

12. "Cast out."—Out of the court of the Gentiles, a part of the temple. This occurred the day after the triumphal entry. "Them that sold and bought."—Incense, oil, wine, doves, and all things required in the service of the temple were dealt in by these traders within the temple. "Money changers."—Those who came from all parts of the world to the temple brought with them the money of their different countries, and this must be exchanged for Jewish money before they could make their offerings.

13. "A den of thieves."—They not only profaned the house of God with their traffic, but, as the use of this expression shows, were guilty of swindling and extortion in doing this.

15. "Wonderful things"—This includes not only the miracles of healing Jesus wrought, but His bold exercise of power and authority.

THOUGHTS.—The hours of severest suffering and cruel mocking were yet to be endured by the Lord Jesus, yet He enters upon them with joy and not with grief. All the humiliations which He endured in sending to borrow a colt on which to ride did not add any regret or sorrow. He became poor for our sakes. He suffered being tempted that He might succor us when we were tempted. He came to purchase man's salvation. He paid the price. He met the need. He gave Himself. He had declared at different times to the people that He was the Son of God, the promised Messiah. But they were slow to accept Him, though now they call Him King and Messiah. He was honored and owned by the multitude, for before Him should every knee bow and every tongue confess that He was Lord of all. This public testimony would make the crime of the Jews deeper when they should set aside all proof of His authority and nail Him to the cross, thus employing the most cruel form of death, such as was used for the worst of criminals.

Jesus needs "them." V. 3. The Lord of all, yet needy. The Creator of all the earth, yet needing to borrow a manger in which to be born. "Holding the wealth of the world in his hands," yet needing the ministrations of the faithful women who followed him. Royal, yet "made himself of no reputation." Phil. ii: 7. Hungering in the wilderness, thirsting on the cross, weary by the wall. He needs you, dear reader.

CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR.

CONDUCTED BY REV. W. S. MACTAVISH, B.D., DESERONTO.

SALUTATORY.

With no small degree of pleasure the Editor of this department greets those young people who are readers of THE PRESBYTERIAN REVIEW. Possibly he has already met some of them through other journals, and if so, his pleasure is enhanced, for he has not forgotten the many kind and appreciative words from readers, some of whom are personally known to him, but some of whom are still unknown. The publishers of THE REVIEW have given him the fullest liberty to discuss the topic for the week, to deal with new methods of work, to report items of news, or to treat any other subject of interest to Readers. The aim is to make this department a bureau of information to all engaged in the work of Young Peoples' Societies; and this object will be attained in proportion as the young people themselves, and other friends of the cause furnish help and suggestions. All are cordially invited to contribute anything that may be of interest to the readers of this department. Correspondence may be sent direct to, Rev. W. S. MacTavish, B.D., Deseronto.

DAILY READINGS.

First Day—Faithful in the home.—Prov. xxxi. 10-31.

Second Day—Sustaining others.—Ex. xvii. 8-16.

Third Day—Encouraging others.—Isa. xli. 1-7.

Fourth Day—Showing compassion.—Luke x. 30-37.

Fifth Day—Ministering to the needy.—Matt. xxv. 34-40.

Sixth Day—Faithful in a little.—Luke xvi. 8-12.

PRAYER MEETING TOPIC, May 1.—LITTLE WAYS OF BETTERING THE WORLD.—Phil. ii. 12-16; Matt. v. 13-16. Quot. 19.

LITTLE WAYS OF BETTERING THE WORLD.

How thankful we ought to be that there are little ways of bettering the world. If the world were benefited only by great deeds, many of us could do nothing, and even great men would have only a limited number of opportunities of making the world brighter and happier.

"Great deeds are trumpeted; loud bells are rung,
And men turn around to hear
The high peaks echo to the praise sung,
And some great victor cheer.
And yet great deeds are few. The mightiest men
Find opportunities but now and then."

