

Ministers and Churches.

THE Home Mission Committee have appointed the Rev. S. J. Taylor, of Moose Jaw, N. W. T., to supply New Westminster, B. C., during Mr. Mackay's absence.

THE Bible class of St. Andrew's Church, Almonte, have presented to the Rev. Dr. Bennett a beautiful silver ink stand and a gold penholder with pencil and a gold pen.

MRS. DAVID J. ROSS, wife of the Presbyterian minister of Westport, was recently the recipient of a New Year's present of \$15, from her friends in Bedford township. Mr. James Anderson made the presentation.

THE Rev. J. A. R. Dickson, B.D., of Central Church, Galt, has been delivering a course of Sabbath evening lectures on the "Books of the Bible." They have proved to be very interesting, instructive and profitable, as is evidenced by the large and attentive audiences attracted.

THE congregation of St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, Buckingham, Quebec, presented their pastor, Rev. W. Caven, on Christmas Eve, with a handsome cutter, robes, rug and whip, also Mrs. Caven with a beautiful and costly china tea set. Mrs. Caven was also the recipient of a New Year's gift of \$50 from Mr. James MacLaren, of Buckingham.

SOME months ago a communication appeared in these columns reflecting on Rev. A. McLeod, Cass City, Michigan, who was in Canada soliciting subscriptions in aid of his church. Subsequent correspondence and inquiry show that he is "the pastor of the United Presbyterian Congregation of Fraser in connection with the Presbytery of Detroit, and that he is a member of that Presbytery in good and regular standing."

AT a special meeting of the Presbytery of Paris, held in First Church, Brantford, on the 5th Jan., a very hearty and unanimous call from Mount Pleasant and Burford was sustained by the Presbytery in favour of the Rev. R. G. Sinclair. The induction was fixed for the 19th of January, at two p.m.; Rev. W. H. W. Boyle, B.A., to preach, Rev. W. T. McMullen to address the minister and Rev. W. Wylie, the people. The pastor-elect was for some years missionary in the North-West.

ON Sabbath, the 27th of December, the sacrament of the Lord's Supper was dispensed at the mission stations of Spence and Magnetawan, being the first communion service since Mr. Knox was ordained in October last. At Spence in the morning thirteen new members were received on profession of faith; in the afternoon at Magnetawan, eight miles distant, twenty-six new members were received into fellowship. Surely the Lord our God is with us. The majority of the new membership are young men.

THE Presbyterian soiree at Greenbank on Christmas Day was a complete success. After an address in the afternoon by the pastor, Mr. Johnston, tea was served, after which addresses were delivered by Rev. Messrs. Rowe and McMechan, after which the speaker of the evening, Rev. E. Cockburn, delivered his lecture on "Sights and Impressions of the Old World." The lecture throughout was excellent and most interesting, giving a glowing description of the sights in Ireland and Scotland. The proceeds amounted to \$95.

THE William Street Mission, for five years under the control of the Central Presbyterian Church, has passed into the care of the people of Erskine. The new superintendent, Mr. Thos. Yellowlees, and a staff of twelve teachers commenced work last Sabbath. In addition to a Sabbath school there will be preaching each Sabbath evening, a prayer meeting on Thursday, and a Band of Hope meeting on Friday of each week. The hall has been tastefully furnished, the walls tinted and adorned with new mottoes, and the building is now lighted by gas.

THE anniversary sermons of Geneva Church, Chesley, were preached on the 3rd inst., by Rev. J. C. Smith, M.A., B.D., of Guelph. His sermons were able, earnest and practical, and were listened to with deep attention by those who were present. Rev. P. McF. McLeod, of Toronto, lectured in the same church on Monday evening, the 4th inst., on "That Young Man." The lecture evinced a keen knowledge of human nature and descriptive power of a high order, and was spiced with sufficient of the humorous to set off to advantage the good advice it contained to all, and especially to young men.

