Sunday-school lesson for May 23, "The Conference at Jerusalem." Text, Acts, xv., 1-6, 22-20.

By J. E. Gilbert, D. D.

Connection.—Considerable time must have elapsed between the events of last lesson and those of to-day's lesson. The sacred penman has given in six verses only (chapter xiv., 23-28) the briefest jottings of what occurred. From Lystra, where he was stoned, Paul retraced his steps, visiting the little congregation recently gathered, ordaining elders and commending them to the Lord. The trip led through Pisidia, Pamphylia, Perga and Attalia, four Roman provinces. Sailing across to Salencia, Paul and Barnabas came to Antioch, in Syria, where they had been commissioned. On their arrival they summoned the church and gave a report of their mission and its success, dwelling especially on the proof which it afforded that God had opened to the Gentiles a door of faith. For some time the Apostles rested from their toils, finding comfort in the ordinary ministrations of the Church.

Dissension.—Thus far the Jewish and Gentile converts united in the bonds of love for a common Lord; lived side by side in great peace at Antioch (Psalm cxxxiii, 1). This delightful fraternity was disturbed from without. There came to them from Jerusalem certain brethren who asserted that the Gentile believers must be circumcised—that is, they must become Jews before they could be Christians (verse 1). This new dogma provoked much dissension (verse 2). Paul and Barnabas resisted it, and probably most of the Church sustained them, although, as generally occurs, it may be that a few, zealous for the traditions of Israel (Col. ii, 8), may have cast themselves on the other side. The conflict thus precipitated involved not only the peace of the Church at Antioch, but the future of Christianity. The decision would affect the work of the gospel in all lands and centuries.

Reference.—How shall this perplexing question be settled? In our time Protestants would appeal to the Scriptures as "the only infallible rule of faith." Learned men would collect proof texts, but interpretations of these might differ, leading to a war of words, and in the end believers might be divided as they are now, into opposing sects. (1 Cor., xii, 25). But the New Testament had not been written, and this course could not be followed. It was finally determined to refer the whole matter to the Apostles and Elders at Jerusalem. (Verse 2). There were good reasons for this action. The Apostles had been with Jesus and had heard his teachings. Moreover, the Holy Spirit had been promised to guide them into the truth. (John, xvi, 13). Besides, the church at Jerusalem was older, the mother of all, and might be supposed to hold juster views of doctrine than other churches.

Reception.—Delegates were sent to submit the disputed question. Paul and Barnabas went as the champions of the Gentiles, accompanied by others, Titus being one (Gal., ii., 1), and possibly some of the Judaizing class accompanied. Officially escorted by representatives of the Church, the Apostles passed through Phenice and Samaria (verse 3), publishing along the way to disciples whom they met the conversion of the Gentiles. Conquering heroes never returned from foreign wars with more buoyancy of spirit than did these two men break the intelligence that Jesus had been preached successfully among the heathen. On their arrival at Jerusalem a most cordial reception was extended. (Verse 4.) And there, before large and joyous assemblies, they declared what God had done by them in different countries, reproducing the story told when they returned to Antioch after their long and perilous journey.

Assemblies.—Judging from the narrative, it is probable that Paul and Barnabas on their arrival in Jerusalem did not at once report the dissensions which led to their visit. They pursued a much wiser course. Proceeding to give an account of their missionary tour, they allowed the audience to raise questions. In this way the topic was brought up by the Pharisaic believers as an original and independent matter, and the Apostles were called together to consider it. (Verse 6.) The assembly was not general, like those councils afterward caller to settle controverted points. No one was invited from abroad. It was limited to Jerusalem. The subject of Gentile rights had been up several years before upon the conversion of Cornelius (Acts xi., 17-18), but the question of circumcision was not raised. Now the crisis of missions is reached. The door to the heathen has been thrown open. The assembly, therefore, marked a new and important era.

Commission—The discussion on that occasion, reported in verses 7 to 21, is not assigned by the committee in to-day's lesson. The speaking seemed to be all on one side. They who precipitated the matter appear to have been silent, or they may have been absent. Peter spoke first. Paul and Barnabas followed. Then James, the president of the Council, summed up the case and gave a decision which was favorable to the Pauline view. His address was large-hearted and manly. He quoted Scripture to show (verse 17) that God intended to save the Gentiles (Jer., xv, 19); that the Jewish ritual was only a provisional arrangement (verse 16), looking forward to the fuller dispensation. The speech pleased the assembly, and it was agreed that two prominent brethren, Barnabas and Silas (verse 22), should return to Antioch with Paul and Barnabas and report what action had been taken, that there might be no doubt on the subject.

