

this church did so some little time past, and reported good prospects of a vigorous church in this growing locality; they also reported thorough harmony, and the high esteem in which the pastor is held.

TORONTO, ZION.—Rev. George Burnfield, M. A., B.D., pastor of the First Presbyterian Church, Brockville, Ont., who has filled the pulpit of this church for two successive Sundays, lectured on Thursday evening, 23rd September, on the subject, "In and about Jerusalem in 1882." The lecture was under the auspices of the Ladies' Aid Society. James H. Richardson, Esq., M. D., at whose house Rev. Mr. Burnfield stayed during his visit to Toronto, occupied the chair, and introduced the reverend lecturer; the Rev. John Burton, B. D., offered the opening prayer. There was a large attendance who appeared deeply interested in the lecture. Landing at Joppa, the lecturer and his companions journeyed along the only road in Palestine which leads from that city to Jerusalem. As Jerusalem is neared the road becomes thronged with pilgrims, and the emotions which thrill the christian as he nears the walls of the ancient city were vividly portrayed. The city is surrounded by walls fifty feet high, of the most marvellous workmanship, in the stones of which are traced the distinctive marks that prove them to have been in position in the days of Solomon and David, while the streets are paved with the stones on which Christ and his disciples walked. Every street and every feature of the ancient city reminds the visitor of events in the days of biblical history. The position is one of great beauty and strength; its wells of water never failed its people during the twenty-seven sieges to which it was subjected. Among other points of interest in and around the city to which the lecturer conveyed his hearers was the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, the roof of which is supported by pillars from King Solomon's temple, as proved by the marks of the Phœnician masons found upon them. Bethlehem was also described, including the Church of the Nativity, underneath which is believed to be the place of the Lord's birth. The Church itself is one of the oldest in existence, having been erected in the beginning of the fourth century. The lecturer also gave an account of his visit to the Dead Sea, whose waters pure and beautiful to look upon, but bitter and unwholesome to the taste, form an apt illustration of the world with its fair but deceptive appearance. At the close of the lecture a hearty vote of thanks was passed to the lecturer; and in replying he proceeded to exhibit and describe a number of valuable and interesting articles collected by him during his stay in Palestine, including the following:—piece of Mount Zion; piece of the floor of the Holy of Holies; ladies' ornaments from Samaria,

bracelets, nose jewels, etc.; horseshoes from Nazareth; carved olive wood from Jerusalem; ink-horn from Judea; ladies' love charm; Mahomedan prayer cloth, etc., etc. Besides the lecture, Rev. Mr. Burnfield preached four able and impressive sermons in Zion church, and also very acceptably conducted the prayer meeting on Wednesday evening, and visited and addressed the Sunday school. His visit to Zion will be long and pleasantly remembered.

WOODSTOCK.—The bazaar held by the ladies of this church, alluded to in our last, was eminently successful, over five hundred dollars being netted. There has been provoking delay in the erection of the building on the part of the contractor, but we understand that now the work is being pushed on with energy.

PERSONALS.

We deeply regret to learn that our brother Mr. J. W. Cox, on account of failing health, has been compelled to resign the charge of the churches of Noel and Maitland. We pray that rest may, with God's blessing, soon fully restore him to the work from which he has never flinched.

A private note from Mr. J. I. Hindley speaks of good health, spirits and prospects in the Granby field.

Our good friend, Mr. R. K. Black, is at the present laboring in Sarnia. We met him the other day and found him in fair health, genial as ever.

Mr. Geo. Fuller, of Brantford, will ere this reaches our readers, be, we trust, at work again. He sailed for home per S. S. Furnesia early in the month.

Our missionaries, Mr. and Mrs. Currie, have been prostrated with fever, but we believe are on the way of recovery, and prosecuting their journey. A letter from them appears in this issue.

Mr. Ruskin in *The Pall Mall Gazette* says of the Bible:

"I see in your columns, as in other literary journals, more and more buzzing and fussing about what M. Renan has found the Bible to be, or Mr Huxley not to be, or the Bishops that it might be, or the School Board that it musn't be, etc., etc. Let me tell your readers who care to know, in the fewest possible words what it is. It is the grandest group of writings existent in the rational world, put into the grandest language of the rational world in the first strength of the Christian faith, by an entirely wise and kind saint, St. Jerome; translated afterward with beauty and felicity into every language of the Christian world; and the guide, since so translated, of all the arts and acts of that world which have been noble, fortunate and happy. And by consultation of it honestly—on any serious business, you may always learn—a long while before your Parliament finds out—what you should do in such business, and be directed perhaps besides to work more serious than you had thought of."