

probably chained to him. This restraint did not, however, prevent him from at once entering upon and prosecuting his great work, the preaching of the Gospel.

V. 17. "From the time of his arrival in Rome. "Chief of the Jews"—The rulers of the synagogue and leaders in social life. "The people"—That is, the people of Israel.

V. 18. "Would have let me go"—As when he was examined before King Agrippa.

V. 20. "For this cause"—To explain why he had been brought to Rome, a prisoner in chains. "The hope of Israel"—The hope generally entertained by the Jews of the coming of the Messiah. His teaching of the fulfillment of this hope in the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus was the cause of his being bound.

V. 21. "We neither received letters"—There would be no occasion to write of him until it was determined that he should go to Rome, and when at length sent, letters would not reach Rome before Paul did.

V. 22. "This sect"—The disciples of Christ were not as yet separated from the Jews, and Christians were regarded as a sect of the Jews.

V. 23. "His lodging"—His own hired house, where he was guarded by a Roman soldier chained to him. "The Kingdom of God"—The Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ. "Persuading"—Arguing and proving from the law and the prophets that Jesus was the true Messiah.

V. 25. "Isaiah"—The prophet Isaiah. The quotation is from Isaiah vi. 9, 10.

V. 27. "Waxed gross"—Became hard and sluggish. "Their eyes have they closed"—They were unwilling to see the truth of the doctrine of Christ, even when it was made plain to them.

V. 28. "Gentiles"—All the heathen nations of the world were included in this term as used by the Jews.

V. 29. "Had great reasoning"—About those things Paul had taught.

V. 30. "Two whole years"—Until he was released by the emperor.

V. 31. "With all confidence"—Neither the Jews nor the Roman authorities doing anything to prevent.

CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR.

DAILY READINGS.

- First Day—Paul's Ministry in Rome. Acts xviii. 17-31.
- Second Day—"Paul, the Prisoner of Jesus Christ."—Eph. iii. 1-21.
- Third Day—"Wherein I suffer . . . unto Bonds."—2 Tim. ii. 1-16.
- Fourth Day—Reasoning out of the Scriptures. Acts xiii. 14-41.
- Fifth Day—"Lo, we turn to the Gentiles."—Acts xiii. 42-52.
- Sixth Day—Christ's warning to the Jews. Matt. xxi. 33-46.

PRAYER MEETING: Thurs., Nov. 14th.—2 Cor. xii. 12-27.

OUR WEAKER CONGREGATIONS—THE AUGMENTATION SCHEME.

The reports of the Augmentation Committee for Western and Eastern Sections, which appears in the Minutes of Assembly for '97, gives very fully the condition of the fund and the appropriateness of bringing this (one of the most important schemes of the Church) more prominently before the Young People's Societies. The Fund is one that has proved most valuable since its institution. The benefits derived from the Fund are probably better set forth in the Assembly's Minutes, than elsewhere. It relates to work in the North and West:

In the Algoma District, the North West and British Columbia augmentation work has been languishing when it ought to have been progressive. Why? For lack of funds, and because the consequent pressure for economy and speedy reduction of grants is unsuited to the circumstances of these new settlements. Not only may yearly reductions be impossible, but in years, for instance, of crop failure, they may need increased help. Congregations in such circumstances hesitate to undertake the responsibilities of settlement as augmented charges, whilst doubtless the Assembly believes in a settled ministry as the better, as well as the

time-tested and time-honored Presbyterian way of building up congregations. It appears all important, therefore, that when so great an impetus has been given to immigration your Committee should be placed in a position to encourage settlements in prosperous missions, as also to maintain settlements where the rush to the gold fields, or other influences, may deplete augmented or presently self-sustaining congregations. Economy will not avail. Increased revenue is the only way out. \$5,000 additional for the coming year, and eventually \$10,000 a year, beyond our present average should be aimed at. The whole position has been submitted to the Synods of Ontario and Quebec, and, as the Synodical reports show, each of them has endorsed the Committee's opinion, and has agreed to aim at providing a due proportion of the \$5,000 extra required for the coming year.

Your Committee ask the approval of the Assembly to the institution of a Young People's Augmentation Fund, incorporated with the general fund, whose income shall be provided in accordance with the following suggestion: That Young People's Societies be requested to give one meeting in each year to the consideration of augmentation work, in connection with which a collection shall be taken on behalf of the Young People's Augmentation Fund, and that similarly Sabbath schools be requested to contribute to the same fund each year.

Church News

[All communications to this column ought to be sent to the Editor immediately after the occurrences to which they refer have taken place.]

MONTREAL NOTES.