Epistles—The four commissioners were not allowed to return with merely an oral message, valuable as that might be. They bore letters which put the judgment of the assembly in permanent form. The letters were addressed to "the brethren which are of the Gentiles in Antioch and Syria and Cilicia." (Verse 23.) The very form of that salutation virtually settled all disputes. The letters declared that the men who had preached circumcision went out without authority (verse 24), showing that ministerial license and ordination were necessary in those days to secure sound doctrine. Paul and Barnabas were highly commended in the epistles (verses 25 and 26) for their self-sacrificing labors for Christ. Barnabas and Silas were named as spokesmen for the Jerusalem Church. (Verse 27.) These letters were the first written documents, so far as we know, delivered by apostolic authority, the charters of Gentile liberty, to be held up with the churches.

Restraint—One feature in the letters deserves special attention. (Verses 28 and 29.) While released from circumcism the Gentile converts were urged to "abstain from meats offered to idols, and from blood and from things strangled, and from fornication." Three of these prohibited practices (Lev., xvii., 13) were forbidden in the law of Moses. (Deut., xii., 23.) This injunction was a prudent measure for the present, destined to pass away, but made now to secure unity in the Church. It was felt that unless so much were retained there could not be peace between th Jewish and Gntile convrts. (1 Cor., viii., 13.) Th item on social purity was fundamental and abiding. Chastity was at that time unknown among the heathen. Miscellaneous cohabitation was practiced without censure by Roman officials in high station. Here Christianity utters its protest against immorality. It is worthy of comment that this restraint was not purely apostolic. It was declared to be by direction of the Holy Spirit.

Conclusion—Three points in the lesson may be named with emphasis. 1. The method of dete rmining conduct in the absence of specific Scriptural instruction. Consult other Christians who have been longer in the way, to whom the Spirit of God may be given in illumination (Prov., xi., 14), but refuse the words of itinerant zealots. 2. "Observe the radicalism of this letter—circumcision, absolution, the observance of days, the discrimination between clean and unclean things, together with the whole Jewish ritual, swept away." "Behold the freedom there is in Christ (Gal., v., 1), the simplicity of the Gospel. Religion consists wholly in heart and its tissues, not at all in any rite or ceremony, however long established. Nevertheless, Christian charity must not offend weak brethren. 3. The two branches of the Church—the Jewish Christian and the Gentile Christian—are in accord. Paul is indorsed by the Apostles who had seen Jesus. (II. Peter, iii., 15.) His subsequent writings bearing on the topic (Rom., iv., 8-12) have a rightful place in the canon of sacred Scripture.

(All who study these lessons are requested to send their names, post office address and denomination to the author, J. E. Gilbert, D. D., secretary of the American Society of Religious Education, at Washington, D. C., for enrolment.

Sunday Services.

Sunday Rogate: Gospel for the day, John, xvi., 23-30. Epistle for the day, James, i, 22-27. Ascension day on next Thursday, May 27.

BAPTIST.

CENTRAL CHURCH, South Fifth street and Marcy avenue, Brooklyn, E. D.—Rev. J. L. Ray, pastor. Morning sermon on "The Miracle of the Five Loaves;" evening sermon, "Glorified Childhood."

CENTRAL PARK CHURCH, East Eighty-third street, near Third avenue—Rev. H. M. Warren, D. D., pastor. Morning sermon, "God's Love to Us;" evening sermon, "God's Love to Us." Open air service on church steps at 7 p. m.

FIFTH AVENUE CHURCH, Forty-sixth street near Fifth avenue (Rev. William H. R. Faunce, D. D., pastor)—Sunday school, 9:30 a. m.; morning service, 11 a. m.; evening service, 7:45.

LEXINGTON AVENUE CHURCH, Lexington avenue and One Hundred and Eleventh st (Rev. J. L. Campbell, D. D., pastor)—10:30 a. m. Dr. Campbell on "Stewardship"; 7:45 p. m., "William Tyndale." Baptisms at Sunday evening service.

