

## MINISTERS AND CHURCHES.

THE ladies of Zion Church, Brantford, hold a bazaar on the 15th and 16th of this month.

REV. L. CAMERON, Thamesford, has been appointed Moderator of the Presbytery of London.

THE new church at Durham is nearing completion. Its opening is being arranged for the last Sabbath of the year.

THE Rev. J. Macintosh, of Philadelphia, has refused the pulpit of one of Montreal's leading Presbyterian Churches.

THE Rev. Mr. McGregor, B.A., preached for the Stratford St. Andrew's Society in Knox Church there last Sabbath.

REV. J. K. HISLOP, of Avonton, who has been confined to his room for nearly two weeks, is recovering, and expects shortly to resume his ministerial avocations.

MR. ARCHIBALD CUTHBERTSON, a student of Knox College, Toronto, delivered an able lecture in Paris last week, his subject being "The Injurious Effect of Stimulants on the Nervous System."

THE congregation of St. James' Presbyterian Church, London, have decided to improve and ornament their church to the extent of \$1,000. Under the pastorate of the Rev. Mr. McGillivray, the congregation of St. James' has made gratifying progress.

THE Ladies' Society of Burns' Church, Martintown, held a very successful social a few weeks ago, when they presented their pastor, the Rev. J. Matheson, with an address and a purse of money amounting to \$42, to buy himself a fur overcoat for the winter. This is not the first token of good will that Mr. Matheson has received from his people.

A SERIES of special evangelistic meetings at North Williamsburg, Ont., conducted by Mr. McIntyre, of Kemptville, assisted by brother ministers of that place and neighbourhood—Lutheran, Methodist and Presbyterian, including Mr. Sutherland, the Presbyterian missionary in the field, were very signally owned of the Lord. Twenty-six persons professed to have found Christ. Scores of church members testified that they were revived, and many more were led to serious concern about their souls. "The Lord reigneth."—COM.

NOTICING a lecture at Brockville, the "Recorder" says: "The Rev. Mr. Burnfield's description of the sea of Galilee and the towns, cities, and villages on its shores during Christ's sojourn on earth, last evening, was extremely interesting. These abodes of life and activity eighteen hundred years ago, have now altogether disappeared. Their fate had been foretold by the Saviour, when He pronounced the doom upon Capernaum and Bethsaida, and also on Chorazin. These places had been lifted up to heaven by the presence of Christ, but because they had despised and rejected Him, they had been cast down to hell. So would it be with all nations, churches, or individuals who neglected to acknowledge God and His Christ."

ONE of those pleasant incidents that add a charm, wherever they occur, to social life, took place on Friday evening, the 10th ult., when a large number of the members and adherents of Knox Church, Charleston, Caledon, surprised Mr. Irwin Dodds at his residence, by making him the recipient of a handsome present. The gift consisted of a beautiful family Bible, a copy of the Presbyterian Hymnal, a handsome stand for the Bible, and a splendid arm-chair—the "Gladstone Rocker." The gift was accompanied with an affectionate address, to which Mr. Dodds made a suitable reply. As Mr. Dodds has been for several years precentor in Knox Church, the members embraced this opportunity of showing their appreciation of his services.

THE Mutual Improvement Association of St. Andrew's Church, Belleville, held its first meeting in the lecture-room Monday night, 20th ult., and reorganized for the winter. There was a very good attendance and a hearty interest was shown in the proceedings. The officers for the year are: Hon. President, Rev. W. M. McLean, M.A.; President, Professor MacGillivray, M.A., of Albert College; 1st Vice-President, Miss C. Urquhart; 2nd Vice-President, Judge Fraleck; Sec.-Treasurer, Mr. Thos. Duncan. The Association will meet weekly during the winter months. Musical and literary committees were appointed, the members of which together with the officers form the Executive

Committee of the Association. The Association opens with every prospect of a successful career.

A NUMBER of the good people of Molesworth assembled themselves at the manse on the evening of the 15th of November, to welcome their young pastor, Rev. Mr. Bickell, and his bride. As they did not arrive at Listowel until about nine p.m., it was nearly eleven when they drove up to their future home. They were taken completely by surprise as the session with their late pastor, Mr. T. T. Johnston, came out to welcome them in. After considerable time had been spent in feasting and pleasant intercourse, Mr. Johnston briefly welcomed the pastor and his bride on behalf of the friends present, and stated that they would find tokens of the people's hearty good will scattered around in pantry and cellar to begin their housekeeping career. Mr. Bickell replied in a few well-chosen words, after which Mr. Johnston led the company in praise and prayer. It was considerably after midnight when the friends separated, but the few hours spent together will be long remembered by those present. Mr. Bickell enters upon his work among a warm-hearted people, and under the influence of the Divine Spirit will be abundantly blessed in his labours.

IT gives us much pleasure to notice the progress that is being made in the Presbytery of Bruce. We refer to the congregation of Hanover and N. Normanby, of which our esteemed brother, the Rev. James T. Paterson is pastor. When Mr. Paterson was settled there in July 1880, there were only thirty members in Hanover, and now there are seventy-six. There was a debt of \$1,100 on the church, now it is reduced to \$600. The attendance has more than quadrupled. The question of instrumental music has been settled, and now there is an organ with excellent music. There is also the best of harmony among the members, and the work of the Lord is prospering. In Normanby a new frame church has been built at a cost of \$1,000, half of which is already paid, and the balance subscribed. Good sheds have been put up, and the property is well fenced. On November 12th, which was communion Sabbath, there were eighty members or more present out of ninety. There were only sixty-seven when the present minister was settled. These facts are most encouraging to both pastor and people to abound yet more and more in the work of the Lord.

