

very high and the streets very narrow and dirty. Until recently, the Ghetto was fenced off from the rest of the city by a wall, as though it were plague-stricken. Over the gateway there was a crucifix and this text, to aggravate their misery,—“All day long have I stretched forth my hands to a disobedient and gain-saying people.” There are five synagogues all in a row; these it was proposed to replace by the erection of one great temple, but in the meantime, the government decided upon the demolition of the whole rookery, and consequently the Jews will be scattered, and perhaps in this way become more accessible to Christian influences, and the saying long current among them that,—“When Edom (meaning Rome) is laid waste, the redemption of Israel draws nigh,” may be fulfilled in a way they little dreamed of. We saw the Medical Mission established in this quarter by a Society of Edinburgh ladies. Attached to the dispensary is a room for conference and prayer. A leading physician in Rome comes here twice a week, and not only gives advice and medicine gratis, but expounds the Scriptures to his patients, pointing them to the Great Physician. The ladies are indefatigable, visiting from house to house and ministering as women only can to the necessities of these poor despised people. While we were there, the conference room was pretty well filled: a Jew was reading aloud from the the Old Testament, while the lady superintendent answered as best she could the questions that were asked by one and another. All seemed to listen reverently. Leaving this place, we next sought out the “hired house” in which Paul lived for two whole years, (Acts 28: 30). The house pointed out to us, No. 11 Via Strangari, is believed by those who have looked carefully into the matter to be the identical place, which, I am free to confess, had quite as much interest for me as any other historical relic in Rome. It is a four-story building—a good deal the worse of the wear, but it was, no doubt, accounted a very respectable house eighteen hundred odd years ago.

Speaking of the Jews, reminds me of an interesting re-union in the house of the accomplished Jewish missionary, the Rev. A. Ben-Oliel, who gave us an account of his labours here and elsewhere. He believes that kind words and benevolent

sympathy constitute a shorter road to the hearts of these children of Israel than any amount of learned controversy, and in his endeavours to bring them to the knowledge of the truth, he acts on that principle. He has an invaluable assistant in Mrs. Ben-Oliel. We attended another social meeting in the Hall of the Waldensian church—a large and handsome edifice—and had the pleasure of congratulating Signor Prochet, the pastor, on having received that day intimation that the University of St. Andrew's had conferred on him the degree of D. D. Still another meeting of this kind which we had the privilege of attending, was one of the monthly conferences held in the drawing-room of Dr. Young, an elder in the Presbyterian Church, for the mutual edification of the Christian workers in Rome. Dr. Gray, Dr. Prochet, Dr. Vernon (Episcopal), Mr. Pigott (Methodist), Mr. Egar (Baptist), and Mr. Morgan of London, (Ed. of *the Christian*) took part with Dr. Young in the conference, which was followed by an hour of pleasant social intercourse. Among the evangelistic agencies in Rome, perhaps none has been more successful than Signor Capellini's mission to the Italian soldiers. Many of the men, notwithstanding the rigour of military discipline, and the jealousy of the priests, have joined the church, and the most hopeful aspect of the work is that the chief helpers in it are the soldiers themselves. In taking note of the various means employed for the dissemination of the gospel in Italy, too much importance cannot be attached to the Protestant educational institutions, not only for the children of the common people, but also in the growing efficiency of higher schools which provide at a moderate cost all the branches of a liberal education. Those in Rome and Naples, under the auspices of the Presbyterian churches, appear to be admirably equipped, and it was interesting to learn that among the students, are members of some of the most influential Roman Catholic families, who gladly avail themselves of the sound Protestant teaching which these schools offer.

I shall never forget the morning that Dr. Gray took me to the Capitoline Hill, when we climbed the 261 steps that lead to the top of the tower which crowns its summit. From this eminence, I think, the finest view of Rome and its environs is to be had.