

## HAMILTON

At Hamilton Presbytery meeting held in Knox Church on July 4th, Rev. J. H. Ratcliffe of St. Catharines, acted as Moderator pro tem, and business was transacted with promptness and despatch.

The marriage of Rev. A. Leslie Howard of Cayuga to Miss Grace Awrey, a prominent young lady of Hamilton, was an outstanding event in social circles recently.

Rev. E. A. Henry, B.A., of Knox Church, has been supplying for Rev. Dr. Milligan of Toronto, for two Sabbaths recently.

The recent jubilee services in connection with Erskine Church were very successful, Revs. A. L. Geggie, Prof. Ballantyne, Dr. E. D. McLaren, W. A. J. Martin and R. Martin being the speakers from a distance. The new pastor, Rev. S. B. Russell is already gaining a sure hold on his congregation.

Forty of the members of the Boys' Brigade of St. Andrew's Church spent the first week of July in camp at Van Wagner's Beach, with their captain, Mr. Thos. Andrew, in charge.

The Presbyterian ministers of the city welcome the three new Methodist brethren who have recently come to occupy prominent churches in Hamilton—Revs. Shore, Treleavan and Parr.

Most of our clergymen are now planning for their annual vacation.

The summer exodus to the beach is now on, and small congregations are the order of the day.

City ministers are supplying the Beach residents with Sabbath evening services during the summer. These services are much appreciated.

There was a small attendance at the regular meeting of this Presbytery, and the session did not last long, there being little important business to attend to. Rev. Dr. G. H. Smith, of St. Catharines, was elected moderator for the half year.

The Presbytery received a call from Knox Church, Shelburne, to Rev. Dr. McKenzie, of Beverly. Rev. Mr. Fisher was appointed to cite Dr. McKenzie's present charge to appear at a special meeting of the Presbytery on July 18.

In connection with the report of the Presbytery on the augmentation fund, the Presbytery decided to request all the pastors to arrange an interchange of pulpits soon after the second Sunday in September, and that the pastors impress on congregations the claims of the various schemes of the church.

Messrs. Black and Blain asked that services be resumed at the church at Abingdon. Rev. J. W. Mitchell was instructed to supply the pulpit till other arrangements are made.

Rev. T. Paton announced that his time had expired for filling the pulpit at Port Robinson. Rev. Mr. Ratcliff was appointed to visit the congregation on Sunday, July 23, and deal with the matter.

Rev. Dr. Crow was empowered to act as moderator to a call to the congregation at Port Dalhousie.

Oliver Findlay, son of the Rev. A. Findlay, D.D., of Barrie, superintendent of Presbyterian missions for Ontario, was found dead in his room in the Windsor Hotel at Webbwood on Thursday last. Death was caused by a revolver shot, the revolver being found at his feet. The deceased, says the Orillia Packet, was a popular young man, and was employed as roadmaster's assistant at the C.P.R. station at Webbwood. He was an active member of the Presbyterian church, and his untimely death caused a great shock to his many friends. Dr. Findlay has the sincere sympathy of a wide circle of friends in his second loss, a son having been the first Canadian killed in the South African war.

Rev. Norman McGillivray and Mrs. McGillivray, of Cornwall, were among the recent visitors at Wakefield last week.

## JUBILEE AT THAMESFORD.

Last week we gave some particulars of this interesting event respecting the early history of St. Andrew's Church. We find the following in a recent issue of the hood stock Sentinel-Review:

A reference to the history of the Presbyterian Church of Thamesford and its congregation is a review of the earnest endeavors of the first body of energetic christian settlers and their ancestors in the western section of this country. It was in the year 1830 that many of these Scotch settlers found their way to this section. With the energy, patience and perseverance, characteristic of their race they soon hewed out homes for themselves in the wild, unbroken forest. After the home was obtained, came the desire for the school house and the parish church, the school that their children might be educated, the church that they might meet for the public worship of God. For some years they were unable to have a regular pastor. They assembled, nevertheless, in houses or barns, and heard the message of the gospel from minister who chanced to pass their way. In the year 1843 the Synod of Ross sent out the Rev. Donald Mackenzie to this district and in the following year he was inducted as pastor of the Embro congregation.

