

Our Mission.

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1885 by the college secretaries (Messrs. Wishard and Ober), and proposed to Mr. Moody during the month of April last. Mr. Moody heartily responded. Accordingly, invitations were immediately sent out to each of the two hundred college Associations in the United States and Canada to send at least one delegate to the school. So ready a response came that it was deemed necessary to change the place of meeting from Northfield to Mount Hermon.

Mount Hermon is a small mountain in Massachusetts, on the Connecticut River, twelve miles north of Greenfield. Upon this hill are eight new brick buildings, a recitation hall—in which is a chapel, with a seating capacity of 400—a dormitory that will accommodate 250; five cottages, each furnishing homes for twenty or thirty; also a dining hall, in which three hundred may dine at once.

Upon the appointed day, July 7th, arrived 250 students—and before the close 280—from different parts of this continent, to study the Word of God. The plan devised was to have a Conference from 8 to 9 a.m., and from 10 to 12 the Bible study proper, while the afternoon was entirely free to the visitors. In the evening there was a choral practice. The morning Conference, under the efficient management of T. D. Wishard and C. K. Ober, college secretaries, was devoted to discussing how to carry on successfully Christian work in colleges, and is likely to be productive of much good.

A noted feature in the school has been the growth of interest in the missions. Twenty-three of those who attended had decided to give themselves to the work of foreign missionaries. On the second day they decided to hold separate meetings for prayer to God. A public missionary meeting was held, at which short addresses were delivered by ten young men, seven of whom were native students—Armenians, Japanese, Siamese, Norwegians, Danes, Germans and American Indians. The other three were sons of missionaries to China, India and Persia. The earnest appeals of these young men on behalf of their respective countries, together with the enthusiastic words of Dr. Ashborne, of Foochow, China, who urged the last command of our Saviour, "Go ye into all the world and preach the Gospel,"—with Dr. Pierson's clear statements of the needs of foreign missions, united into one voice, saying, "Come over and help us." Many of the students who had been praying upon the mount for the gift of the Holy Ghost for service, were

enabled by the grace of God to give themselves to the foreign field. When the time of closing the Conference had arrived, about 100 had signified their intention of becoming foreign missionaries. May the same mighty power of God now move the hearts of many Christian people to aid in sending this increased number of men to the destitute parts of the world!

OUR COLUMN FOR PREACHERS AND TEACHERS.

BY REV. JOHN MCEWEN, Lakefield, Ont.

[Sept. 5.] Jesus the True Vine. [John 15: 1-16.]

At the close of last chapter the company rose to depart, but Jesus had so much that was of great moment to say, that they all stood while Jesus poured out the important instruction of this and the following chapter. The thought points of these lessons is the most helpful work we can do for the teacher.

1. Union and communion with Christ is the central, and spiritual teaching of this lesson

2. This important fact is clearly illustrated by the life, culture, and fruitfulness of the vine, for which Palestine is distinguished.

3. The supremacy of the personal Christ in this spiritual life, "I am the true vine," all are under the administration and in the ownership of God the Father, who is the Husbandman. *v. 1.*

4. The means of support and cleansing which includes clear judgments, holy affections, and true impulses toward God through Christ, "The Word I have spoken." *v. 3*

5. The educational discipline, which embraces the culture and development of the New Life implanted, and the application of the knife to unwise directions of the life; all double buds are nipped to give singleness of purpose and life (Matt. 6: 22-24); all redundancy of wood is to be removed—watchfulness as to blighting and killing influences is enjoined—conflict with everything that imperils the highest completeness, comes within the range of our responsibility. *vs. 4-6.*

6. In proportion as these conditions are fulfilled, God is glorified, and His honor is manifested in the lives of His disciples—and their discipleship is made clear to themselves and others. *v. 8.*

7. Some of the results of Communion:—Safety in Christ. *vs. 4, 5.* Prayers answered. *v. 7.* Fulness of Joy. *v. 11.* Brotherly love. *v. 12.* Appointment to service. *v. 15.*

[Sept. 12.] The Mission of the Spirit. (John 16:)
5-20.

This lesson is a continuation of the last one. That Jesus was to die has been made prominent; but this is not to be regarded as a sign of the enemy's power, but as necessary for the setting up of His kingdom. The disciples are forewarned of coming persecution, but they are to bear it for His sake: in view of these things. The Holy Spirit will, on the exodus of Jesus, come and make up for His absence.

1. The Spirit is promised as a Teacher, Advocate; hence a Comforter. The Spirit is now promised in an enlarged exercise of manifestation and power, and this is detailed in three aspects: (1) Convincing of sin. Its