THE young congregation of Smithville, Ont., held the first anniversary of their Sabbath school on New Year's Eve. The church was beautifully decorated with evergreens, and the superintendent reported that there were about sixty children attending the school. The audience, which was large, was entertained with music by the choir and friends from a distance, and also with recitations from the children, after which each scholar received a present. The Rev. George Crombie, the pastor of the church, and Mrs. Crombie were also made the recipients of an elegant cruet stand and glass tea-service.

THE Wentworth Street Church, in Hamilton, has been greatly blessed within the past few months. Beginning as a separate congregation five months ago, with a membership of twenty-eight, there are already seventy-three names on the roll. At their communion on Sabbath week, the session had the great satisfaction of receiving thirty-five new members; twenty-nine of these being heads of families or married persons, and twenty were by profession of faith. The missionary has been very active, and it will be seen successful. The people feel God's goodness, and that He has great things in store for the mission.

THE annual meeting of St. Andrew's Church, Thamesford, was held in the basement of the church last Thursday. There was a fair turn out of members and adherents; the auditors' report showed that \$1,420.90 had been contributed for congregational purposes, while the expenditure was \$1,395.98, leaving a balance of \$24.92, besides some ar-

rearages of pew rent. The treasurer of the missionary association not being prepared for the auditors, a report was not got from that department, but was promised at some future time. There were 211 names reported on the communion roll; being an increase of ten during the past year. Cordial votes of thanks to Messrs. G. Telfer, chairman, and W. Telfer, secretary, terminated the proceedings.

THE Rev. Dr. Torrance, Convener of the Assembly's Committee on Statistics, requests us to publish that on the 9th of December last he forwarded to Presbytery Clerks, so far as he could ascertain their names from the records of the last General Assembly, parcels containing a sufficient number of blank forms for collecting the statistics of congregations and stations in their bounds, with a few surplus ones on the 4th of January. He also mailed two copies to each Clerk of the sheets for engrossing these returns when received. He trusts that both parcels will reach safely the parties addressed; but should there be any failure in this respect he asks to be advised of the same without delay. They should have arrived at their destination before this notice has been made public. As the report to be completed for next Assembly is a most important one, covering the year which closes the first decade since the union of the Presbyterian Churches in Canada, he hopes that Presbytery Clerks will do their utmost to procure full returns from all the pastoral charges, whether settled or vacant, and stations in their bounds.

ON Monday evening week, an interesting farewell meeting was held in the Mission Hall, William Street. For five years a Sabbath school and an evening Sabbath service have been carried on very successfully, while a mothers' meeting has done much, not only to those who have required such, but has been the means of promoting an influence for good in all the other branches of the work. Those who have had this work in hand are removing to Elizabeth Street, most of the workers being members of the Central Presbyterian Church. Erskine Church enters upon the field as their first mission. The hall was completely filled by the children and their friends, the Rev. Mr. McLeod presiding. Mr. McIntosh, the superintendent of the school, submitted a report, showing that from a little gathering of ten scholars they now had one hundred on the roll, and seventy in regular attendance. The school itself raised in 1884, \$38.72; in 1885, \$56.68, while the congregation had supplemented that amount to a considerable extent. A book and a bag of candies were given to each scholar, after which the meeting was addressed by the Revs. Messrs. McLeod, Smith and Burns, Mr. Yellowlees, the new superintendent, and Mr. Robb. Miss Muldren favoured the audience also with a beautiful solo, while the children rendered some of their hymns very sweetly. The meeting was a most harmonious one in every respect. Mrs. Harvie addressed the mothers' meeting in the afternoon.

