

and speakest, O Israel, My way is hid from the Lord, and my judgment is passed over from my God." At the close of the sermon the moderator narrated the steps taken in connection with Mr. Jamieson's call to the Foreign work in China; Mr. Gray then engaged in prayer, designating Mr. Jamieson as missionary to Formosa and commending him to the grace of God for comfort and success. The right hand of fellowship was given to the missionary by the moderator and other members present, and by the brethren who were invited to sit with the Presbytery. Dr. Wardrope, convener of the Foreign Mission Committee, was expected at this part of the proceedings to address the missionary, but was not for ward, owing to some difficulty with trains. His place was taken by Mr. Grant, pastor of the congregation, who delivered an appropriate, though almost impromptu address. Prof. McLaren addressed the assembly on the subject of Foreign Missions. A collection was taken and the closing piece of music was being sung, when Dr. Wardrope appeared. In a brief address he expressed his pleasure at having arrived before the services were over, and with words of kindly counsel handed Mr. Jamieson a copy of the Scriptures. Besides Drs. McLaren and Wardrope there were associated with the Presbytery Dr. Moffat, of Walkerton, Mr. Sinclair, of Uptergrove, Mr. Strauth, of Shelburne, and the Rev. Messrs. Armstrong, Rose, and McKee, of the Methodist Church. An efficient choir, under the leadership of Mrs. Warner, led the service of praise. The large audience sat to the close, evidently favourably impressed with the services.—ROBT. MOODIE, *Pres. Clerk*.

PRESBYTERY OF TORONTO.—This Presbytery met on the 6th insts., Rev. R. P. Mackay, moderator. A call from the congregation of Orangeville to Rev. R. J. Beattie, of Port Hope, was reported on by Rev. A. McFaul. The call—a unanimous one, with promise of \$1,200 per annum, without manse—was sustained, and Mr. McFaul was appointed to prosecute the same before the Presbytery of Peterborough. Rev. Dr. Laing, of Dundas, was heard at considerable length in support of the Assembly's scheme for the augmentation of stipends. On motion made, Dr. Laing was thanked for his clear and full address; the Presbytery also recorded its approval of the scheme, and pledged itself to make endeavour for its success; and further, a committee was appointed, consisting of Revs. D. J. Macdonnell, J. M. Cameron, J. Carmichael, P. McF. McLeod, and Mr. W. B. McMurrich, to arrange for visiting the congregations of the Presbytery, and for raising, if possible, not less than \$9,000 for the augmentation of stipends and Home Mission work. A paper was read from Dundas Street section of Oakville congregation anent an expressed purpose of Rev. W. Meikle to leave off the supplying of said section at the end of the year. Messrs. C. Porter and D. McKay were heard for Dundas Street, Mr. A. Robertson for Oakville, and Mr. Meikle on his own behalf; also Dr. Laing being present, was asked to express his opinion anent a proposal to unite Dundas Street with the congregation of Nelson, in Hamilton Presbytery, when he spoke favourably of such a proposal. It was then moved by Rev. Dr. Reid, and agreed, to appoint a committee to Oakville and Dundas Street, and confer with the people there as to their future supply and connection, giving authority to the committee to correspond with the Presbytery of Hamilton, if deemed expedient, anent the union proposed. Rev. J. M. Cameron and Mr. James Brown were appointed a committee for the purpose foregoing. On application, made by the congregation of St. Andrew's Church, Markham, permission was given them to sell, or dispose of otherwise, their manse property, on condition that the proceeds realized shall be employed to erect or purchase a new manse. The congregation of St. James' Square Church, Toronto, asked and obtained leave to provide supply for their pulpit during the vacancy. Rev. J. M. Cameron was appointed convener of the Presbytery's Home Mission committee in room of the former convener, Dr. King. It was left to the several sessions to make arrangements for missionary meetings, with the understanding that they shall also correspond with the committee on augmentation of stipends. A report amended anent presbyterial visitation was read from the committee appointed thereon. Said report and appended recommendations after being modified were adopted and ordered to be printed. After undergoing the usual examination, Messrs. David Perrie, William Farquharson, R. C. Tibb, A. M. Haig, George Kin-

near, A. U. Campbell and William M. Kay, were ordered to be attested as entrants to theological study at Knox College. On motion made by Principal Caven, a resolution was carried expressing satisfaction in the appointment by the Dominion Government of a day of thanksgiving, but expressing regret at an order for inspection of the militia in the city of Toronto at an hour appointed for public worship, and hoping that such an anomaly would be avoided in future. In the interests of several congregations in the bounds, an early meeting of Presbytery was resolved on; and the next meeting (for any competent business) was appointed to be held in the usual place on Thursday the 21st current at half past two p.m. R. MONTGATH, *Pres.-Clerk*.