WASHINGTON HEIGHTS CHURCH, One Hundred and Forty-ninth street near Amsterdam avenue (Rev. B. B. Bosworth, D. D., pastor)—Preaching 10:30 a. m. and 8 p. m.; Sunday school, 11:45 a. m.; Christian Endeavor, 7:15 p. m. The topic at the morning service will be "Come and See."

CENTRAL CHURCH, Forty-second street, west of Seventh avenue (Rev. Frank M. Goodchild, D. D., Pastor)—Morning service, 11; evening service, 8. Morning sermon, "Home Memories"; evening, "Swearing." (The fourth discourse of a series on "Social Follies.")

ANTIOCH CHURCH, 136 West Thirty-second street—Morning sermon, beginning at 11 "Faith"; evening service, beginning at 7:45, "The Word of God"; prayer meeting Friday, at 7:45 p. m.; women's prayer meeting on Wednesday at 7:45 p. m.

EAST END CHURCH, Van Sicklen avenue near Glenmore avenue, Brooklyn (Rev. George H. Horne, pastor)—Text for sermon of morning service, beginning at 10:30, Romans II; evening sermon, "The Lord's Return."

FIRST SEVENTH DAY CHURCH, Room 3, Y. M. C. A. Building (Rev. J. G. Burdick, pastor)—Service this morning at 11 o'clock, subject, "Christ Our High Priest."

CALVARY CHURCH, West Fifty-seventh street, near Sixth avenue (Rev. Robert S. MacArthur, D. D., pastor)—Services, morning at 11, evening, at 8; Dr. MacArthur preaches at both services.

EPIPHANY CHURCH, Madison avenue and Sixty-fourth street—Preaching by the pastor, Rev. Dr. John T. Beckley, 11 a. m. and 4 p. m. Sunday school, 9:30 a. m. Prayer meeting Wednesday evening.

FIRST CHURCH, Seventy-ninth street and Boulevard (Rev. I. M. Haldeman, pastor)—Services 11 a. m. and 7:45 p. m. The pastor will preach at all services. Bible school at 9:45 a. m.

MADISON AVENUE CHURCH, corner Thirty-first street (the Rev. Henry M. Sanders, D. D., pastor)—Services at 11 a. m. and 4:30 in the afternoon. The pastor will preach at both services. Chapel service Wednesday, 8 p. m.

SIXTEENTH CHURCH, Sixteenth street, near Eighth avenue (A. W. H. Hodder, pastor)—Services 10:30 a. m., and 7:45 p. m.

NORTH CHURCH, West Eleventh street, near Waverley place; Rev. G. M. Sheth, pastor.—Morning topic, "Measuring Disciples;" evening, "Conversion of Lydia."

FULTON STREET CHAPEL, Fulton street, near Crescent Exposition; Rev. W. H. Hartigan, pastor.—Subject of morning sermon, "Atheism."

BEDFORD AVENUE CHURCH, Brooklyn, Bedford avenue, near Myrtle; Rev. S. Gifford Nelson, pastor.—The Perry Post, G. A. R., will attend the morning service in a body; morning topic, "Heroes of Faith;" evening, "What Jesus Said About Our Duty to God."

BERGEN STREET CHURCH, Bergen street, near Rochester, Brooklyn; Rev. L. Joseph Brown, D. D., pastor.—Morning topic at 10:30, "God's Love;" evening topic, "The Tree of Life."

WASHINGTON AVENUE CHURCH, Washington and Gates avenues; Rev. Frank M. Ellis, pastor.—Morning topic, "The Sympathy of Jesus for Man's Necessity."

CHURCH OF CHRIST (SCIENTIST).

METROPOLITAN THIRD CHURCH OF CHRIST, Scientist, No. 82 West One Hundred and Twenty-sixth street, near Lenox avenue. Services Sunday morning, 10:45; Sunday school, 12 m.; testimonial service, 8 p. m. Reading rooms, 217 West One Hundred and Twenty-fifth street, near Seventh avenue, open daily from 9 a. m. to 5 p. m.

WEST SIDE CHURCH OF CHRIST, Scientist, No. 459 Western Boulevard, near Eighty-second street. Service Sunday, 11 a. m. Testimonial meeting Friday, 8 p. m.