IN St. John's Church, Brockville, on Sabbath 26th ult., the pastor, Rev. Dr. Jardine, inaugurated a series of lectures on the "Resurrection," taking his text from the 1st epistle of Paul to the Corinthians, 15th chapter 19th verse, embracing the words, "If in this life only we have hope in Christ we are, of all men, the most miserable." The reverend gentleman opened his remarks by calling attention to two extreme views of the doctrine of the resurrection, one held by the ancient followers of the Christian religion, and the other in vogue at the present day. The first extreme was to the effect that the world was looked upon as naturally evil and unworthy the regard of reasonable or religiously inclined beings, that all matter contained in it was antagonistic to God, and that the one aim of Christian man was faith in eternal existence. This doctrine, he held, was unfortunate in more ways than one, but was particularly so from the fact that it had a tendency to promote hypocrisy. Men who lived in the world, and were constantly brought into contact with worldly aims and aspirations, were very likely to have some regard for the pursuits in which they were engaged, while their doctrine that all the world was antagonistic to God would lead them to make a pretence of what they in reality did not practice nor believe. The second extreme view, was directly the opposite of that just quoted, and was due to the reaction caused by the general diffusion of knowledge. As science advanced and the wonders of nature were applied to the advancement of worldly gain, there was a tendency to look upon the present world as altogether too dear, the higher existence of the future being left as a secondary consideration. He contended that there must be a harmonizing influence between life here and life hereafter. If religion does not fit us for life here, what value has it for fitting us for a higher sphere. The present life is very important as it fitted us for eternal existence in the future. There was discipline in religion, which was of infinite benefit to mankind because it served to exercise a constraining influence in keeping us from giving full license to the sinful inclinations of our nature. If there is no future existence what would be the use of exercising this

restraint. He could see no use for it, and if he believed, as materialistic philosophers professed to do, that when death came all was ended, he could find no foundation for an observance of the grand principles of truth, honesty and integrity in this life.

PRESBYTERY OF BRUCE.—A special meeting of this Presbytery was held at Port Elgin on Nov. 21st. A call from Glamis to Rev. A. F. Mackenzie, of Kilsyth, was sustained and ordered to be transmitted, together with relative papers, to the Presbytery of Owen Sound. The call was unanimous, and the stipend promised is \$600, payable quarterly. Messrs. John A. Morrison and John G. Henderson were ordained as missionaries, and appointed to labour at Sault Ste. Marie and Bruce Mines respectively.—JAMES GOURLAY, Pres. Clerk.

PRESBYTERY OF OWEN SOUND.—This Presbytery met in Division street Church, Owen Sound, on the 21st inst. Minutes of the last regular meeting were read and sustained. Committees were appointed to examine Session Records, and the reports of said committees were adopted. Leave was granted to the Lake Shore congregation to sell their old church in order to have it removed from the ground. A petition from Meaford congregation was presented, requesting leave to moderate in a call to a minister. Mr. Somerville moved, seconded by Mr. Currie, that leave be granted to the Moderator of Meaford and Grierville Sessions to moderate in a call to a minister when their congregations are prepared. Mr. Cameron moved, seconded by Mr. Dewar, that the prayer of the petition be not granted, inasmuch as Greirville is not represented in this petition, but that the congregation be requested to come up together in this petition.—The motion was carried. Mr. Dewar dissented. The Presbytery appointed that the collections for the Presbytery Fund be taken up on the first Sabbath of January in all the congregations, unless provision has been otherwise made before that date. Mr. Morrison asked the Presbytery to relieve him of further service in Sarawak and N. Keppel. Mr. Cameron moved, seconded by Mr. Somerville, that Mr. Morrison's request be granted, and thanks of the Presbytery given him for his willing and efficient service. The motion was agreed to. An application for mission work from Mr. Willard was read. The Presbytery agreed that Mr. Morrison should preach and hold meetings in Sarawak and N. Keppel, and lay Mr. Willard's application before the people, and, if deemed favourable by them, appoint Mr. Willard to that field till April next. A telegram from the Clerk of Bruce Presbytery was read, intimating that a call from Glamis congregation to Mr. A. F. McKenzie, of Kilsyth, had been sustained by that Presbytery. It was agreed that Kilsyth, N. Derby and Cruickshank congregations be cited to appear for their interests at an adjourned meeting to be held on the 12th Dec., at 1:30 p.m. The Presbytery agreed to hold its next regular meeting in Knox Church, Owen Sound, on the third Tuesday of January, at 1:30 p.m. The congregation to be cited to appear for Presbyterial visitation the same day at 7:30 p.m., and the meeting was closed with the benediction.—JOHN SOMERVILLE, M.A., Clerk.

## OBITUARY.

Edward James Brown died at his residence in Paisley on the 19th of September last, aged forty-nine years. Mr. Brown was born at Newcastle-upon-Tyne, in the county of Northumberland, England, in the year 1833. He was left an orphan at the tender age of three, and was brought up by his aunt who resided at Hazelton Rigg, on the Cheviot Hills in the parish of Aluham. He became a member of the Free Church at Branton in the year 1854 under the pastorate of Rev. James Blythe. In 1855 he emigrated to Canada, and came to the Township of Bruce, where he continued to reside till last April when he removed to Paisley. When the Centre Bruce congregation was formed, he was one of its first members and was ordained as one of its first elders in November 1862. He continued to discharge faithfully the duties of his office till his health failed, when he sold his farm and removed to Paisley. His death leaves a blank in the congregation which it will be hard to fill, as he was foremost in every church work. Though very much afflicted, he bore it all with Christian patience. Three beloved children, two sons and a daughter, were taken from him by death. He leaves a widow and seven children, four sons and three daughters, to mourn his loss.—COM.