

choir of St. Andrew's Church, London, was in attendance, and sustained their reputation under the leadership of Mr. Freeland, Miss Freeland presiding at the organ. The music consisted of solos, duets, anthems and glees. The literary part of the entertainment consisted of addresses by Rev. Messrs. Crews (Methodist), Beamer (Presbyterian), Clark (Baptist), and the chairman; and Mr. Donaldson, teacher. Also of recitations by Mr. Wells and Miss Hager, and a reading by the Rev. Mr. Clark. The ladies of the congregation deserve great praise for the quantity and quality of the edibles, and also for the ease and dexterity with which they performed their part in serving. The treasurer reported at the close that the proceeds of the tea-meeting amounted to over \$82, which will be appropriated to manse repairs.—COM.

THE annual congregational meeting of St. Paul's Church, Peterborough, was held on the evening of Wednesday, Feb. 1st. The basement was crowded with the members and adherents of the church. The different reports showed that the past year had been one of remarkable prosperity in the congregation. This was due largely to the revival in the early part of the year, the results of which have proved both lasting and satisfactory. There are now connected with the congregation 275 families and 610 communicants, a net increase during the year of 30 families and 110 communicants. The number of communicants received into the church during the year was 180. The attendance at the different services has largely increased, especially at the weekly prayer meeting and at the meetings held in some of the Elders' districts for the study of the Scriptures. The average attendance at the Sabbath school was 275—a net increase of 59 over the average attendance the previous year. The average attendance at the Mission school, and at the schools in the country parts, was in the neighbourhood of 200. There was raised for the ordinary revenue, \$1,804.71; from pew rents, \$1,700.05. The contributions for the Schemes of the Church amounted to \$1,526, of which sum \$312 was raised in the Sabbath school. To Home Mission Fund \$563 was sent; to Foreign Mission, \$446; to French Evangelization, \$259; to College, \$120; to Aged and Infirm Ministers, \$70. There was raised for the poor of the congregation, and for other objects not mentioned above, \$550. After paying \$500 into a fund started for the enlargement of the church, there was in the hands of the Treasurer at the close of the year, \$449.—COM.

THE annual congregational meeting of Chesley Presbyterian congregation was held on the 12th ult., the pastor, Rev. John Ferguson, M.A., B.D., in the chair. The Treasurer reported a considerable increase in the total amount raised for Church purposes as compared with last year—also a surplus of \$133 after paying all expenses of the year. The Building Committee reported that the sum of \$2,815 had been subscribed for the purpose of building a new church, and that the entire congregation had not yet been canvassed. It was agreed by motion to continue the canvass, with the view of starting building operations as soon as a sufficient amount had been subscribed to warrant such a course. The Sabbath school secretary, in his report, stated that the Sabbath school had increased largely in attendance during the year, and was now so full that a new church was absolutely required in the interests of the Sabbath school alone. A new library had been procured at a considerable expense, and the amounts raised in the past year for Sabbath school purposes, and for the different Schemes of the Church, were considerably in excess of the previous year. The report of Session stated that a Ladies' Missionary Association had been formed about three months ago, to take charge of the Schemes of the Church. The sum of \$102 had been raised in this way, besides a large amount for the same purpose by collections. The number of members added to the communion roll for the year was thirty-three, making a total membership of 216. The increase of membership has been 123 in two years, and the Church is now so crowded that unless sufficient accommodation is provided before long, the congregation must soon cease growing altogether. It is suffering considerably for want of room already.—COM.

THE annual missionary meeting of the St. James' Square Presbyterian Church was held on Monday evening. There was a large attendance. On the platform was Rev. Prof. McLaren, Rev. Dr. Taylor,

