

that it was taken from the Jews never to be restored. In the first place, the quotation is not correctly made. According to Dr. Laing, Christ said He would give the kingdom to "all nations." What He did say was, "to a nation bringing forth the fruit thereof." Further, it is a clear case that Dr. Pierson believes that God will restore the kingdom to Israel again. That is no secret. Many believe that. The scriptures teach it. A few hours before the Lord ascended, the disciples asked Him, "Lord, wilt thou at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?" Are these followers wrong at this point? Is there to be no restoration of the kingdom to Israel? Is this a wrong hope? Dr. Laing says it is, and Dr. Pierson says it is not. Who is right? Christ has taught these men all along that the kingdom is to be restored to Israel. He said, "It is not for you to know the times and the seasons." That point of time is the only one on which our Lord puts them right. Hear Paul, Rom. xi. 15, "For if the casting away of them be the reconciling of the world, what shall the receiving of them be but life from the dead." The casting away of that people Dr. Laing holds to be literal; but the receiving of them to be metaphorical. The change in the hermeneutics is unwarranted and injurious. Let me close with noticing one point more, though many and important ones remain. Dr. Pierson is now dropped, and Dr. Gordon, of Boston is taken up. There is the thought advanced by Dr. Gordon that Dr. Laing lays holds of to expose it: "There will be an outpouring of the spirit literally at the end of this age as there was typically at the beginning." Dr. Laing's criticism on the above teaching is this: "Thus we are taught contrary to the teaching of the Apostle Peter, that the prophecy of God was not fulfilled on the day of Pentecost. The Holy Ghost was not literally poured out, but typically." How Dr. Laing misunderstands Dr. Gordon as he does is a matter of great surprise. Dr. Gordon would shudder at the thought of teaching what Dr. Laing holds him to do. Dr. Laing ought to know that. What Dr. Gordon holds is something like this, the outpouring on the day of Pentecost was great and good, but it was only the first-fruits of what is coming. The great outpouring of the Spirit is before us, not behind. The great preaching is yet before us, not behind us. The Spirit is coming down upon all flesh yet. He came down on some on the day of Pentecost. Be it far from Dr. Gordon to hold that the Holy Ghost did not come upon the Apostles on that great day in Jerusalem. When he says that the outpouring then was typical, he means that God was acting then as at other times, and foreshadowing something greater to come. When God delivered Israel at the Red Sea, He did a great and good thing. But that salvation was only a type of one greater to come, when all the ransomed shall be gathered home. Although usually candid and reasonable, it does seem a little hard for Dr. Laing to be fair when speaking on this pre-millennial question.

In connection with this subject there are many questions that need to be examined. Is the nationality of Israel clean gone forever? Dr. Laing says it is, and Dr. Pierson says it is not. It is to be hoped Dr. Laing will step forward in advocacy of his doctrine, even if wrong. He may lead many to examine into this subject. Jeremiah xxxi. 36 sweeps away his teaching forever. Do the Jews hold the title-deeds of the Holy Land? Dr. Laing says, No; they forfeited them ages ago. Dr. Pierson answers back, "the gifts of God are without repentance." When God gives life to a man (eternal life), does He say, "Here is a gift and if you are good I will let you keep it?" That is not eternal life, for the man is sure to break down. Did God say to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, Here is this land and if you are good you may keep it? That is not the way God does things in the sphere of grace. Palestine belongs to the Jew today, "and the adoption, and the glory, and the covenants, and the giving of the law, and the service of God, and the promises," the Rev. Dr. Laing to the contrary. Shall the kingdom be restored to Israel? Dr. Laing says "No," and Dr. Pierson says "Yes." The scriptures say much on this point, and

what they say is helpful to the spiritual life of men. Is the kingdom the same as the church? Dr. Laing says "Yes." Dr. Pierson says "No." Who is right? Shall Jesus ever reign a king in person on the throne of David with his saints around Him, as the angel said to Mary? Dr. Laing says "No," Dr. Pierson says "Yes." The one is right and the other is wrong. But some man will say, "What boots it to me who is right? If I love God and keep His commands, I need not care. Confusion is never a good thing, never helpful, but always hinders. Did it make any difference to astronomers, who was right: Ptolemy the Egyptian, or Copernicus the Prussian? The one said the earth was the centre of the system, and the other held the sun to be that centre. The astronomers were great gainers when they got their truth. Students of the Word are great gainers when they get the nations, the church, and the Jews, in their scriptural settings.

NEWS OF THE CHURCH.

Rev. J. Johnston, of Paisley, conducted a preparatory service to a recent communion in the Presbyterian Church at Port Elgin.

A recent social entertainment in St. Andrew's Church, Beaverton, was a success. Miss Gunn, of New York, gave two recitations.

The anniversary services of the Presbyterian Church, Ballinafad, were held last Sunday. Rev. R. Haddow, B.A., Milton, preached.

Miss Batsy, who is shortly to leave for China, was given a formal farewell recently at a public meeting in the Presbyterian Church, Meaford.

Revival services are being held in connection with the Thorold Presbyterian Church. Rev. J. W. Mitchell, the pastor, is being assisted by Mr. T. A. Rodger, evangelist, of Toronto.

Mr. Will J. Lind, an active worker in connection with the Park Avenue Presbyterian Church, London, has gone to New Orleans. He is a young man of estimable qualities.

Mr. Loughhead, of Knox College, preached in the Presbyterian Church, at Phippston, on a recent Sunday to a very good congregation. He has since gone to Webbwood to take up a field.

At a meeting of the Presbyterian congregation of Cayuga last week a call was extended to Rev. Mr. Edgar. Rev. T. L. Turnbull, of Clanbrassil, was first choice, but declined the call.

At the annual thank offering meeting of the W. F. M. S. of Knox Church, St. Thomas, last week, the offerings amounted to \$54.55. Mrs. Currie, of Belmont, offered the dedicatory prayer.

Mr. Joseph A. Thompson, of Port Elgin, who possesses a sweet and powerful tenor voice, sang, "Remember me, Thou Mighty One," at a service, in Knox Church, Owen Sound, on a recent Sabbath.

Rev. J. W. Rae, of Acton, preached Sunday school anniversary sermons in Wentworth street Presbyterian Church, Hamilton, on Sunday. Mr. McPherson, student, of Hamilton, occupied his position in Acton.

Rev. A. B. Dobson on Sunday last occupied his pulpit in the Presbyterian Church, Gorrie, for the first time for several weeks owing to the illness of himself and family. He has not yet regained his former strength.

Rev. Mr. Barclay, of Balliboro, Ireland, has occupied the pulpit of the Presbyterian Church at Springfield for two successive Sundays very acceptably. The congregation are unanimous in extending a call to the reverend gentleman.

The semi-annual meeting of the Cooke's Church Christian Endeavor Society was held last week. There are now 323 members. Mr. Robert McConnell was elected president, succeeding Mr. Thomas Rennie. Rev. William Patterson, pastor of the congregation, was present.

The anniversary services recently held in connection with Essatown line Presbyterian Church, (Thornton), were on the whole a grand success. The proceeds of the tea meeting and Sunday collections netted \$75. This is no unusual thing for that church, and as they are now without a settled pastor they deserve all the more credit for the success they are having.

The King's Daughters of Zion Church, Brantford, gave a delightful entertainment last week. Ald. C. K. McGregor occupied the chair. Mrs. Allen, who played the accompaniments for the most part during the evening, opened the programme with a pianoforte solo. A number of finely-rendered songs were given by Misses Temple and Carson and Messrs. Moffat and Ogilvie, while Dr. Hart and Mr. C. Seace charmed the audience with a duet. Miss Howell recited with considerable elocutionary skill.

It is pleasant to note that our American neighbors are not slow to recognize the merits of our rising Canadians. S. Fraser MacLennan, B.A., son of the Rev. George MacLennan, late of Camlachie, now of Pinkerton, has been appointed assistant in Psychology in the University of Chicago. His appointment was a complete surprise to Mr. MacLennan, as his first knowledge of the vacancy was a card from his former professor, Dr. Baldwin, late of Toronto University, now of the College of New Jersey (Princeton), saying that he had recommended him for the above position. This fact speaks highly for Mr. MacLennan's ability.

PRESBYTERY MEETINGS.

