

fraying the debt upon the building presented their report, which shewed contributions to this object amounting to \$1,756.50, a sum more than sufficient to clear off both mortgage and floating debt. The original mortgage was handed in and consigned to its appropriate place in the safe, amid general rejoicing amongst the members, the chairman expressing the hope that they should see it again no more forever. Mr. Alison, treasurer, submitted the annual statement, which showed a highly satisfactory state of matters for the year. From it, it appeared that the congregation had contributed to all objects the sum of \$3,977.29, an amount exceeding the previous year, and with the amount subscribed for debt extinction making a sum total of \$5,733.79. This does not include contributions to missions for the year. It is expected when the returns of the missionary committee are completed the above amount will be augmented by at least \$600. The following gentlemen were elected as trustees for the ensuing year, namely, Messrs. Jas. Alison, P. G. Close, W. J. Hughes, C. H. Scales, T. A. Lytle, Thomas Kinnear, Thos. Caswell, James Fraser, and Samuel Wallace. Mr. Close and Mr. Alison were also chosen trustees for the mission building. The chairman made a brief statement in regard to the increase in the membership during the year, and congratulated the congregation upon the very prosperous year they had enjoyed, and the auspicious circumstances under which they enter upon the work of another year. He said there had been no sound of strife, and all departments of the work had been marked by corresponding prosperity. The whole tone of the meeting was in striking contrast with that of the previous years, and their success in the circumstances he regarded as unprecedented. Arrangements were made for the annual tea-meeting in February, which will mark the thirty-second anniversary of the church, and the third anniversary of the present pastorate. The proceedings, which were harmonious, and, we might say, enthusiastic, were brought to a close with votes of thanks to the debt committee for their efforts, the treasurer of the church, and the chairman, after which the Doxology was sung, and the meeting was dismissed with the benediction.

PRESBYTERY OF SARNIA—This Presbytery held its regular meeting in St. Andrew's Church, Sarnia, on the 19th inst., Mr. Wells, Moderator, in the chair. Mr. Thompson intimated that he had moderated in a call at Point Edward, which was unanimously in favour of Rev. Mr. Leach, of Dungannon, promising \$500 with \$150 supplement; also making provision for minister's residence. The call was signed by fifty-two members and forty-six adherents. It was agreed to approve of the Moderator's conduct, sustain the call as a regular Gospel call, and instruct the clerk to forward the same to the clerk of the Maitland Presbytery, with a request to have the matter issued as speedily as possible. Mr. Thompson was appointed to prosecute the call when it comes up for consideration by the Presbytery of Maitland. A petition was laid upon the table from parties in Petrolea, approving of the principles and practices of Presbyterianism, and wishing for supply by being erected into a congregation. After consideration it was agreed to receive the petition and cite the congregation of Petrolea, to appear for its interests at next meeting, when the matter will be taken up for consideration. Messrs. Boosey, Shields, Agnew and McLure appeared in support of the petition. Mr. Wells, on behalf of the committee on statistics, gave in an excellent report. On motion of Mr. Cuthbertson, seconded by Mr. Thompson, it was agreed that the report be received, thanks given to the committee, especially to the convener, for diligence in the matter; that the convener be requested to publish synopsis of the same for distribution, and further to give practical effect to the report, that we appoint the mover and seconder to draft a scheme for ministerial exchange, with a view of stimulating Christian liberality, especially in the direction of increased ministerial support. It was agreed to instruct sessions to make an early return to questions submitted to them by the General Assembly, on the state of religion, etc., to the Conveners of the committees on these subjects. It was agreed to appoint missionary meetings to be held throughout the bounds, each minister making his own arrangements, and a report thereof to be given in at the ordinary meeting in March. The next meeting was appointed to be held in St. Andrew's Church, Sarnia, on the second Tuesday in March, at 3 o'clock p.m., when elders'

commissions will be called for and delegates appointed to the General Assembly.—GEO. CUTHBERTSON, *Pres. Clerk.*

MANITOBA NOTES.

MEMBERS of the Presbytery are looking forward to the division of the Presbytery, which is much too large.

SEVERAL representative bodies in Manitoba are taking action in regard to the crying evils of "Sabbath desecration" and "Intemperance."

A NEW manse has been built at High Bluff station on the C. P. R. for Rev. H. McKellar, and Rev. A. Bell, of Portage La Prairie, has a fine manse in progress.

KNOX and St. Andrew's Churches, Winnipeg, both feel the need of church buildings. Worshipping in a hall may suit the Salvation Army and the like, but Presbyterians don't take kindly to it.

THE new church in Minnedosa was opened on Dec. 24th. It is a building highly spoken of for appearance and comfort. Rev. Messrs. Robertson and Tibb, of Rapid City, took part in the proceedings.

THE ministers of Winnipeg have formed a Ministerial Association, on the doctrinal basis of the Evangelical Alliance. Revs. O. Fortin (Episcopal), D. M. Gordon, and J. B. Silcox (Congregational) are President, Vice President and Secretary.

THE "Sun" is a most enterprising evening paper in Winnipeg. Its Christmas number had five articles from many well-known writers in this city. Three leading articles were by our ministers. The press as well as the pulpit seems sound in the North-West.

ONLY one minister has been sent by the Home Mission Committee to the North-West since October, at which time twelve students were withdrawn. This one minister and three or four catechists represent all the provision made for the destitution of the new settlements. Why is this, when there is plenty of money?

MANITOBA College is having a most prosperous year. Nearly thirty University students are present, and the whole number of students is about fifty. Some eight student catechists will be ready to do mission work next summer in the mission field. The general collection throughout the whole Church on behalf of the college takes place on January 14th.

MR. MOWAT, who was ordained at last meeting of the Presbytery of Manitoba, has Turtle Mountain district under his care—a region as large as the County of York in Ontario. The Railway has been built upwards of 500 miles west of Winnipeg. Virden, Wolsley, Broadview, and half-a-dozen places west of Brandon are calling out for ministers. We have not a resident minister west of Brandon on the C.P.R., and Brandon is only 120 miles west of Winnipeg.

Winnipeg, January 12th, 1883.

SABBATH SCHOOL TEACHER.

INTERNATIONAL LESSONS.

LESSON IV.

Jan. 28,
1883.

THE HEALING POWER.

{ Acts iii.
1-12.

GOLDEN TEXT.—"Then shall the lame man leap as an hart, and the tongue of the dumb sing."—Is. 35: 6.

CONNECTED HISTORY.—While accepting Christ, the apostles and first disciples did not neglect to praise God in the temple; Peter healed a lame beggar, as he entered the temple for morning prayer.

NOTES.—Temple. The disciples forsook not the morning and evening prayers and sacrifices in the temple; they appeared to the rulers as true Jews, with only a special sort of piety and zeal in the belief that the Messiah had come. Peter. (See Lesson III.) John, called also the "beloved disciple," a fisherman of Bethsaida (as was Peter), and writer of the Gospel and Epistles of John and of the Book of Revelation; he lived the longest of any of the apostles, and is supposed to have died in exile on the island of Patmos. Beautiful gate. Some think the gate Susan is meant, and some that it refers to one of two other gates on the west side, but others refer it to *Nicanor's gate* on the east side. Josephus says it was of Corinthian brass, and far surpassed any of the nine silver and gilded gates in its splendor. It was on the east side of the court of the Gentiles, and close by Solomon's Porch. Solomon's Porch, called also the great court, formed by rows of pillars supporting a roof of cedar and adjoining the inner side of the wall of the court of the Gentiles. It was called Solomon's either from being the only portion of the original temple which was not destroyed, or from standing on the same ground as the porch built by Solomon.

I. WORLDLY POVERTY.—Ver. 1.—Peter and John;

a wonderful friendship between these two men, though each of them had a brother among the apostles. Evidently they did not (like some zealots now) separate themselves from other worshippers of God, because they knew or supposed the others to have less light than themselves.

Ver. 2.—A certain man: poor as man could be, and begging at the gate—"Beautiful"—yet he had friends to carry him there, and carry him away at night.

Ver. 3.—An alms: this beggar, forty years old, would be by this time a splendid judge of men's countenances. Did he see something in their glad faces that promised him something? It is always better to be sweet than sour.

Ver. 4, 5.—Look on us: it is cruel to excite expectation without satisfying it. The man knew he was going to get something, but he knew not the greatness of the gift. Sometimes we ask little, and God gives us much.

II. TRUE RICHES.—Ver. 6.—Silver and gold: others might, if they would, give him these, but Peter would give something else. Jesus Christ of Nazareth: the Jews added "Nazareth," some to distinguish Jesus from others of the same name, and some from hatred, for Nazareth, some way, had a bad name; but Peter takes it up and uses it—just as they learned to glory in the "Cross," though others considered it so disgraceful. He commanded the man, in his Master's name, to rise up and walk.

Ver. 7.—Right hand: Peter took hold of the right hand, which the poor man was holding up to receive money, and drew him upward. In a moment he received strength, and was able to stand.

Ver. 8.—Leaping: the man stood, walked, and even leaped. He would not keep either his feet or his tongue still.

Ver. 9.—People saw him: this man was a walking and leaping "text." The miracle drew the attention of the people, and then Peter could preach to them.

Ver. 10.—Knew that it was he: the people were amazed at this great work; they all knew the man, and knew he had always been a helpless cripple.

Ver. 11.—Held Peter and John: the man felt so grateful, that he held the apostles; and no doubt explained, in few and glowing words, all about it: "They healed me! They healed me in the name of Jesus of Nazareth! I will love Him forever!" This was the most blessed day the man had ever seen. He found cure, and he found Christ. Porch that is called Solomon's: this magnificent covered colonnade was said to be 600 feet long, and 150 feet high; a favourite meeting-place for the frequenters of the Temple; Jesus himself had taught there (John 10: 23). We cannot now trace Jesus' footsteps on the earth, but we can, spiritually, follow him—all the way to heaven.

PRACTICAL TEACHINGS.

1. We should worship God in His house.
2. We should go punctually, and aid others in doing so.
3. Help the poor and helpless whenever we can.
4. Mercies are apt to come when we seek them in God's house.
5. Be grateful for all the blessings we receive.
6. Praise God for them.
7. Our praises may lead others to hear of salvation.

ILLUSTRATION.—The noted Thomas Aquinas met a great prelate of the Romish Church, who held in His hand two golden basins full of ducats, silver or gold coins. "See," said he, "Master Thomas, the church can no longer say, 'Silver and gold have I none.'" "True," replied Aquinas; "neither can it say, 'In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, rise up and walk.'" Protestants in some quarters may also take the keen hint of Aquinas.

POWER OF CHRIST HEALS THE SINNER.

EFFECTS OF LIQUORS.

Cheap brandy and absinthe are the cause of a large proportion of cases of insanity in parts of France. The United States Consul at La Rochelle, in his report on French brandies, points out the fact that no pure brandy is now made in Cognac and the district adjacent. He says that German alcohol, distilled from potatoes, is imported, doctored, and sold for brandy, and that the French artisans and peasants, who formerly used light wines, have of late years used much of this so-called brandy. He says: "Its characteristic effect is to produce an intoxication in which the patient is especially inclined to rage and physical violence, while hopeless insanity is the inevitable consequence of persisting in its use, even for a relatively short period of time." It is at least worth the physician's while to know that there is no such thing as pure Cognac now.

THE Presbyterian Hospital in New York has received in its land, buildings, and endowments a total of \$947,432.

KEEPER busy. The man who has nothing to do is the most miserable of beings. If you have no regular work, do odd jobs as farmers do when it rains too hard to work in the fields. In occupation we forget our troubles, and get a respite from sorrow.

THE ministerial jubilee has been celebrated of Dr. Gordon, parish minister of Birnie, Scotland, long prominently associated with the sciences of natural history and archaeology in the north of Scotland. He was presented with an address, portrait, and piece of plate, and entertained at a Presbyterian dinner.

As the result of the uproar and riot in the Aberdeen Music Hall on the occasion of the delivery of Lord Rosburgh's rectorial address, it has been ascertained that the damage to the hall and furniture is much greater than was anticipated, and will have to be made good by the Senatus. The directors of the hall have come to the resolution that on no consideration whatever will they again let it for a students' meeting.