## Congregation Formed.

In the year 1845 active steps were taken to form a congregation at Thamesford to build a church. Through the energy of Donald Mackay, John McKay, sr., Jas. Patterson, sr., Donald Morrison, Angus McKenzie and others a subscription list was circulated, and funds obtained. In 1847 the corner stone of the first church was laid by Rev. W. C. Burns. It was a frame building 36 x 47, without tower or ornamentation of any kind. In 1849 the following elders were ordained by the Presbytery of London, John Mackay, John McKenzie, Angus McKenzie, Hugh Davidson. In 1855 a call was given to Rev. Neil Bethune, of Nova Scotia and accepted. Early in the year 1856 he died from smallpox, being 32 years of age. Three years later Rev. John Fraser was inducted as pastor. Mr. Fraser labored there for seven years when he accepted a call to Kincardine. In 1860 Mr. Thomas Paterson and Mr. Gilbert Telfer were added to the session. In the fall of 1867, Rev. Mr. A. C. McDonald, a graduate of Knox College, became pastor and continued his work until 1871. In this interval Mr. Alex. McMillan and Mr. John Mackay, jr., were appointed elders. Rev. Kenneth MacDonald of Glasgow accepted a call to the church in 1872, but remained but a year. Rev. Lachlan Cameron of Acton succeeded and remained with the congregation for twenty years. After Mr. Cameron's death, Rev. G. H. Smith became pastor, and in 1900 he was succeeded by the present pastor, Rev. T. A. Watson, who has labored unceasingly for the welfare of the congregation and with a large measure of success.

A pleasant gathering took place at the residence of Mr. A. C. McArthur, North Branch. The night of Burns Church choir practice was made a farewell reception to Mrs. (Dr.) John Christie. Mrs. (Dr.) Christie was presented with a silver nut bowl. Rev. A. G. Cameron made a short address and Mrs. A. C. McArthur made the presentation. Rev. Mr. and Mrs. Cameron, who are both musical, added much to the evening's enjoyment. Dr. and Mrs. Christie left on Tuesday for their home in Minnewaukon, North Dakota.

At a missionary meeting at Appleton, on Friday evening, the Rev. G. A. Woodside, of Charlton Place, delivered a very interesting address bearing on the work.

Rev. J. U. Tanner, B.A., of Lancaster, exchanged pulpits with Rev. J. E. Duclos of Valleyfield, on Sunday.

## SAUGEEEN YOUNG PEOPLE'S UNION.

The annual convention of this association was held at Harrison on the 4th inst. There was a large attendance of delegates and much interest was evinced by the young people in the work.

During the past year this presbytery undertook the support of a home missionary, but as this field has now become self-sustaining, and does not now require our help, it was decided to support some other home missionary. This shows that the members of our Young Peoples' Union are coming to realize that we are not saved to enjoy, but to serve.

A few of the points brought out by the different essayists and addresses were that we must have high ideals, not only in the individual life but in the society as well. We should have a definite aim, that aim being to win souls to Jesus and to fit our young people for taking active part in church work, our motive should be essentially missionary, our watchword the evangelization of the world in this generation. It is felt that the mechanism of our young people's society is not deficient in quantity or efficiency, but what it needs above all and without which there can be no true success, is the baptism of the Holy Spirit, which comes from being much in prayer, and living close to Christ.

At the afternoon session a solo, "O Happy Day," was rendered by Miss Gow.

At the evening session a very practical and interesting address was given by Rev. Dr. Pidgeon, of Toronto, showing the value of the young peoples' society as affording a training for future service in the cause of Christ, giving scope to their energies, enriching their minds, molding their thoughts so that they will not be mere receivers of the truth, but distributors, and from whose ranks will arise men and women who will go forth with the tidings of salvation to the ends of the earth. Dr. Pidgeon closed his address with these lines:

"Give me the day with its sun in the West,

And hear what it has to say:

Give me the year as it neareth its rest

In the glow of the Autumn Day:

Give me the life where the path is un-

rolled

To the shores of God's limitless sea

For the end is the test; and the tale that

is told,

Be it written in grayness of silver or of

gold,

Is the tale of eternity."

The officers elected for this year were: President, J. S. Drysdale, Durham; vice-president, John Martin, Mt. Forest; recording secretary, Miss Dulmage, Palmerston; corresponding secretary, Miss N. Smith, Harrison; treasurer, Miss Dobson, Fordwich; presbyterial missionary convener, Rev. Mr. Tait, Moorefield.

The convention adjourned to meet next July in Knox church, Palmerston.

Presbytery of Orangeville met July 11th. Calls were sustained from Talbot and Kelden to Mr. H. Walker, B.A., of Toronto; from Hillsburg and Bethel to Mr. W. K. Grant. Provisional arrangements were made for inductions at these places and also at Shelburne. Mr. D. A. Hamilton resigned charge of Horning's Mills and Primrose, to take effect August 1st. A commission of presbytery will visit these fields in the near future. Rev. G. S. Scott of Maple Valley is interim moderator.

A strong committee was appointed to consider the question of systematic beneficence, specially arranging for presbytery to raise the sum allocated to each congregation for augmentation. A determined effort is to be made to raise the status of giving in the presbytery, backing up the efforts of last year.

A question is to be asked at next meeting: Is it consistent for a Presbyterian to immerse a person who thinks that is the proper mode of baptism?