

REV. D. McKENZIE, B.A., Tara, has just returned from a few week's vacation, spent in visiting the World's Fair and other places. During his absence, his congregation decided to extend him a cordial reception on his return. The ladies of the congregation took the matter in hand, and on Friday evening, Sept. 1st, the date of his expected return, a social was held in the church, for the purpose of giving an opportunity to make the presentation publicly. Miss Dr. Oliver, late of India, gave an address on Mission work. Addresses were given by Chairman McCausland, Revs. McAllister and Webster. These were interspersed with selections of music. Mr. McKenzie arrived by the late train, and then the presentation took place of a purse of \$100. The following address was also read: "Rev. D. MacKenzie, B.A.—The members and adherents of Knox church, Tara, desire to extend to you a hearty welcome on the occasion of your return amongst us. We trust that the period of rest and relaxation has been productive of material benefit so that you may re-enter upon your ministerial duties with renewed vigor of body and of mind. We deeply realize the enduring influence wrought upon us by your Christian character, unassuming piety and devotion to the Master's cause, and it is our earnest prayer that He who directs all things may long spare you to continue your labours among us in the service of the Well Beloved, our Great Exemplar. Be pleased to accept this address and accompanying memento as an expression of our regard for a pastor who has ever evidenced the warmest interest for our every welfare."

S.S. Lesson I, October 1.

THE POWER OF THE GOSPEL.—Romans i : 8-17.

GOLDEN TEXT.—I am not ashamed of the Gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth.—Rom. i : 16.

TIME.—Written early in the spring of A.D. 58.

PLACE.—At Corinth, to the church at Rome.

HELPS OVER HARD PLACES.—9. "Serve with my spirit," not only in form, but with his inmost soul. 10. "To come to you:" as he desired (Acts xix. 8). This earnest prayer was answered in a strange way, through mobs, trials, and imprisonment. The Jews and the Roman government were compelled to aid the answer. 12. "Comfort.....by the mutual faith:" in giving he would receive. They could help him, as well as he them. 14. "I am a debtor:" having received the Gospel he was under obligation to send it to others. "Greeks:" the people of culture. "Barbarians:" the uncivilized races. The fact that any people are poor and ignorant and savage does not release us from the obligation to preach the Gospel to them. 15. "Let:" hindered. 16. "I am not ashamed:" to put the Gospel beside the Greek learning, or to preach Christ crucified, to them—a Jewish malfactor, to the rank and wealth of Rome. "It is the power of God:" the history of the past few years (28 since the resurrection of Jesus) had proved that God's power was working through the Gospel. Great numbers of lives had been transformed, great triumphs of the martyr spirit had been seen, great miracles had been wrought. "As it is written:" in Hab. ii 4. "The just shall live by faith:" the Chaldeans were invading Judea under Nebuchadnezzar. There was only one way to be saved, namely, by believing the message of the prophet and obeying God. Now only those made just by faith can live in heaven. And one cannot be really good without a trusting obedience. Mere good acts, without love, without trust, are very poor affairs.

SUBJECT: CHRIST THE POWER OF GOD.

I. THANKS FOR WHAT THE GOSPEL HAS DONE (vs. 8-10).—For what did Paul give thanks? How was their faith a cause for gratitude? Was it specially difficult and

dangerous to be a Christian at Rome? Where were some of these saints (Phil. iv 22)? How do the virtues and heroic acts and noble characters of others help us? Why did Paul pray for these Romans? Had he ever seen them? For what did he pray? In what way was his prayer answered? How long afterward? (Note.—He reached Rome in A.D. 60.) What does this teach us about God's method of answering prayer?

II. MUTUAL HELP IN THE GOSPEL (vs. 11, 12).—What did Paul wish to do for the Romans? What could he do? What is it for a Christian to be established? Does helping others help ourselves? Why is all true help mutual?

III. OUR GOSPEL DEBT (vs. 13-15).—Meaning of "let" in v. 15? What is the "fruit" he desired? Why are Christian graces called fruit? Why are conversions to Christ called fruit? In what sense was Paul a debtor? Why did he owe (whence our word ought) it? Are we under as much obligation to give the Gospel to the degraded and ignorant as to the wise and cultured? Was it difficult to preach the Gospel in Rome? Why?

IV. THE GOSPEL THE POWER OF GOD (vs. 16, 17).—Was there any temptation for Paul to be ashamed of the Gospel? Why was he not ashamed? For what is the Gospel the power of God? To whom is it power? Is the Gospel more powerful than anything else to make us good? Can you show why? Has it so proved in the history of the world? Give some examples. Why is it necessary to have faith? Meaning of "The just shall live by faith?"

Births, Marriages and Deaths.

Births.

MACLEOD—At the Manse, Sonya, on the 10th inst., the wife of Rev. P. A. MacLeod, B.D., of a son.

Marriages.

GEMMEL—SHAW—On Tuesday, Sept. 12th, at No. 10 Mattland Place, the residence of the bride's mother by the Rev. G. M. Mhigan, Walter M. Gemmel, to Lillie, youngest daughter of the late Mr. John Shaw.

HOOD—SHANNON—At the bride's residence, Oak Lake, Man., on the 11th inst., by the Rev. D. Hodger, Albert E. Hood, Esq., to Mrs. Jeannie M. Kay Shannon, both of Oak Lake, Man.

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