where there are no missionary associations, to solicit contributions towards the Fund. Special attention is directed to this. A brief statement from the pulpit, and a little trouble in securing suitable collectors, will result in a very material increase in the contributions.

The names of collectors and of all subscribers of \$1 and upwards will appear in the financial statement to be submitted to the next Assembly. Subscription sheets may be obtained on application to the undersigned.

5. That an opportunity be given to the youth of the Church in Bible classes and Sabbath schools to contribute to the Fund.

There is much to encourage in connection with our theological institutions. The service they have rendered in the past to the Church and to the country can scarcely be overestimated. The number of students is far greater than at any former period, there being at present upwards of 200 young men studying with a view to the ministry of our Church. With so many devoted young men consecrating themselves to the work, is it too much to ask the membership of the Church to exert themselves to the utmost for their thorough training? It is earnestly hoped that the action of the General Assembly in instituting this common College Fund will meet with common approval throughout the Church generally, and that liberal contributions on its behalf will be received from all our congregations. It is with full confidence in the loyalty of our people to our theological institutions and, above all, to the Great King and Head of the Church, that this union fund has been established, and, recognizing how much its success rests with ministers and sessions, I respectfully but most earnestly solicit your hearty co-operation.

Along with liberal contributions, let there be earnest prayer on behalf of professors and students that they may have a rich baptism of the Spirit, and may be all taught of God, and that the students may be thoroughly equipped for their life-work as preachers of the glorious Gospel of Christ. If such believing prayer abounded throughout the Church, might we not hope to see a rising ministry even more faithful and successful than in days that are past: then would the Church be revived and quickened, and the moral wastes around would rejoice and blossom as the rose.

ROBT. H. WARDEN.

260 St. James Street, Montreal, 22nd Aug., 1887.

STATE OF RELIGION IN THE PRESBYTERY OF QUEBEC.

At a recent meeting of the Quebec Presbytery, Rev. Calvin E. Amaron, M.A., read a report which he had been appointed to prepare on the state of religion within the bounds. The report, which is a very able one, and evidently the result of much pains and attention, has been transmitted to us for publication, and we are sorry that we cannot make room for it in full. The following is merely that part of it which contains the answers to the questions sent down by the General Assembly: