

and the Jordan was divided. He prayed again, and a child's spirit came back from the other world. The apostles prayed, and the Holy Ghost descended. The early church prayed, and Peter was delivered from prison.

Such striking illustrations of the power of prayer should encourage believers to face the tendencies of the day with calm confidence, and to rest with unswerving faith on the assurance that heaven and earth will pass away before one promise of God will fall to the ground.

*Charlottetown, P.E.I.*

## Manhood.

By William R. Wood.

**W**ITH child-faith strengthened into manlier trust,

And deepened by the providential care  
God hath extended o'er our years of youth,  
On into manhood's sterner path we fare,  
Youth dreams are gone, and bitter was the pang  
That taught us what so fondly deemed we true  
Were dreams alone. Yet character began,  
And wiser, nobler, by our dreams we grew.

And harder, dustier, is this way of life,  
Than aught we deemed in youth of manhood's hour,

Yet is the toilsome path full oft refreshed  
By grasses cool, and many a heaven-fresh shower  
Renews our strength, as toil we on and on;  
— Yea, and along the weary land full oft  
We breathe, in shelter of the Shadowing Rock,  
Sweet airs of heaven, balm-laden, kind, and soft.

And tender, bending o'er our whole life-path  
And circling earth, as 'twere in loving bands,  
Is God's own blue, fit symbol of His love,  
The tender shielding of Almighty hands.  
Tho' life is toil, our Master's name is Love,  
Eternal Love, nor turns He one away  
Who comes to Him; but helps us bear the yoke  
By strength inflowing all along the way.

And, sounding down the ages, not from heaven,  
But from our Lord, on manhood's lonely way,  
Who knows its hardness and the barren wastes  
That border by it; thus we hear Him say:  
"Fear not, ye little flock, nor doubt, nor dread,  
For you the kingdom waits by God's good will,  
And earth may hate you, as it hated Me,  
But all the days I'm with you, with you still."

*Tara, Ont.*

## A Band of Workers.

A Sketch of the First Presb'n Society, Brockville, Ont.

**T**HIS society is indebted for its organization to the united efforts of Miss Jennie Reid (now the wife of the Rev. Fred. Wilkinson, of Dartmouth, Nova Scotia) and Mr. H. S. Seaman. The former first proposed to Mr. Seaman that efforts be made to form such a society, and, after holding a consultation on the matter, they invited a few of the young people of the church to meet with them to consider the advisability of taking such a step and the possi-

bility of success if they did so. The result of this conference was, that early in the year 1889, after conference with the pastor, the Rev. W. A. McKenzie, Mr. Seaman called a meeting of those connected with the church who were interested in the work, and on May 21st of that year a society was formed composed of nine members, but not until the ninth of the following October were the pledges signed and the model constitution, with a very few minor changes, adopted.

During the past nine years the work of the society has been faithfully carried on under the direction of consecrated and able officers, and the success which has crowned these efforts is a guarantee that God has given His approving blessing. To-day the society is strong and



MR. H. S. SEAMAN.

vigorous, as will be seen from the following extracts from the last published report:

The sick, infirm, and strangers have been looked after; nearly one hundred calls have been made; religious literature distributed at the hospital; 800 bouquets of flowers and plants, each with text of Scripture bearing comfort and encouragement; and, by the co-operation of church members, \$47.00 worth of substantials were distributed Christmas eve.

Visits by the Music and Missionary Committees to homes where the sick and infirm are shut in from church services have been made and helpful hours spent in prayer, reading of Scripture, and singing. The Missionary Committee have \$11.00 for the church treasurer for missionary purposes, besides \$4.00 already sent for the Augmentation Fund.

The committee in charge of the distribution of bags of religious literature upon vessels and barges touching at the port, report the largest