PRESBYTERIAN COLLEGE MONTREAL.

STUDENTS' MISSIONARY SOCIETY.

The annual meeting of the above Society was held in the College on the evening of Friday, October 19th. The meeting was opened with devotional exercises, after which the minutes of the last annual meeting were read and approved. Eighteen new students were duly nominated and elected members of the Society. The nomination and election of Officers for the current year then took place which resulted as follows.—President, R. Gamble, B.A.; 1st. Vice President, G. Whillans, B.A.; 2nd. Vice-President, W. K. Shearer, B.A.; Recording Secretary, W. M. Rochester; Corresponding Secretary, R. Stewart, B.A.; Treasurer, N. Waddel; Executive Committee, Messrs. McRae, Hodges, Blair, Dewar, Roberts; News Committee, Messrs. Ogilvie, B.A.; Barron, B.A.; McKay, B.A.; McIlraith, McLean and M. McKenzie.

Addresses were delivered by several of the newly-elected officers indicating their readiness to engage in mission-work, and their desire to promote the interests of the society.

The treasurer's financial report, which is an encouraging one, was then read. Last year there were only four missionaries employed by the society, and after all expenses were paid there remained in the treasury \$270.56. This year, there were six missionaries employed, and when they are all paid there will remain in the treasury \$358.17. This advance on last year is largely due, not only to the success of the missionaries employed by the society, but also to the strenuous and successful efforts put forth by many of the students to collect for the funds of the society in the mission-fields in which they were labouring during the summer months.

The hearing of the missionaries' reports for the summer of 1883 was the next item of business. Six fields—North Sours and South Sours of Manitoba, Chaudière, Mattawa, Moose River, Eardley, have been supplied by the society during the past summer; but, owing to the large amount of business to be transacted, the report of Mr. Rochester, missionary to South Sours and that of Mr. McLean missionary to Chaudière were the only two read. The South Sours district is about seventy-five miles south-west of Brandon, and is described as one of the most beautiful parts of Manitoba. Our missionary had seven appointments, at each of which a fortnightly service was held. Though this part of Manitoba is but sparsely settled as yet, the attendance on the whole was encouraging; and the finances were well supported.

Mr. McLean supplied two stations, viz.: Chaudière and the Dunmore Settlement. The former is a village situated on the banks of Lake Mégantic. The latter is a new settlement five miles distant consisting chiefly of Scotch and English immigrants. Mr. McLean conducted weekly service and Sabbath school in each of these places. A good report of the work done is given. The people requested that supply should be given them in the winter, and the society decided to grant their request. Steps have already been taken towards the erection of a Church at Chaudière, and it is hoped that in a few years this will be a self-supporting congregation.

Committees were then appointed to wait upon the city churches to solicit their financial support for the current year. The benediction having been pronounced, the meeting adjourned.

R. STEWART, *Cor.-Sec.*

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.—Rev. Dr. Reid has received the following sums for schemes of the Church, viz.:—A Friend of Missions, Kingston, special for Formosa, \$10; a Friend, Vernon, special for Formosa, \$5; a Friend, Bensford, special for Formosa, \$2; a Friend, Owen Sound, for Knox College, \$1.

SABBATH SCHOOL TEACHER.

INTERNATIONAL LESSONS.

LESSON XLVII.

Nov. 28,
1883.

DAVID AND GOLIATH.

{ 1 Sam. 17:
38-51.

GOLDEN TEXT.—"The battle is the Lord's."—Sam. 17:47.

CONNECTION.—After David was anointed, he still continued to tend his father's sheep. Saul, being afflicted with an evil spirit, was advised to obtain some one to play before him on the harp. The youth, David, was suggested: who was sent for, and ministered thus to Saul in his affliction. Saul being better, David returned home. In perhaps a year or two more, war arose again: and Goliath defied the armies of Israel. David had come to the camp, and offered to fight the Philistine.