Rev. Dr. Reid, Mr. T. W. Taylor, Q. C., Mr. George Laidlaw, and Rev. Messrs. Robertson, Hamilton, and Kirkpatrick. In the unavoidable absence of Hon. Attorney-General Mowat, who was to have presided, the chair was taken by the Rev. J. M. King. After devotional exercises, the annual report was read by Mr. George Laidlaw, the Secretary. About \$3,000 had been collected during the year by the Missionary Association, the Sabbath school, and the Hopeful Gleaners' Mission Band. This was \$315 more than was raised the previous year. Of this amount \$1,381 were given to Home Missions, \$615 to Foreign Missions, \$530 to Collegiate Education, \$185 to French Evangelization, and the balance to other schemes. On motion of Mr. T. W. Taylor, seconded by Rev. Wm. Inglis, the report was adopted, and the following were elected office bearers for the ensuing year. President, Rev. J. M. King, M.A.; Vice-President, Hon. Attorney-General Mowat; Committee, the members of the Session, and Messrs. Josiah Bruce, Robert Carrie, Alexander Nairn, Thomas Clarkson, R. C. Steele, W. D. McIntosh, Thomas Woodbridge, T. O. Anderson, Andrew Telfer, H. W. Nelson, C. Blackett Robinson, and John Young; joint Secretaries and Treasurers, Geo. Laidlaw and Robert Kilgour. Thereafter the Rev. Jas. Robertson, M.A., Mission Superintendent for the North-West, and Dr. Taylor, of New York, delivered effective addresses—the former on the pressing needs of the great North-West for men and money; the latter dwelling mainly on the results of Foreign Mission work upon the Church at home. A very successful and highly interesting meeting was then closed with the benediction.

THE new Presbyterian Church in the village of Roslin was opened on Sabbath, the 29th ult. The Rev. Professor Gregg, D.D., of Knox College, Toronto, preached in the forenoon, and the Rev. David Mitchell, of Belleville, in the afternoon. The church at both diets of worship was filled to its utmost capacity. Both preachers delivered eloquent and impressive sermons. Dr. Gregg thirty-five years ago had charge of Roslin congregation, and his old friends were delighted to meet with him, and to hear from his lips once more the precious gospel. On Monday evening a soiree was held. The church was crowded, and many could not gain admittance. After tea the Rev. D. Kelso took the chair, and was supported on the platform by Rev. Messrs. Young, Gardner, Peake, Gray, and Messrs. John White, M.P., and Hugh Walker. The choir from St. Andrew's Church, Belleville, was in attendance and rendered excellent music. A pleasant and profitable evening was spent. On Thursday evening the church was again well filled to hear the Rev. David Mitchell deliver his interesting and instructive lecture on "How to get along in the world." Mr. Mitchell kept up the unflagging attention of the audience during the whole evening. The proceeds in all amounted to \$337. The church, which is built of brick, has circular seats, and will accommodate 300. It is well finished and tastefully furnished. A very handsome pulpit Bible was presented by Mrs. Wm. Campbell, the senior member of the congregation. John White, M.P., kindly presented the congregation with two fine circular stoves. The Building Committee reported that the church is almost free of debt. The pastor and congregation are to be congratulated on their beautiful church, dedicated to the worship of Almighty God under such favourable circumstances. May the great Head of the Church bless them, and make them a power for good in the neighbourhood.—COM.

SABBATH SCHOOL TEACHER.

INTERNATIONAL LESSONS.

LESSON VIII.

Mar. 5, 1882. } CHRIST STILLING THE TEMPEST. { Mark iv. 35-41.

GOLDEN TEXT.—He maketh the storm a calm, so that the waves thereof are still.—Ps. 107: 29.

TIME.—Evening of the same day as last lesson.

PLACE.—On the Sea of Galilee, during the passage across in a south-easterly direction to the country of the Gadarenes.

PARALLEL.—Matt. 8: 23-27. Luke 8: 22-25.

POINTS TO TEACHERS.

Dangers.—Missing the central thought, the helplessness of man without Christ. Some would teach that it is the power of Christ—power over nature—that is in the lesson and

to be taught; but if it is made the one principal idea, the great lesson is lost.

Topical Analysis.—(1) The storm on the lake, 35-37. (2) The terror of the disciples, 38. (3) The authority of the Master, 39, 40.

What and How to Teach.—This had been one of the busiest days in the life of the ever-busy Saviour. He had cast out the dumb demon and replied to the accusation that He did this through the power of Satan—Luke 11: 14-26. He had dined with a Pharisee, and there, at his table, had denounced the formality and hypocrisy of the Pharisees—37-54. The seven parables on the kingdom had been given, for which see Mat. 13. Three memorable conversations had taken place: first, a man who would follow Christ, but who was daunted at the prospect; then one whom He called to follow Him wanted to delay for a time, but was forbidden; while a third sought to excuse himself just then, but was reproved and shewn his unfitness for the kingdom of God. And now, wearied out, He sets sail upon the lake.