A most interesting meeting was held in Knox church on Thursday evening, Oct. 28th, of those who are engaged in Chinese Sunday schools of the city. The Rev. F. M. Dewey presided, when after devotional exercises, prayer being offered by the Rev. J. Nichols, a report of progress was given by Dr. Thomson, followed by remarks from the superintendents, Miss Lighthall and Geo. Lyman, F. J. Anderson, John Roberts, H. M. Cockfield, W. B. Baikie, James Rodgers, John Mackie, David Allan, W. J. Mordell, George Grimson, James Wilson and Wm. Robertson. Several of the accounts were unrepresented by speakers, on account of other engagements. Among others who took part in the discussion of methods and prospects were the Rev. Messrs. Fleck and Scott, Messrs. Walter Paul, Titherington and a number of lady teachers. Good progress was indicated, and advance steps proposed. The conference was concluded with prayer and the benediction by the Rev. Mr. McKillican.

The monthly meeting of the Woman's Missionary Society of St. John's French Presbyterian church, was held on Tuesday afternoon, Oct. 26th, at the Church. The chair was occupied by the President, Mrs. Amaron. The devotional exercises were conducted by Mrs. Demole. After a few words by the President, and by Miss Huguenin on the aims and purposes of the society, an interesting and inspiring paper was read by Mrs. Cornu on "Home Missions," giving much valuable information on the extent and needs of the field, and on the encouraging results achieved during the year. The lady collectors gave in their monthly reports, which were satisfactory. This auxiliary is the latest formed, and is doing excellent work in the French field.

A most valuable series of missionary meetings within the bounds of the Presbytery of Montreal has been concluded by the Rev. Norman Russell, of the Indore Mission. The manners and customs of the people of this far off land were vividly brought before the audience by a number of excellent photographs shown on a large canvas by means of the stereopticon. The success which has attended this method of presentation suggests the advisability of using it more largely in our various fields, both at home and abroad.

Mr. David Morrison left on Thursday last for Reading, Pa., to attend a meeting of the Executive of the Pan- Presbyterian Council. Dr. MacVicar, who is also a member, was unable to go owing to his

college duties, which he felt he could not wisely leave. In order to find an hour when he and all the members of his large class in Systematic Theology would be free from conflicting engagements and classes he has been obliged to lecture at 8 o'clock in the morning. This makes a good start for a long day's work.

GENERAL.

The corner stone of the new Presbyterian Church at Emeraldale has been laid and the work will be pushed along as rapidly as possible.

Rev. Mr. Childerhose, Parry Sound, was presented with a gold pen and pencil and an address by the members of the Presbyterian Bible class recently.

The W. F. M. S. of the Presbyterian Church, Winchester, Ont., held its annual thank offering meeting recently. The offering amounted to \$53.

Rev. Drs. Warden and Caven of Toronto, Rev. Dr. Cochran of Brantford and others attended the meeting of the Presbyterian Alliance in Reading Pa., last week.

The new Presbyterian church at Windham Centre is rapidly approaching completion, and the opening day is fixed for November 14th, on which occasion the Rev. E. Cockburn, M.A., of Paris, will preach both morning and evening.

The anniversary services of the Dresden Presbyterian church were conducted by the Rev. Neil McPheron, B.D., of St. Paul's church, Hamilton. There was a large attendance at all the services. A tea meeting was also held and several gentlemen delivered addresses. Proceeds about \$125.

Toronto's Garrison church parade took place on Sunday last, when over eighteen hundred men marched to Massey Music Hall, where the semi-annual sermon was preached by Rev. W. J. McCaughan, of St. Andrew's Church, who based his remarks on the 13th chapter of Romans, the eleven and following verses.

Miss Margaret McKellar, M. D., of the Central India Mission, spoke in St. Paul's Church, Bowmanville, on Thursday, Oct. 21st, to a good audience. Miss McKellar is an admirable speaker, her address was at once full, plain, vivid and modest. It was a valuable contribution to the understanding of the situation in India and especially of the peculiar conditions under which the work among women is carried on.

On Sunday Oct. 24th the new Presbyterian church in South Plympton Man., was opened by Rev. Dr. Bryce, Winnipeg who in 1878 conducted the first service ever held in the township. At both morning and evening services there were large gatherings. The building cost \$1440, to meet which the pastor, Rev. Wm. Dewart, M.A., and the Ladies' Aid Society have obtained subscriptions amounting to \$1200. A social was held on Monday evening at which the former pastor, Rev. Alex. Macfarlane delivered an address.

Rev. R. G. Macleth and Mrs. MacBeth have returned to Winnipeg after a month's vacation spent in the east.

A PREACHER'S REPORT

Interesting Statement by Elder Joel H. Austin of Goshen, Ind.

"I was a victim of catarrh and had almost constant pain in my head. The trouble was gradually working down on my lungs. I was weak and irresolute. My wife had the grip and Hood's Sarsaparilla cured her. After this I had the same disease and resorted to Hood's. In a short time the aches and pains were relieved and I also saw the medicine was helping my catarrh. In six weeks I ceased to have any further trouble with it and I am now a well man. The pains and bloating I had in my limbs are gone and I am relieved of a heart trouble. I am thankful for a medicine so intelligently compounded and so admirably adapted to the needs of the system." ELDER JOEL H. AUSTIN, Goshen, Indiana.

Hood's Pills cure liver bills, easy to take, easy to operate. 25 cents.