Church News.

of First Church, Brantford, had a supper on the evening of the 7th pers was served in the lecture room tions, and afterwards a very fine en in the church Rev Dr. d the chair, a capital ad- Mr. Hutchinson, and the leadership of Mr. John led choice selections s were very enjoy- $109 was held in the inst., under the Society, which congregation. st capacity. interesting of vocal ons, etc. tor, the and dis- ing

ng 08; ms— number owing a e class and increase of hool work, 346, uilon per family Schemes of the per family over the ge contribution for ...s of the Church per communicant for the whole Church is $1.55, and for the presbytery $1.10.

REV. DR KELLOGG, St. James' Square, Toronto, preached the anniversary sermons at Erskine Church, Hamilton, on Sabbath, 12th inst. The sermon in the evening was on the "amens" and "verilies" of Christ. "The use of the word 'verily,'" said Dr. Kellogg, "marks the peculiarity of the Lord's teaching. No other writer or teacher of ancient or modern times, has written or talked in that way. Christ, by the use of that word, shows a serene, calm, absolute certainty. Plato, probably the wisest of the Greek writers, often used the phrase, 'It seems to me.' Christ never said that. He always adopted a tone of ringing certainty. He knew it all, as He knew that two and two make four In anybody else, such an attitude of absolute certainty would seem foolish, but somehow it harmonizes so well with Christ's character that it does not occur to anybody to criticise it. This peculiarity marks Christ as a Being not of earth, but divine. Every one of these emphasized sayings of the Lord, so far as it has been possible to test them by experience, has come true, and they will all come true. Christians should treasure these sayings as the most precious jewels; any one of them is worth all the philosophy of this world, for we know that in them we have absolute truth."

REV. JOHN H. GEORGE has been inducted into the pastoral charge of the John Street church, Belleville. This pulpit has been vacant since January last, and during the interim the congregation has heard about twenty-two candidates for the vacancy, from whom Mr. George was unanimously selected. Rev. M. W. Maclean being confined to his house through illness, Rev. Mr. Gray, of Stirling, officiated as Moderator. The other members of the Presbytery present were: Rev. Messrs. Allen, of Newburg, Young, of Napanee, and Wilkins, of Trenton. Mr. Allen preached, Mr. Gray put the usual questions, Mr. Young addressed the new pastor, and Mr. Wilkins the congregation. Mr. George took his stand at the door and was introduced to, and received a hearty shake of the hand from each member of the congregation as they passed out. Rev. Mr. George, whose home is in Cobourg, took his degree of B.A. at the Albert University in 1880, when he carried off first-class honours in mental philosophy, and also the proficiency gold medal. His first charge was in Port Perry, where he remained for about a year. From Port Perry he went to Ottawa, where he was pastor of the Metropolitan Methodist Episcopal Church. He remained there until the union of the Methodist bodies. In 1885 he received his M.A. degree at Victoria College, and in the same year went to Boston and took a post-graduate course in metaphysics and mental philosophy. After the union of the Methodists he joined the Presbyterian Church of Canada. This is, therefore, his first Presbyterian charge, and it is sincerely to be hoped that every success may attend him in his new field of labour, both congregational and throughout the city.

WE find that an account of the late meeting of the Lanark and Renfrew Presbytery, copied verbatim from an exchange into our columns and not vouched for by the Clerk, gives an entirely erroneous impression as to the circumstances attending the resignation of Smith Falls' charge offered to the presbytery by the pastor, Rev. John Crombie. From the official report of the meeting of presbytery to hand we find the facts are briefly thus: "A letter was read from Mr. Crombie, Smith's Falls, intimating that it was his purpose to demit his charge at next regular meeting, and asking the presbytery to take steps to relieve him of his charge. After reasoning, it was, on motion duly made and seconded, agreed to lay Mr. Crombie's letter meantime on the table, and appointed Dr. Campbell and Mr. Bremner to hold a meeting with the congregation on 12th January next in the hope *that Mr. Crombie may not press his resignation.*" There was, we are informed, no request made to Mr. Crombie from his congregation to resign his charge—not even a hint that such was desired. We regret having given currency to erroneous statements, and trust that this correction will dissipate any wrong impression that may have been created by the publication of the item in our columns.