First topic.—Shew how continuously the multitudes waited on Christ, and what a strain it must have been to the man Christ Jesus, so sympathising and yearning towards the sinful and suffering. The crowds had to be sent away, and then, just as He had been teaching from the ship, they put out into the lake. Shew briefly how sudden storms come over that lake, and how it was so then, until the ship, filled with water, was ready to sink, and Christ asleep in the hinder part on a pillow. You can then easily shew how this pictures the voyage of life (a ship is a favourite Early Christian symbol of life), how storms arise when least expected, and how the dangers threaten to overwhelm us. If your scholars have not yet experienced any of these storms, they may be sure that sooner or later they will come. How to be prepared for them is the lesson.

On the second topic picture their terror; get from your scholars if it was right and reasonable. Were they not there by Christ's command? Was He not with them? Should they then have displayed such abject terror? You may teach here that though men are Christians, they must not expect to be kept from all trouble, but if they have Christ all will be right.

"With Christ in the vessel I smile at the storm."

If their terror was not right, what did it shew in them? Surely unbelief. They had seen mighty deeds; could they not have believed? But He was asleep. They did then the only thing they could—"awake Him and cry 'Master,' etc. Teach here that while right to pray in trouble, only right because prayer is always right; to pray in trouble alone, mean and contemptible.

On the third topic shew that He forgave their weak faith for the faith they had. How wonderful the change—the wearied man, the mighty God! Shew how the words imply that the wind and the sea are His creations, to obey His word. If He was man, truly man—and, thank God, this is true—He was more, He was Divine. The scene brings out more fully than perhaps any other in His life the completeness and perfectness of the two natures—He is truly the God-man. Teach here that as He calmed the violence of the waves, so He can still the storms of life; that there are no tempests that beat upon us too mighty for Him to subdue; and if we turn to Him in our hour of darkness and danger, He will save; yea, and more, that when the storms of our passions are raised and threaten to destroy our faith, our cry to Him for help will not be unheeded. He will save us from ourselves.

Notes and Comments.—Ver 35: "same day"—day of the previous teaching and healing. "Other side," of the lake, the eastern side, lit. "to the beyond,"—probably to escape from the crowd and get needed rest.

Ver. 36. "Sent away," REV. "leaving the multitude;" more correct, "as He was," without any preparation for the sail. "Little ships," likely with a part of the disciples and some of His hearers, these were but fishing boats."

Ver. 37. "Great storm," to which that lake is specially subject from its position; lying low and warm, with the snow-capped peaks of Hermon to the north, the winds rush down the ravine with suddenness and violence.

Ver. 38. "He-asleep." Wonderful picture of the wearied God-man. "Pillow," REV. "cushion," a part of the vessel, probably of wood, used for the boatmen. "Awake," no doubt they delayed until hope was well-nigh gone. "Master," twice repeated—Luke 8: 23, great urgency, "Carest thou not?" this their unbelief. Mark alone gives this exclamation.

Ver. 39. "Arose" at once; "rebuked," Matthew and Luke record the fact. Mark alone gives the words "Peace, be still," and nature heard its Lord and obeyed. "A great calm"—ordinarily the sea would have remained rough for some time.

Ver. 40. "Fearful," that is, with Me; there was reason for fear otherwise. "No," lit. "not faith;" had they not had reason to trust Him? So REV. "have ye not yet faith?"

Ver. 41. "They feared," lit. feared a great fear. "Said," the talk all round in whispered, fearful tones, "What manner," REV. "Who then is this," shewing such wonderful power "that even"—here was a thing they could understand; it was in their line of experience; they knew and dreaded the treacherous lake, but this man could make it obey Him.

Incidental Lessons.—That in the voyage of life we shall meet with storms, as did the disciples. Acts 5: 40; 1 Cor. 1: 7; James 1: 2; 1 Peter 4: 12.

That even in the right course where Christ sends us, we may expect these.

That even Christ with us does not necessarily protect us from the storms of life, but saves us from being overwhelmed by them.

That the storms of life only shew us more clearly the love and power of Christ.

That Christ sleeping in the vessel shews the man.

That Christ stilling the storm shews the God.

Principal Lessons.—We should meet all the storms of life with trust in God. Isa. 30: 15; Ex. 14: 13.

Christ with us, all well. Without Christ, helpless, undone, lost. Deut. 31: 6, 8; Isa. 43: 2; Rom. 8: 35, 39; 1 Pet. 3: 13; John 6: 68.