

few references for the future. He pointed out what he thought to be indications of a coming revival. One reason he gave was the general religious decadence upon all sides. The revival has always burst upon the Church when this has been the case. When one looks at the worldly, theatre-going, eucure-playing, ballroom-frequenting, style-aping, money-grabbing, fault-finding, so-called Christians, which are the majority in every church, one often wonders if we are merely playing at Christianity. Politics, business, and speculative thought have got clean beyond the impulse of the church as a spiritual impulse, and ethical standard. In England the best men are languishing in prison for conscience sake, and the strongest evangelical Church in Scotland has been robbed of her worldly goods, and all done in the name of Jesus Christ. Truly the outlook is dark enough. But it has ever been that the darkest time is just before the dawn, and the speaker believed it was so now. Another hopeful sign is the intense longing and desire in all parts of the world for a revival. The very longing for it is also a prophecy of it. Another hopeful sign is the renewed interest in God's Word that has been manifesting itself among the people of God in the last few years. Another hopeful sign is the wonderful experience that parts of God's Church is going through in different parts of the world, all pointing to a general revival over the whole of Christendom.

In speaking as to what kind of revival it would be, Mr. Reid said he believed it would be a revival of the social message of Jesus Christ. Christianity, he said, needs Christianizing in the worst way. Men are learning that society instead of being an aggregate of independent units, is itself unit—a great personality, and every corporate member in this composite personality is seriously affected by every other member, and by the social body as a whole. He said: "I believe it will result in the overthrow of social evils. I believe it will result in a new view being taken of business, and that it will bring about a social reconstruction along the lines of the social teaching of Jesus Christ. It will also mean a revival of corporate righteousness. It will mean that a man can no longer individually be a saint, and corporately a rogue—a saint on Sunday, and a scoundrel as a railway official during the week. It will give a tremendous impetus to missions."

#### NOTES FROM KINGSTON.

The Presbytery of Kingston, met in Kingston on the 16th inst., specially for the licensure and ordination of a number of students who have recently completed their theological studies in college. The committee for their examination reported very favorably, and this, with parts of their discourses given to the presbytery, were sustained as trials for license. These six appeared at a public meeting in Chalmers' church in the evening and were duly licensed to preach the gospel, viz.: Messrs. J. C. McConachie, B.A.; J. T. Miller, B.A.; C. C. Whiting, M.A.; W. J. McQuarrie, B.A.; C. C. Struthan, B.A., and W. H. McInnes, B.A. This was preceded by a suitable address on the genius of Presbyterianism, by Rev. Mr. Drumm, Belleville. Except Mr. McQuarrie, all the others were ordained to the exercise of the gospel ministry, and addressed in appropriate counsel by Rev. W. W. Peck, moderator. Rev. H. Gracey reported moderating in a call from the congregation of St. John's and Sandhill, Pittsburg. It was in favor of Mr. W. J. McQuarrie, and was unanimous was sustained by the presbytery and accepted. The ordination and induction are to take place in the Sandhill church on the 1st of June at 2 o'clock. Mr. Hay to preach, Mr. Peck to preside, Mr. Dovey to address the minister, and Mr. Gracey the people.

Prayer is the anchor that holds us fast to God.

#### MAY MEETING OF FOREIGN MISSION COMMITTEE.

We are indebted to Dr. Mackay, Foreign Mission Secretary, for the following notes:

Two full and busy days were spent in review of the Foreign Mission fields. The report for the General Assembly was adopted; which, as, on the whole, the most hopeful ever presented.

There have been between 800 and 900 baptisms during the year. The spirit of revival, it is hoped, will touch the Foreign Mission fields also; indeed it seems to have done so.

The union of the Presbyterian Churches in India is now an accomplished fact, known as the Presbyterian Church in India. The General Assembly of the Presbytery of Indore to the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in India to be henceforth known as the Presbytery of Malwa.

The Missionaries, whilst members of that Presbytery, will not be subject to its discipline, but the General Assembly will be asked to allow their names to remain on the roll of the Canadian Presbyteries to which they may elect to belong. This is an anomaly in Presbyterian Government, but is necessary in the transition stage in Foreign Mission fields.

The Indore College has had a successful year, notwithstanding the interruption of the plague. Classes are now conducted in the hot season, beginning early in the morning, which is not so agreeable, especially in the season that used to be taken as holidays. It is likely however that this will be necessary for some years as the plague is likely to return with the cool season.

The work amongst the children is very encouraging. There were many baptisms during the year.