Things have been so arranged that even the youngest Christian can contribute towards the world's improvement, and even the

weakest may lift it a little toward a higher plane. High up in the walls of the temple at Baalbec there were stones of many tons weight. No man can tell how they were raised so high. Whatever style of derrick may have been employed these immense stones could never have been raised up and placed in position had not vast numbers of workmen given a helping hand. And so if we all did our little part, we might lift to a higher and happier level the world now burdened with suffering and sorrow.

When we speak a word of kindness, we adopt one way of ameliorating the world. Many a man has been won back from the path of infamy and shame by a little word of kindness.

"As we go journeying on through life,
Perhaps we do not know
The good a little word may do
To those who come and go;
But God will know and surely heed
In His own time and way,
The speaker of each kindly word
Will royally repay."

A sympathetic, manly word from Joel Stratton to John B. Gough caused the thought to flash through the mind of the latter that he might yet be a man, and so he resolved that, God helping him, he would declare undying enmity to the curse which had dragged him down. An encouraging word was spoken by Stephen Merritt, of New York, to John G. Woolley and that word sent a gleam of hope into a life which had been darkened and blighted by intemperance and prodigality. All around us there are people who are growing misanthropic, who are writing hard things against society, against themselves, aye, and perhaps against their Maker, too. Would it be a difficult matter to improve their condition? No, a few cheering or helpful words would cause their hard thoughts to vanish as mist vanishes before the rising sun.

"With sunshine born of loving words,
Let's scatter clouds of pain,
And thus make bright the sorrowing face,
As skies are after rain."

When we do deeds of kindness we pursue another little way of bettering the world. It is said that the roughest path in life may be made smooth by paving it with deeds of kindness. Many are now walking upon rugged roads; they are footsore and weary, and if we extended to them a friendly hand, they, taking heart again, would push on resolutely toward the goal. "Withhold not good from them to whom it is due when it is in the power of thine hand to do it," (Prov. iii. 27). The following incident will probably be read with greater interest now than when it was first made public. A city missionary visited a house in London, and found a sick and dying boy. There was an orange lying on his bed, and the missionary said "Where did you get that orange?" The boy replied "A man brought it to me. He comes here often and reads the Bible and prays with me, and brings me nice things to eat." "What is his name?" said the city missionary. "I forget his name," said the boy, "but he makes great speeches over in that great building," pointing to the Parliament Buildings of London. The missionary asked "Is his name Mr. Gladstone?" "O yes," said the boy. "Mr. Gladstone."

Some seven or eight years ago the following story was given to the world, but although it is too good to be forgotten, it is just possible that the world in its great haste after new things has almost forgotten it. We reproduce it here, for it shows an excellent little way of bettering society. Miss Mary Anderson worked in a tailor-shop in Chicago. Miss Fanny Gary, daughter of Judge Gary, had taken an interest in her, and observing that she was looking pale and overworked, proposed to send her to a pleasant summer resort. "I cannot go," said the girl, "the boss tailor would not let me leave unless I find somebody to take my place, and I can't find anybody." Her friend replied, "You go, and I will take your place." For two weeks Miss Gary left her pleasant home every morning at six o'clock and found her way to the shop. She stitched all day long, and it was not until Miss Anderson returned from her summer vacation that it was whispered about that the daughter of Judge Gary had been working in a tailor shop.

A sweet singer who goes to sing a song of a Saviour's love in the home of one of the shut-ins; a good reader who reads a chapter of the Bible, or an interesting story to some bed-ridden sufferer; a manly youth who has gained such an influence over his careless companion that he leads him away from the downward path into the upward one; the young man who cheerfully renders a little assistance to a poor overworked neighbor; the young woman who lends a helping hand to a wearied mother—all these have found little ways of bettering the world.

"A singer sang a song of cheer,
And the great world listened and smiled
And he sang of the love of a Father dear,
And the trust of a little child;
And souls that before had forgotten to pray,
Looked up and went singing along the way."