At Whitewood, Sept. 12th, the Presbytery of Regina met and was constituted. The report of the H. M. Committee was received and adopted with a few amendments. On motion of Mr. Campbell it was agreed to take Mr. Ledingham on trial for license. The committee having reported that the examination was very satisfactory, it was agreed that the ordination take place at Moose Jaw on Wednesday, Sept. 19th, at 8 o'clock. A committee, consisting of Dr. Robertson, Mr. Carmichael and Mr. Matheson, was appointed to visit Qu'Appelle and carry out the recommendation of the Synod. A communication was received from Indian Head also a financial statement; agreed to refer these to the H. M. Committee. The committee agreed that the committee appointed by Presbytery visit Qu'Appelle and Indian Head on the 19th inst., and that the two fields be united, that the Sabbath services be arranged and that a grant of \$6 be asked for the united field. Mr. Campbell was appointed Moderator of Sintaluta. A very profitable time was spent in a missionary conference. A very interesting report was given by Mr. Carmichael, delegate to the last General Assembly. The following minute was then adopted: "The Presbytery of Regina at this, its last meeting before the severance of the pastoral tie between the Rev. J. K. Welsh and St. Andrew's Church, Indian Head, desire to put on record its appreciation of his ability as a clear expositor of the Word and as a faithful and acceptable preacher of the gospel. His loyalty to conviction at great personal sacrifice is worthy of special commendation. His clear insight and mature judgment rendered his services of great value. The Presbytery deeply regrets that it shall so soon lose the services of a brother beloved and hopes that a short rest will completely restore his impaired health, thus enabling him shortly to resume work in some suitable field."—J. W. MUIRHEAD, Clerk.

The Presbytery of London met recently in the lecture hall of the First Presbyterian Church. Rev. A. Miller, of Mosca, was elected moderator for the ensuing six months. Mr. W. Cook reported that he had moderated in a call from Thamesford in favor of Mr. Robertson, Puslinch, but Mr. Robertson having declined to receive the call, it was agreed that the report be received and the congregation be granted leave to moderate. Mr. Little reported moderating in a call from Vanneck and Ilderton to Rev. S. Lawrence. The call was unanimous and fully signed. Messrs. Robson, Charlton and Ironside were heard in support of the call. The call was sustained and ordered to be placed in Mr. Lawrence's hands. Messrs. Miller and Murray asked and received permission to moderate in calls to Wardsville and Newbury and South London respectively. Mr. Henderson presented the report of the Home Mission Committee, containing the following appropriation for augmentation for the half year expiring: Hyde Park and Komoka, \$75; Alma Street, St. Thomas, \$50; King Street, London, \$125; Delaware and Caradoc, \$50; Port Stanley, \$100; North Street and South Delaware, \$75; Wardsville and Newbury, \$54; North Eglu, \$3 a Sabbath while the student was in the field. The report was received and adopted. Mr. Henderson also reported that he had received additional contributions from several congregations to make up the deficiency in the Augmentation Fund in the Presbytery the last year, which contribution now amounts altogether to \$145. Mr. Currie moved in regard to the reconsideration of the mode of the election of commissioners to the General Assembly: 1. That the roll shall be arranged as follows: (a) Retired ministers on roll of Presbytery; (b) Pastoral charges arranged according to membership last reported, the largest and smallest alternately, and that this roll be permanent, except in case of addition of new congregations. 2. (a) Commissioners shall in all ordinary cases be elected by rotation from the roll as arranged; (b) No minister shall be eligible for election to the first Assembly after his entrance into the Presbytery; (c) Elders shall be nominated by the sessions of the pastoral charges, having the right to nominate according to the rule of rotation, such nominations to be reported for election at the March meeting of Presbytery; (d) The Presbytery shall have the power to elect any member who is eligible for election to any Assembly, independent of the rule of rotation; (e) All vacancies reported at the last regular meeting of the Presbytery before the meeting of the Assembly shall be filled by election, independent of the rule of rotation; (f) Commissioners shall report to the Presbytery at the July meeting. It was resolved that the submitted scheme and the present rule be printed and sent down to sessions, and come up for consideration at next meeting of the Presbytery. Messrs. Mitchell, Murray and Fear, commissioners, were heard from the congregations of Aylmer and Springfield, stating that at a congregational meeting held it was decided that they would offer a salary of \$750, and desired an augmentation of \$150, wishing to call a minister as soon as possible. It was resolved that the charge be placed on the list of vacancies and leave be given to moderate in a call, Springfield session to act as interim session for Aylmer. Mr. Wood made application to be received on trial as catechist, and was sent to the committee, which recommended that he receive the status of catechist, and that he be certified to the Presbytery of Algoma, with the understanding that at the close of a year he be expected to apply to be certified as a student, by said Presbytery. Leave was granted to Glencoe congregation to mortgage the manse property for \$1,200, in order to proceed to the building of a new manse. Rev. W. Burns made a statement concerning the preparations being at present made for the celebration of Knox College Jubilee. Mr. Burns was thanked for the statement made, and the best wishes of the members of the court expressed for the success of the jubilee celebration.