The sad feature regarding the work in India is that the 'cut' in estimates has necessitated the dismissal of day-school teachers and the closing of nearly all the day schools. The children are the hope of the work, and when they are scattered the loss is serious.

In Honon, the interest is steadily increasing. During the year 377 made profession of faith in Christ. Many of these are on fire and take to preaching on their own responsibility. At a religious festival attended by 200,000 people, the Missionaries were present with about 50 natives who were making the whole town ring for two weeks with the Gospel story.

Dr. J. Y. Ferguson was appointed to Formosa. He is a graduate of Queen's in both medicine and theology. He will reopen the hospital, which, for want of a doctor was for some time closed.

Mr. Milton Jack was appointed, but his field of labor not yet designated.

Miss Jamie Kinney, B.A., was appointed Principal of the Girls' School in Formosa, and Miss Hannah Connell associate teacher. Both are graduates of the Ewart Training Home.

The Macao Mission is full of encouragement. Mr. MacKay is insistent as to the appointment of another Missionary, but no appointment was made.

A letter was read from Dr. R. Johnston, Montreal, stating that Mr. Birks, a member of the American Presbyterian Church, was prepared to contribute \$800 a year towards the support of a Missionary and that the Young People's Guild would be responsible for \$600 towards the support of another missionary.

The committee cordially thanked the friends of the American Presbyterian Church for these generous offerings.

The funds are still a cause of anxiety. The deficit has been reduced but not removed. The special appeal of last year resulted in \$1,200. This year, without such special offering, a larger liberality will be required in the regular way.

The effect to induce congregations to undertake shares in the support of stations and Missionaries has been very encouraging. It is found that there is a

readiness to respond almost beyond expectations.

Never before was there such heartiness and enthusiasm in the fields. It only remains that the Home Church join hands with the Missionaries in gathering the harvests of souls that seem to be ripe and ready.

#### A SOUL OF FIRE.

(Continued from 11th page.)

Not a sound pierced its remoteness: the silence was as intense as the night.

Heien was alone save for a few dead rats that had been disturbed by her entrance: they eyed her viciously from a far corner, and then with a scratch and a squeal vanished.

But it was early and the girl knew that her courage would be taxed to the utmost before the long midnight hours came to an end. She rose to her feet again and tramped restlessly up and down.

Below her lay a deeper horror, known to few in Sarno. A bottle shaped pit, with sloping sides that drew upwards into a narrow neck, had been dug out of the rock and was connected with the upper dungeon by a hole in the floor. This hole could be laid bare by removing a flagstone, upon which a rude red cross was painted—strange symbol for the very gate of Hell—and it was whispered in the castle that a Vor had wrought it with his own blood as he lay dying.

Heien had spent a night in the vault before, but she had not then known of the secret chamber. Now it haunted her; she shivered with cold and fear.

"At the foot of that pit," she thought, "lies a heap of bones—crushed bones—rotting bones that were once men—my own clansmen." She drew her cloak more closely round, and tightened her lips. For a time she mused on other scenes, but imagination was strong and returned ever and anon to the hideous thing beneath.

"They are down there," she continued, "in the dark—calling for vengeance—each broken bone has a voice calling for vengeance for ever and ever. And I can do nothing; I am a prisoner; I have been a prisoner for years; I can not even remember my father's face. Why was I not killed with my brothers long ago at Stron-Saul? Hundreds are calling for vengeance and they call for ever. Will the silent God not answer?"

The hours dragged on with no sound to measure their flight, save the girl's hurried breathing. She did not sleep; could anyone have slept in such a bed-chamber and with such thoughts?

She wondered what Sir Colin had in his mind concerning her. Sarno treasury was empty; there was nothing left in the castle capable of being turned into money. Could it be—but the thought was impossible; yet she could not shake it off—could it be that the Macdon would give her up on the payment of a ransom?

"To be free, to be free!" she cried. "What joy! But it is all a dream: I am Helen, the unlucky; and like a dream it will vanish into nothingness. Still—still, Dark Rory swore when he said that I should yet step the heather as the red deer in spring. But that was three years ago; my grief, my grief!"

She flung herself face downwards on the straw and clasped her hands above her head. "Alas! poor me," she murmured, "but much more poor Rory."

(To be continued.)

Dr. Robert Stewart (58), of New Greyfriars Church, Edinburgh, has died, after being laid aside from active duty for a year. Dr. Stewart was ordained in 1872 to Skelmorlie Church, and, after charges at Duns, North Leith, and Jedburgh, was called to Greyfriars in 1890. He was a man of scholarly attainments, and one of the most cultured preachers in the Church.

Honor looks better on a background of humility.