

"THE HAVEN."—A new Mission, in connection with the Women's Christian Association, is being organized in Toronto, having for its object the extension of "sympathy and assistance to the female prisoners confined in our city gaol, immediately upon their discharge." Movements of a similar character are known in the old country as "Prison Gate Missions." The Committee having the management of the charity have rented a lodging house on Berkeley street, which is to be known as "The Haven," where they will receive as lodgers "only those prisoners who have been convicted once or twice, those who are extremely youthful or are apparently sincerely penitent, or those who are strongly recommended by the prison officials." These lodgers will be retained at "The Haven" a certain number of days, and employed in accordance with the rules and regulations of the Mission. The after-disposal of these lodgers will be a work of considerable difficulty, requiring very much wisdom. The aim will be: to secure situations for such as have been convicted of petty offences; to persuade aged and feeble women to enter the House of Industry; and to induce those who have been more vicious and depraved to seek reformation by entering the House of Refuge at Yorkville. Contributions in money can be sent to Mrs. R. W. Laird, the Treasurer, at 232 Carlton street; and furniture, bedding, table linen, crockery, groceries, vegetables, and any other good article that could be turned to account, to "The Haven," No. 186 Berkeley street.

THOSE GRAPES.—In an editorial in our last issue entitled "Those Grapes," there occurred a quotation from memory which we find to be somewhat incorrect. We stated that the weight of the large bunch of grapes grown on the great Santa Barbara vine was 140 lbs. As we do not wish to tell a lie for the sake of 15 lbs of grapes, we give the correct quotation, which has turned up since our last number was published.

"There has been on exhibition in San Francisco a mammoth bunch of grapes from the great vine of Santa Barbara, a cutting from which was sent to the Centennial. The vine is sixteen years old, and produces annually from 100,000 to 12,000 pounds of grapes. This special cluster, exhibited in San Francisco, weighed 125 pounds, was six feet in circumference, and three feet long. Probably this is the biggest bunch of grapes on record.

REV. DR. FYFE is expected to preach in the Alexander Street Church, on Sunday, 20th inst.

### Contributed Articles.

JOSEPH COOK.

At the Sunday School Parliament, Wellesley Island, last summer, the greatest event was Joseph Cook. Everybody wanted to see the man who could stir complacent, skeptical Boston to its very foundations and command to his hearing, week after week and month after month, the best thinkers and widest cultured of the land. If a full-orbed orator, should be compounded of elements both material and spiritual, here you have them. A great physical structure—just the fit dwelling place for that wonderful brain and heart. Why, the working of that vast machinery would ruin any ordinary frame. Power is written all over him. His hand seems strong enough to grasp the thunderbolts of heaven, and gentle enough to toy with the frailest flower that bends to the zephyr. His voice as the roll of artillery, or soft as an infant's breath; his eye keen enough to penetrate away through the mists of science, and clouds of skepticism, into the clear sunlight of harmonious truth. He steps upon the platform, not "with an air of consequence," but absorbed and calm. There he stands, the orator, fervid and impassioned; the logician, clear, precise, and subtle in his distinctions; the thinker, rapid, vast in his range of subjects, and in rhetoric brilliant, but never allowing his marvellous fancy to obscure his intention,—for an intention he always has, well defined, and absorbing for the time every energy of his energetic being. We forgive him, yes, thank him for often ignoring the "circumscribed rules of elegant oratory," for forgetting the "graces of rhetoric" in his intense desire to give forceful expression to his theme. In fact, the gesture, is part of the man, and portion of the thought. Niagara does not run smooth as a mill-dam. The rush, the roar, and the plunge are part of it. We have one Niagara and one Joseph Cook. Boldly as Napoleon marched to Moscow, this hero of the platform meets the whole army of *isms* which are flooding the earth: atheism, materialism, Huxleyism, Darwinism, all the skepticisms. But unlike the "Emperor Nap," he never marches back. The enthusiastic Neapolitan said, "look on Naples and die." We would say "look on Joseph Cook and live." Take a new grip of life. Breathe in a new inspiration for higher and better living. Take hold anew of the possibilities of life, which lie before us all. Let

The lives of great men all remind us  
We can make our lives sublime.

For if we cannot all be great in great things  
we may be great in small things,

And, departing, leave behind us  
Foot-prints on the sands of time.

Toronto,

M. A. C.

### MONEY FOR MISSIONS.

A PLAN FOR COLLECTING IT THAT HAS  
PROVED VERY SUCCESSFUL.

The *Presbyterian Record* for December details the "Schedule System," the object of which is to supercede the old fashioned and unsatisfactory method of taking up special Sabbath-day collections, and to do away with those frequent private appeals which a great many excellent people have come to regard in the light of "a perpetually recurring annoyance."

Each member and adherent of a congregation is supplied at the beginning of the year with a printed form, divided into as many columns as the objects for which their contributions are desired. Over these columns are placed the names of the funds for which contributions are asked. Each party receiving such schedule enters in the appropriate column the amount he or she feels disposed to contribute for the then current year. The sum of these is carried into the "Total" column, and in the last column is indicated whether the amount is to be paid monthly, quarterly, half-yearly, or in one payment. The schedule is then returned to the treasurer, who opens an account with every subscriber in a ledger ruled precisely in the form of the schedule, and the committee appointed for the purpose, distribute to the best of their judgment, any contributions that may be given in a lump sum for all the purposes enumerated.

A staff of collectors, selected from the young women, or the young men, or other fit and willing workers, is then appointed—each, in his or her appointed district, being charged with receiving from the parties who have signed the schedule the amounts promised at the time specified. There is no special pleading required,—in other words, no "begging." The transaction assumes the form of a well considered business agreement, gone about in a thoroughly business-like way. The minister's part—and it is an indispensable condition of success—is to keep the congregation thoroughly well-informed as to the object and extent and the requirements of the church's work, and to stimulate the liberality of his people by reporting from time to time what is done with the contributions, and