I. THE PREPARATION.—Vers. 38, 39.—Saul armed David: see, in former verses, the conversations leading up to this interview with the king. In the time that had elapsed, David had so grown and changed that Saul did not recognize his former minstrel. The king thought David must be protected with armour, and furnished with weapons. So he gave him "a helmet of brass" (rather copper, or bronze; our mixture, brass, not being known), "a coat of mail" (some strong material covered with overlapping small plates of metal), and a sword. I cannot go with these: David felt ill at ease in this armour. It seemed to him like trusting in these things instead of God. Besides, he felt that if God would use any of the qualities he possessed, to give him the victory, it would be agility and swiftness (which would be hindered by the armour), and not muscular strength.

Ver. 40.—His staff in his hand: some modern commanders like to see their men with their weapon always in their hand. They like a soldier to feel that "himself and his weapon are one." So David had gone for years, with his shepherd's staff in his hand; and it was at once a support and a skilful weapon for him, and he would not part with it. Five smooth stones out of the brook: a stone from a sling revolves; and everyone who, as a boy, has used a sling knows that, while a stone with edges will "hum" more, and so, perhaps, be more *enterprising*, a smooth, round stone will go farther and swifter, and straighter to the mark. How true to nature and experience are even the *small details* of the Bible! David had, no doubt, killed many a jackal with his sling. Sling: generally a wallet of skin, suspended from the shoulders by thongs. Sling: with us, a well-known but dangerous plaything; anciently used in war.

Ver. 41.—The Philistine came on: seeing a warrior step out from the Jewish camp, he came forward to meet him, a considerable distance, we may conclude, being between the armies. That bare the shield: he had a man to carry his heavy shield for him, till he should need it; just as effeminate sportsmen with us have men to carry and load guns for them.

II. THE MEETING.—Ver. 42.—He disdained him: when he came near enough and saw David—only a fresh-looking youth, and without sword or armour—he despised him. Just so the Jews despised Christ, because He had not the dignity and earthly glory they expected to see. *But both were wrong!*

Ver. 43.—With staves, or "with sticks" he wanted to know if David came against him as he would against a dog? "Staves" here is the plural of staff, not of stave; and is to be pronounced with a broad a. Cursed David by his gods: not the Philistine invoking his *own* gods to curse David, but he cursed (just as an Arab does now), David's tribe, and father and mother, and his country and his "gods." Looking upon Jehovah as a local god of the Hebrews, as Dagon was of the Philistines, he cursed David, and cursed Jehovah along with him. Goliath may be taken to illustrate the world and Satan, David to illustrate the Christian.

Ver. 44.—The Philistine continued boasting.

Ver. 45.—Is the name of the Lord of hosts: David replied that his trust was in God, whose armies and whose Divine Self this beathen had defied.

Ver. 46.—Deliver thee into mine hand: David could only speak the words of this verse by the suggestions of the spirit. The spirit of the Lord was upon him (16: 13) and he here prophesied.

Ver. 47.—The battle is the Lord's: all God's deliverances are lessons of trust to us. We should often reflect upon them—in our own history, the history of our times and of former days.

III. THE VICTORY.—Ver. 48.—Arose . . . to meet David. The time of words was past; the time of action had come. David now rushed to meet him. How many cries would go up to Jehovah, "God save the lad?"

Ver. 49.—Smote the Philistine in his forehead: before this time (Judg. 20: 16) we read of men who "could sling stones at an hair breadth," and David, in his shepherd's life, would be a practised slinger. Throwing stones by the hand with great precision is not an uncommon acquirement with us, so, anciently, with the use of the sling. There was no bow in David's hand; only a "staff," and the sling would not be noticed at a distance; and the Philistine, not yet at "close quarters," perhaps had not pulled down his visor, nor held up his shield.

Ver. 50.—David prevailed: the giant died at once; and the comparative feebleness of David's weapons is often dwelt upon—as showing that it was *God* who conquered the enemy. So with us!

Ver. 51.—Took his sword: the Philistine's own sword. Cut off his head: as a trophy of his victory. The giant's armour and sword he put in the "tent" or tabernacle of the Lord. (See 21: 9.)