

before him on the middle row of benches, gave out a hearty hymn to Christ, and led in prayer. Ere these were finished, another brother came in, a non-resident member of the church, now acting as Sabbath-school missionary, and visiting the city in connection with his work. Two other sisters after joined us, making our company "the eleven."

After thus opening, the pastor said that, in the circumstances, he would not take up the theme, "I am the Door," but he had no doubt that every one present could contribute to the service, from his own observation or experience, reading or thinking, some suggestion that would call forth our prayers; and began himself by presenting the case of a theological college, the dedication of whose new and beautiful building he had attended in the afternoon. He mentioned the facts that already nearly 200 ministers of the church, each the centre of wide influence, had been educated at the institution; that now there were nearly 70 in attendance; that most of these were engaged in missionary labour during the summer; and that the student-period of their lives was one in which they needed manifold grace from God in a very special degree. He then called on a brother to present this request in prayer, which was done earnestly and affectionately.

We sang again, and the meeting was "in the hands of the brethren" for prayer, reading, speaking or announcing a hymn. One brought before us the case of the prisoners in the City Gaol and Central Prison (he was a teacher in the Sunday school at the latter), among whom there seemed to be a hopeful work going on. This was spoken and prayed about. Another mentioned the Sabbath-school convention for the Provinces, to be held the next week. We prayed for that, and for our good missionary then present. Another brought forward the general expectancy now prevailing of a revival of religion, and especially urged the need of *personal* revival, each one beginning with himself, putting away his own sin, and beginning his own neglected duties. That point also was enlarged upon, with illustrations from Mr. Moody's course and the late Chicago pastors' meeting, and made the subject of fervent prayer. Our student brother asked prayer for his fellow-medical students in their peculiar perils and temptations, and they were appropriately remembered.

In this way, with suitable hymns at intervals, the hour was spent. "It was good to be there." The singing was full and hearty; every one seemed to feel at home, and every man there took some part. Those are not the worst prayer meetings that are held on wet nights!

---

### THE ANOINTING OF THE SICK.

The Epistle of James is excessively practical. To so great a degree are its practical tendencies apparent that Luther felt no little difficulty in admitting its teaching to be of great authority with the more doctrinal portion of the writings of the Apostle Paul,—so hard is it even for good men to dispossess their minds of theoretical preferences and fore-gone conclusions. The student of human nature, as that nature is revealed in the daily workings of the heart, and in the long and varied records of history, knows how prone the mind is to fall into contracted habits of thought, and thus to be oblivious of the broad domain of truth that lies outside the range of its own artificial vista. Polarity in physics is the fit indicator of the extremes we may expect to find in the sphere of intellectual and moral truth, if only we will be sufficient lovers of truth as to open our eyes wide enough to see what is real, even though the reality may put some of our pet theories to momentary confusion, or, at least, necessitate a carefully moderated enunciation of them. A Pauline theologian will not be less sound if he makes room in his intellect for the downright practical ideas of James; and the lover of good works will secure tone to the doing of righteousness, and attain to a natural balance of thought and action, if while pushing his deeds to the extreme of good living, he elaborates for himself, and holds with all the tenacity of strong intellectual convic-