ON Sabbath, 5th inst., the Avondale church, Tilsonburg, Ont., was opened. The *Observer* contains a long and most interesting account of the formation and growth of Presbyterianism in the locality, and of the opening services, from which we make a few extracts. After detailing the history of the old church building it says: "It was at length decided, on the 1st of February, 1885, at a meeting of the congregation, that a new church should be erected. The congregation was in great measure induced to take this step from the fact that Mr. John Cowan, late of the Federal Bank, had left the congregation a legacy of $2,000. Liberal subscriptions were received from members, and the erection proceeded. At the laying of the foundation stone, Mr. John Scott, of Bayham, one of the members of the building committee of the church, offered to furnish the balance of cost provided—some $2,000—if the building was the Avondale church, after the historic church birthplace in the parish of Avondale, Scotland, which is situate the battlefield of Drumclog, the old Covenanters defeated Graham of Claverhouse, shortly after the battle of Bothwell Bridge, at which the army of the Covenanters was all but swept away. This generous offer was too good to be refused, and in consequence the new building is the Avondale church, and on Sunday was dedicated to God free from debt. Rev. G. M. Milligan preached morning and evening, and Rev. Dr. Reid, of Georgetown, in the afternoon, Mr. Milligan's sermon in the evening being described as 'eloquent, powerful and practical as ever heard in Tilsonburg,' and Dr. Reid's as 'eloquent and affecting, many of the friends being moved to tears.'" The church has already been described in these pages. On the following Monday a most successful tea-meeting was held, at which the speakers were Mr. John Charlton, Esq., M.P., chairman; Revs. G. M. Milligan, Toronto; Dr. Cochrane, Brantford; Taylor, Courtland; Hamilton, Lynedoch; McRobbie, Ridgetown; and Mitchell and McGregor, Tilsonburg. Rev Mr Ware gave his valuable assistance in the musical department. We heartily congratulate the Tilsonburg friends on these renewed tokens of prosperity and vigour.

MEETINGS OF PRESBYTERIES.

LINDSAY.—Met at Uxbridge on Tuesday the 30th November at 11 a.m., Rev. E. Cockburn, M.A., Moderator. Present—Ten ministers and eight elders. Minutes of 31st August and 1st November read and sustained, also agreed on a minute expressive of the feelings of presbytery in parting with the Rev. S S Johnston from his pastoral charge of Wick and Greenbank congregation. The presbytery was occupied at considerable length with the vacancies and appointment of supply, arranging with the members to supply the mission field of Digby and Sebright. The sessions were instructed to arrange for missionary meetings and report at the next meeting. Schedules were given out on state of religion, statistics and finance. After other routine business, the presbytery agreed to hold next meeting at Lindsay on the last Tuesday of February, 1887, at 11 a.m.—JAMES R SCOTT *Clerk*

