

for fourteen years, and his first impression of his being an honest and sincere worker in Christ's vineyard had been confirmed. The association would regret his departure, for he was one of its active members. The Central Association had just designated the Rev. A. W. Gerrie, to take up a mission field at Brandon, Man., and he wished both "God speed" in their arduous labours.

Rev. B. W. Day, Lanark, then offered the commendatory prayer.

Rev. Dr. Jackson observed they should not forget the great sacrifice Mr. Pedley was making in thus severing, not only himself, but his family from a comfortable home and friends, to devote himself to Christ's work, amongst strangers in a comparatively strange land, and he hoped they would be constantly remembered in their prayers and acts of beneficence.

Rev. H. Pedley thanked the previous speakers for their kind words, and briefly explained the circumstances which led him to accept of that position. In the early part of the year he had been asked to undertake the work, but declined. At the Union Meeting the matter was again pressed upon him, and in reply said he had an invitation to visit Winnipeg, and if the committee approved he would visit the country and report upon it, which would be useful whether he or another went. In July he started for Winnipeg, filling his engagement, and thence proceeded to British Columbia. He thought Vancouver City, the terminus of the Canadian Pacific Railroad, offered the best chances of success. It was a new place, and with every probability of becoming a large and important city. The country was rich in natural treasures. He was aware of the difficulties; wickedness abounded, and he never witnessed so much sneering and scorn of things sacred, loose morals and irreligious life. With a population of 4,000 there were fifty-six saloons. Young men who had had the privileges of pious training were scattered over the country with no home but the tent or section house, and were in great danger of falling into the prevailing sinful habits. It was this thought and that of having sorrow on his mind at the refusal to go and do the work for Christ when called which made him decide to undertake the work. He could not conclude without being practical, and would gladly accept of gifts in books and other appliances that would be of service in his future labours amongst the young men and their fellow-Congregationalists in that distant "land of the setting sun."

CENTRAL ASSOCIATION.

This association met in the Northern Church, Toronto on the 25th and 26th ult. The attendance was fair. Several members came on the Monday to hear Dr. Joseph Parker, who lectured on the 24th in the

Metropolitan Methodist Church. On Tuesday evening the members attended, by invitation, the Rev. J. Jackson Wray's lecture on Whitfield, in Zion Church. The association met without a programme, which, under all circumstances, was a fortunate occurrence, for unhampered, an opportunity was afforded to the members for earnest consultation regarding mission work and more effective organization. Rev. H. Pedley was also present, and spoke earnestly and well upon work in the great North-West, giving valuable information and kindling hearty enthusiasm.

On Wednesday evening a largely attended service was held, designating Mr. A. W. Gerrie to his work in Brandon. Mr. Bolton, of Warton, presided; devotional exercises were led by Mr. J. W. Pedley and Mr. E. Barker, and on behalf of the Missionary Society executive Mr. Burton gave an address, stating that the service was held at the request of the executive committee, and speaking hopefully of the future now that the denomination was bending its energies to mission work, both home and foreign. Mr. Gerrie also indicated his sense of duty in accepting the appointment at the hands of the committee; after which Mr. C. Duff led in earnest prayer, solemnly sending the missionary forth (Acts xiii. 2, 3). Mr. George Robertson spoke feelingly of his associations with and interest for his kinsman, and an exceptionally solemn meeting came to a close.

Mr. and Mrs. Gerrie left by the midnight train for Winnipeg, amid the benedictions of many friends.

At the opening of each year at Cornell University, it is the custom of its Christian Association to take a census of the denominational peculiarities of the new students, so far as they are willing to make them known. The result of the canvass the present year is an interesting one. Of the new students entering the university, 378 responded to the inquiries made. Of these 184 are members of one denomination or another. Of the various denominations the Presbyterian leads with forty-seven, the Methodists follow with thirty-nine, the Episcopal with twenty-nine, the Congregational with twenty-two, the Baptists with sixteen, the Roman Catholic with fifteen, while seven other denominations have numbers ranging from one to six. Of those who are not communicants, forty-one are in the habit of attending the Presbyterian Church, thirty-nine the Methodist, twenty-five the Congregational, eighteen the Episcopalian, sixteen the Baptist, four the Roman Catholic and ten the Unitarian. The Christian Association building, the gift of Mr. A. S. Barnes, of New York, is under contract to be finished before the beginning of the next college year. The ground has been broken, and the work will be pushed as far as possible before the winter sets in.