AN Inverness, P. Q., correspondent writes: At present Christmas trees and entertainments seem to be the all-absorbing source of pleasure in this part of the country. The Presbyterians held their annual Sabbath school soiree on Christmas Eve, and, notwithstanding the unfavourable state of the roads, the people turned out in large numbers. This Sabbath school is in a most promising and prosperous condition. There are about 150 names on the roll, and the average attendance during last summer was about 130. For the last three or four months several of the scholars of the Bible class have been busily engaged writing essays: some on the Life of David, others on the Life of the Apostle Peter. Ten of these were handed in to the superintendent and teachers for critical examination. Each of the ten competitors was presented with a valuable book, as an expression of the teachers' appreciation and approval of having the young employ their spare hours in studying God's Word. It is, however, fair to state that the first prize was awarded to Miss Lizzie Jamieson, second to Miss Jennie McKillop, third, to Miss Jennie McKenzie, fourth to Mr. Robert McCulloch. The others were not graded. I have yet to mention, says our correspondent, a most interesting part of the work in which some of our smaller scholars have been employed, viz.: That of the special study of the Shorter Catechism. Of course we all study the Catechism, but it must be admitted that some of us know it a great deal better than others. One year ago three of our scholars recited the whole of the questions without, I may say, a single mistake, to whom were given by their teacher, Mr. D. Stewart, beautiful Bibles. This year, however, no less than ten presented themselves prepared to recite the whole of the questions, which they did in the presence of their teachers with admirable accuracy. Two of that number gave the proofs along with the questions. To show how thoroughly this work has been done, one of these two can, without mistake or hesitancy, repeat in any part of the Catechism any of the questions with the proofs. This lad's name is Stewart Robinson. The names of the others are as follow: Edward Campbell (questions and proofs), Irvine Hunter, David A. McCullough, James Sellers, Bella McCullough, Sarah L. McCullough, Bella Sellers, Jennie Hunter, S. Larmouth and Bella Sutherland.

PRESBYTERY OF MAITLAND.—This Presbytery met in Wingham, on December 15. Rev. J. A. Anderson was appointed Moderator for the next six months. Mr. McRae reported that Molesworth congregation had agreed to unite with Trowbridge, on the following basis: That Trowbridge shall have a session and board of management distinct from Molesworth, and that Molesworth shall in no way be responsible for the share of stipend promised by Trowbridge. The union was sanctioned. A call from Molesworth and Trowbridge congregations to the Rev. A. Stevenson was sustained. Mr. Stevenson accepted the call. The induction was fixed for the 29th, Mr. McRae to preside and address the people, Mr. D. J. Cameron to preach, and Mr. Muir to address the minister. Mr. Murray stated that the Rev. K. McDonald had accepted the call from Ashfield. The induction was appointed for January 14; Mr. Murray to preside, Mr. Stevenson to preach, Mr. D. Cameron to address the minister, and Mr. Sutherland and Mr. McFarland to address the people; the one in Gaelic, and the other in English. Messrs. Leask and McQuarrie addressed the Presbytery in behalf

of the Aged and Infirm Ministers' Fund. A motion was passed, earnestly urging the congregations within the bounds to display an increased liberality in connection with the Schemes of the Church. Messrs. McQuarrie, Ross and Hartley, ministers, with Presbytery elders, were appointed to visit Walton congregation with regard to arrears of stipend, and to enquire into the state of that congregation. Rev. D. Cameron having received an appointment to Manitowaning, and Rev. J. McNabb having resigned his congregation on account of ill-health, it was agreed to cite these congregations to appear at next meeting of Presbytery. Mr. Ross addressed the court in behalf of the Augmentation of Stipends, and moved that the Presbytery strongly commend this Scheme of the Church to the people of our congregations. A circular was read from the Board and Senate of Knox College, defining the work of an additional professor in said College. On motion, it was agreed: That instead of the proposed chair of Homiletics, Church History and Pastoral Theology, this Presbytery recommends that lectureships be established in connection with these departments, to be filled from year to year by appointment of the General Assembly. The topic for conference at the evening session was "Christian activity as a means of grace." Messrs. Murray, Sutherland, Jones and Muir addressed the court and assembled congregation. Mr. Sutherland, on behalf of the Temperance Committee of the Presbytery, presented a petition to be sent to the Lieutenant-Governor, asking him to appoint a police magistrate for the better carrying-out of the Canada Temperance Act in the county of Bruce, and submitting the name of James McLeod, of Ripley, for that office. It was agreed to transmit it. Committees were appointed to visit and receive congregations as follow: Pine River, Messrs. Sutherland and McDonald; Dungannon and Port Albert, Messrs. Leask and Harrison; St. Andrew's Church, Lucknow, and Langside, Messrs. Anderson and Wilson; Belgrave, Messrs. McQuarrie and Gordon; Fordwich and Gorrie, Messrs. Ross and McCallum. Mr. Anderson read a series of questions on State of Religion, which were adopted and ordered to be printed. Messrs. Leask, McQuarrie, Harrison and Gordon were appointed to examine the remit on Aged and Infirm Ministers' Fund. Messrs. Ross and McRae, with their Presbytery elders, were appointed to examine the remit on supply of vacancies. —R. LEASK, Pres. Clerk.