TORONTO.—On the 7th inst. this Presbytery met, Rev. P. Nicol, Moderator, and transacted a fair amount of business. Revs P. Smith, J. McKay, and Mr. Wm. Hood were appointed a committee to look after the supply for St. Andrew's church, Scarboro, and St. John's church, Markham. The committee appointed at last meeting to confer with the congregations of Dixie and West Toronto Junction anent a combined adherence to the promise of $750 as stipend, reported through Rev. J. Mutch favourably thereunto, with the hope of $100 more being added within the year. Rev. J A. Grant declared his acceptance of the call given him by said congregations; the moderator and the clerk were appointed to assign him subjects of trial for ordination; said trials will be heard in the usual place on the 11th prox., and in case of their being sustained the presbytery agreed to meet at West Toronto Junction on the same day at 3 p.m. to ordain and induct Mr. Grant, the moderator to preside, Rev. W. Patterson to preach, Rev. D. J. Macdonnell to deliver the charge, and Rev. A. Gilray to address the people. It was also agreed to apply for a supplement of $250 for said congregations from the Augmentation Fund. A committee was appointed consisting of Revs. A. Gilray, D. J. Macdonnell, and Mr. W. Carlyle to confer with the congregations of Weston and Woodbridge anent the propriety of raising the salary of their pastor; and Mr. Gilray was appointed to preach at said places on the 19th inst. Rev. Dr. Gregg submitted and read a report from the committee appointed at last meeting to visit and confer with the congregations of Union church and Norval anent the tender of resignation made by their pastor. The report set forth in substance that said congregations are warmly attached to their pastor, Rev. J. Alexander, and wish his continuance among them, but that seeing he decidedly wishes—on the ground of bodily infirmity, to retire from the pastorate, they would quit the thought of seeking a colleague, and offer no opposition to his resignation. The committee were thanked for their diligence in this matter, and the clerk was instructed to cite the congregations to appear for their interests at next ordinary meeting. An application was read from the congregation of Leslieville, for a separation of said congregation from that of York townline. Messrs. McDonald and Gibb were heard as commissioners there anent, as also the pastor, Rev. W. Frizzell. After some deliberation, Revs. J. Neil, R. P. Mackay A. Gilray, and Mr. A. Gemmell were appointed a committee to confer, with said congregation in regard to this matter, and report at a future meeting. The clerk having stated that he had received, in due time, reasons of protest and appeal from Rev. W. Inglis against the decision come to by the presbytery on his case at last meeting; said reasons were produced and read. A committee was appointed, consisting of Revs. H. M. Parsons, D. J. Macdonnell, G. M. Milligan, and Mr. Carlyle, to prepare answers to said reasons, and submit the same at next meeting. There was also read a second memorial and petition from Mr. Inglis asking the presbytery to re-open the whole case, inasmuch as he had learned since last meeting that a *majority of those who voted for the amendment* which then carried were shareholders of the PRESBYTERIAN REVIEW, and, therefore, in his opinion interested parties, but that if he should fail in this request, he might have permission to amend his reasons by adding another, the terms of which were given by him. It was moved in substance, and duly seconded, to refuse the re-opening of the case. In amendment, it was moved and seconded, to re-open the case, and make it the first order of business at next meeting. The motion carried by a majority of one, and it was declared accordingly. The presbytery, however, granted leave to the memorialist to add the tenth reason of protest and appeal which was read from him. The remit from the General Assembly on the marriage question was read and duly considered. A motion there anent was submitted by Rev. Dr. Gregg, and seconded by Rev. J. M. Cameron; said motion was of some length and is not given here; in substance, however, it disapproved of the remit. In amendment it was moved by Rev. W. Meikle, and seconded by Rev. D. J. Macdonnell, that the remit on marriage be approved of; on a vote being taken eleven voted for the amendment and nine for the motion; the amendment was therefore declared carried. The yeas and nays being taken on said amendment, eleven voted yea and nine nay. Thereafter, Mr. W. A. Martin, a student of theology, read a discourse on a subject recently prescribed to him. The discourse was sustained, and the clerk was instructed to attest him to the senate of Knox College. Various matters—of no public interest—were taken up and dealt with. The presbytery meets for ordinary business in the usual place on Tuesday the 11th of January, 1887, at 10 a.m.—R. MONTEATH, *Clerk.*

