

course of lectures; the first in aid of the Halifax Young Men's Christian Association Building Fund; the second in aid of the Halifax Industrial School; the third in aid of the Richmond Church, and the fourth in aid of the Dalhousie College Medical School.

Intelligence.

Madrid.

There are said to be five Sabbath Schools, with 18 teachers and 225 scholars, in Madrid, Spain. They are held in connection with the day schools; but as the work is only in its infancy there, this arrangement is both necessary and wise.

North Pacific Railway.

In one Sunday, a Missionary of the American Sunday School Union, on the line of the North Pacific Railway, organized seven new schools, aided five others, carefully explored six destitute settlements, with a view to future organization of schools, and visited 104 families to supply them with the word of God and appropriate religious instruction.

St. Louis, U. S.

A correspondent of the *Congregationalist* says:—At St. Louis, at present, the Sabbath is unknown. Not a week passes but the day is desecrated with pic-nics, theatres, concerts, and parades. Even the children of deacons and ministers yield up the real spirit of Sabbath-keeping, and compromise to a fatal extent.

Africa.

In the Diamond fields recently discovered in this land, the work of God continues to prosper. Though there are thousands upon thousands who frequent no sanctuary, yet the places of worship are crowded, and more buildings are at once required. A short time ago, four carpenters offered, if the materials were furnished, to do the work for nothing. A number of them left their work, foregoing the profit of Diamond digging, and gave the whole week

to the work of God's house, and the shell of the building was finished by Saturday night. The same men also made the benches in the evenings, after their daily work was done. Their conduct is worthy of imitation.

Surinam.

The conversion of the first Chinese Coolie, in the Mission of the Moravian brethren in this land, has lately taken place under rather striking circumstances. He was sentenced to death for the murder of the overseer of the band of about 250, who lent them money for gambling, at high rates, then withheld their wages for his pay, until he had possessed himself of all their living. Attended by a missionary whilst imprisoned, he seemed little impressed by his instructions and showed no signs of penitence. One evening, however, he was found heart-broken over his guilt, and felt his need of pardon in and through Christ. He asked for baptism; and his answers to questions concerning his sins and penitence seemed so clear that his request was granted, and he was baptized the night before his execution. At the scaffold, the rope broke twice, and, at the intercession of the Commission and the attending minister, his sentence was commuted.

Microuesia.

An oil trader from Ohio has actually succeeded in obtaining a written agreement from the King on one of the Islands of this group not to allow any Missionary to land for ten years. A Missionary, knowing nothing of this agreement, attempted landing some native teachers, but was much disappointed, finding he was prevented from introducing the gospel there.

Russia.

Some three or four years ago, schools were opened for all classes of people in every direction in Russia. The consequence is that a thirst for knowledge has been created, and schools are largely on the increase. In one parish, where, four years ago, there were but 5 schools with 20 scholars, now there are 25 with 40 scholars each.