MONTREAL NOTES.

THE visit to this city of Messrs. Moody and Sankey will be long remembered by many. The weather was most disagreeable during the entire period of their stay, such weather as has not been known in Montreal at this season for twenty or thirty years. Rain, rain, rain almost continually for nearly a whole week, and the streets about as uncomfortable for pedestrians as they well could be. Notwithstanding such untoward circumstances, large crowds flocked to the meetings, morning, afternoon and evening, and the old St. James Street Methodist Church was at nearly every service packed to its utmost capacity. The building seats 2,500 persons comfortably, and it is estimated that 4,000 were present at many of the meetings. And what came they out to see? A plain, matter of fact, common-sense man whose peculiar pronunciation, and at times defective grammar, were lost sight of in his intense downright earnestness. With marvelous tact and skill he manages his audience, and gets them into sympathy with himself and with his message too. That message is the old story, the simple Gospel of Jesus Christ, told so tenderly and powerfully as to commend it to the judgment of his hearers, and by the power of God's Spirit to the hearts and consciences of not a few. At the after meetings many rose at Mr. Moody's request to indicate their desire for salvation, and the number of enquirers was large, as many as from 200 to 250 men retiring to the lecture room of the church at the close of one of the meetings, to be prayed for and dealt with personally. Mr. Moody conducted in all thirteen meetings, one of which was for women and five for men only. At several of the meetings many could not get into the church, and overflow meetings were held in Nordheimer's hall. The singing of Mr. Sankey added greatly to the interest and profit of the meetings. Accompanying Messrs. Moody and Sankey was Mr. Studd, an English gentleman, a graduate of Cambridge University and one of Mr. Moody's converts, who now spends a considerable part of his time in evangelistic work. His brother some time ago went out as a missionary to China, at his own expense. Mr. Studd addressed a meeting of students on Tuesday afternoon, in the David Morrice Hall. Principal Sir J. W. Dawson presided and on the platform were Principal MacVicar and the professors of the Presbyterian and other Colleges. Mr. Studd is expected here again next month to address meetings of students and members of the winter sports clubs. The meetings of the past week are being followed up by special services in many of the city churches, beginning on Monday evening, the 11th inst. In some instances union meetings are being held, the pastors of several congregations uniting for the purpose; and in others, meetings are being held under the auspices of the session of a single congregation, the pastor being aided by brethren in the city and from a distance.

THE annual meeting of the Montreal Auxiliary Bible Society takes place on Tuesday, the 26th inst, the speakers being the Rev. Principal MacVicar and Rev. J. Philip, of the St. James Street Methodist Church.

THE Presbyterian Woman's Missionary Society of Montreal meets on the first Friday of each month. A programme of subjects to be considered this year has been prepared and printed. On Friday last the topic was "Christian Liberality," on which subject papers were read by three of the ladies. The attendance of members was good. The society has recently appointed Miss Watt as Bible woman and nurse, in room of Miss McIntyre, whose health has been considerably impaired. The society also employ a French Bible woman besides contributing to Foreign Mission work.

THE bazaar or sale of fancy and useful work, under the auspices of the ladies of Cote St. Antoine, is announced to be held in the Natural History Room on Thursday, 21st inst.,