REGINA.—Met at Moosomin on the first Tuesday of November. There was a large attendance of ministers and missionaries. The name of Mr. George McQuaig, appointed to represent the session at Medicine Hat was received and placed on the roll. The committee reported that during the past half-year the sum of $5,266.68 had been expended within the bounds of this presbytery and that there would be for disposal during the current half-year the sum of $3,133.32. The committee recommended the appointment of Rev. J. M. Gardiner to Battleford for one year; Rev. R. Goudie to Carlyle for six months; Rev. John Geddes to Cathcart for six months; Rev. H. Robson to Fort Qu'Appelle for one year; Rev. C. McKillop to Lethbridge for one year; Rev. James Herald to Medicine Hat for one year; Rev. Wm. Nicoll to Moosomin for six months; Rev. A. Robertson to High River for one year; Rev. A. Hamilton to Qu'Appelle Station for one year; Mr. W. J. Hall to Wolseley for three months; Rev. A. H. Cameron to Donald and points in the Rockies for one year; Rev A. Campbell to Carrot River for one year; Mr A. Matheson to Jumping Creek for one year; Rev. S. J. Taylor to Moose Jaw for one year. Mr. A. Ogilvie to Whitewood for six months, Mr. D. McMillan to Indian Head for three months Mr. Marsh to Grenfell and Broadview for six months. The Rev. John Fotheringham gave notice that at the next meeting the following overture would be proposed for consideration: "Whereas in regions, where ministers and missionaries are widely scattered, it is sometimes difficult to form a quorum at special meetings of presbyteries; and whereas ruling elders are sometimes employed as catechists in mission fields, and render important service to the Church, and are qualified to give valuable aid in conducting the business of the presbyteries: and whereas it is proper that their labours as catechists and their office as elders in the Church be suitably recognized and honoured, it is humbly overtured to the venerable the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in Canada that it appoint and ordain that every elder labouring as a catechist in any Presbytery have his name upon the roll of that presbytery as a member thereof while so labouring." A strong resolution was passed bearing upon the evils of the "permit" system and recommending that the presbytery urge upon the people to secure pledges from those who may offer themselves for election to Parliament or the North-West Council to use their best efforts to curtail the "permit" system and to secure such laws, regulations and appointments as shall debar all illegitimate traffic. Three months leave of absence was granted to the Rev. James Herald, if he decided to visit Britain in the interests of the congregation at Medicine Hat. The committee appointed to draw up a minute anent the resignation of Rev. W. McWilliam of Prince Albert, submitted the following which was endorsed by the presbytery "The Presbytery of Regina would desire to record its sympathy with the congregation of Prince Albert in its loss of Mr. McWilliam, as the pastor thereof, and its sense of the loss sustained by the removal of Mr. McWilliam from the important field occupied by him during the past three years, with so much faithfulness and zeal. It would also express the hope that a suitable successor may soon be found and that Mr. McWilliam may have many years of further service in the Church's work." At a subsequent stage of the proceedings Dr. Jardine was presented and heartily welcomed as Mr. McWilliam's successor and it was moved, seconded and carried that the action of the Assembly's H. M. Committee be homologated and that Dr. Jardine's name be placed on the roll of this presbytery. Certificates were granted Rev. Messrs. Munro, Currie and McWilliam, and Mr. A. S. Grant, B.A., was certified to the Senate of the Presbyterian College, Montreal. In the evening Mr. W. S. Moore was ordained to the office of the ministry. Rev D. H. Hodges preached. The Moderator, Rev. H. McKay, addressed the ordained and Rev. James Robertson, Superintendent of Missions, the people. It was reported that churches at Fort Qu'Appelle and Carlyle had been burned and the sympathy of the court was extended to the congregations deprived of their places of worship, and especially to the Rev. A. Robson of Fort Qu'Appelle. The clerk was instructed to correspond with all stations at which churches are erected advising the taking of all necessary precautions against loss by fire. A number of ministers and missionaries reported the dispensing of ordinances at Cut Arm Creek, Indian Head, Green Valley, Yorkton, McLeod Station, Lansdowne, Whitewood and Sunnyside. Notice was given of the changes of the Church's year to correspond with the calendar year. An encouraging report of work among the Indians was presented by the Rev. H. McKay.

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