Christian Endeavor.

WHICH OF CHRIST'S TEACHINGS
SEEMS TO YOU MOST
WONDERFUL?

REV. W. A. McLAUGHLIN, D.D., ST. GEORGE.

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Apparently the intention of those who selected this topic was that the meeting at which it is discussed, should assume the form of a Comment Meeting. At such a meeting the leader occupies only a few moments in introducing the subject, and then each of the other members reads a short portion of Scripture and makes a few brief comments upon it. This topic is admirably adapted to such a meeting. Let each Endeavorer meditate carefully upon the sayings of Christ, and when he has found that which appears to him to be the most wonderful of Christ's teachings, let him be prepared to state briefly the reason why he so regards it. It is not unlikely that a great variety of opinions will be expressed, but it does not follow that these opinions will be in any sense contradictory. When a great exhibition is in progress, lovers of art will generally be found in the art galleries. Gardeners will not fail to see the fruits and vegetables. Musicians will admire most the collection of musical instruments, and the skill of those whose duty it is to display the fine qualities of those instruments. If those in attendance were asked afterwards what they most admired at that exhibition, one would say that he was surprised at the excellent exhibit of horses; another would probably say that he did not pay much attention to the horse ring, but that he was delighted with the display of flowers and plants. Still another would say that he gazed with wonder and admiration at the many beautiful specimens of fancy work. So, also, in regard to the many wonderful teachings of Christ. One is struck with one feature of them, another with another.

Those who appreciate positive and definite statements of truth, will probably most admire the Sermon on the Mount. They will be charmed with the authoritative and strikingly original manner in which Christ expounded the law. As they read, they will wonder at the flood of light which He threw upon those precepts which had long been misapprehended by the Jews. They will read with pleasure such a declaration as this: "Ye have heard that it hath been said by them of old time . . . but I say unto you." His explanations of these difficult points in the old law will be to certain readers a source of increasing interest.

Others again who are fond of argument and who love to see a display of dialectic skill will admire the happy manner in which Christ always met those who tried to entangle Him in His talk. One marvels to see how easily Christ in a single statement brushed aside the sophistries which had long surrounded certain disputed questions. The question whether it was lawful to give tribute to Caesar, or not had long been a vexed one with the Jews, for they knew that they were a conquered people, and yet they felt that as God's children they had no right to contribute anything toward the support of a heathen power. But in a very few words Christ set at rest this troublesome question. Many other questions, equally disputed and equally difficult, He disposed of in the same easy and satisfactory fashion. His method of handling them must strike any one with wonder.

Then, again, those who love simple illustrations and beautiful word pictures will study the parables of our Lord with great and ever-increasing interest. These parables are truly wonderful specimens of teaching. They unfold truth so beautifully, they present it so clearly and so simply, they make it so attractive that one must marvel as he reads and continue to read as he marvels.

It is quite probable that if we were asked to state, off-hand, which one of Christ's sayings we considered the most remarkable, the majority of us would reply, "John 3. 16." It is safe to say that more sermons are based upon this verse than upon any other verse in the Bible. It is a wonderful statement.

About twenty years ago there appeared in the Children's column of THE CANADA PRESBYTERIAN a little poem. It described a number of children who were asking each other which word in the Bible each liked best. One of them said, "I like 'whosoever' best." Perhaps the majority of us would be disposed to agree with that child.