NEW YORK (SECOND) CHURCH OF CHRIST, Scientist, Madison avenue, corner One Hundred and Twenty-ninth street. Sunday morning, 10:45. Testimonial service Friday evening, at 8 o'clock at reading rooms, 96 Fifth avenue. Open daily, also on Sunday and Wednesday evenings.

FIRST CHURCH OF CHRIST, Scientist, Nos. 137-143 West Forty-eighth street, between Sixth and Seventh avenues. Services Sunday at 10:45 a. m. Friday evening, public testimonial service at 8 o'clock. Christian Science Reading Rooms in vestry open daily from 9 till 5.

EPISCOPAL.

ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST, Eleventh street and Waverley place, Rev. B. F. De Costa, D. D., pastor—Services daily at 9:30 a. m. and 4:30 p. m.; Sunday at 10:30 a. m. and 8 p. m. Special services for veterans on the eve of Decoration Day.

OUTDOOR STATION OF SEAMEN'S SOCIETY, Pier 6, East River, Rev. Isaac Maguire, pastor. Services, morning at 11 o'clock and afternoon at 3 o'clock. Reading room for sailors open daily from 8:30 a. m.

CHURCH OF THE HOLY CROSS, corner Avenue C and East Fourth street, Rev. James G. Cameron, pastor—Services Sunday morning at 7:30, 9 and 10:45; in the evening at 8 o'clock.

CHURCH OF THE REDEEMER, corner Park avenue and Eighty-second street. Rev. W. Everett Johnson, D. D., rector—Services 11 a. m. and 8 p. m.

CHURCH OF THE RECONCILIATION, 242 and 246 East Third street, Rev. James G. Lewis, D. D., pastor—Dr. Lewis will preach at 11 o'clock on "Ephemeral and Persistent Christianity Contrasted." In the evening the annual confirmation service will take place.

CHURCH OF THE BELOVED DISCIPLE, corner madison avenue and Eighty-ninth street, Rev. Henry W. Barbour, pastor—The rector preaches at the morning service, commencing at 11 o'clock. At the evening service Rev. John Asworth preaches on the Epistle of the day.

ENGLISE DU SAINT-ESPRIT, 30 and 32 West Twenty-second street, Rev. A. V. Wittmeyer, pastor—The pastor will preach at 10:30 a. m. and 8 p. m.

CHURCH OF THE INTERCESSION, Western Boulevard and One Hundred and Fifty-eighth street, Rev. Henry Dixon Jones, D. D., rector—Dr. Jones will preach at 11 o'clock and at 8 o'clock. Service and Bible study at 7:45 u. m. Friday.

ST. CHRYSOSTOM'S CHAPEL, Thirty-ninth street and Seventh avenue, Samuel S. Mitchel, curate—Rev. Canon Knowles will preach the sermon at 11 o'clock. Rev. Frank white will preach at 8 o'clock.

ST. MARK'S CHURCH, Tenth street and Second Avenue, Rev. A. Rylance, D. D., rector—The duties as vicar of the parish have been assigned to Rev. Walter E. Bentley, fomerly of Christ Church, Deposit, N. Y., who will preach at the morning service on "Fruits of the Harvest;" at the evening service, beginning at 8, on "Three Types of New Yorkers."

ALL SOULS' CHURCH, Madison avenue and Sixty-sixth street—Rev. R. Heber Newton will preach at 11 a. m. Evensong at 8, sermon by Rev. A. N. Henshaw.

CALVARY CHURCH, Fourth avenue and Twenty-first street, Rev. J. Lewis Parks, S. T. D., Rector—Sunday, May 23, holy communion, 8 and 10 a. m.; morning prayer and sermon, 11 a. m.; evening prayer, 5; choral service, with sermon, at 8 p. m. The rector will preach at both morning and evening services.

CHURCH OF THE HOLY SEPULCHRE, East Seventy-fourth street and Park avenue—Divine service at 11 a. m. and 8 p. m. The Rev. Dr. Hughes will preach at both services.

HOLY TRINITY CHURCH, Lenox avenue and One Hundred and Twenty-second street, Rev. Charles De Witt Bridgman, D. D., rector—Communion 10 a. m.; morning prayer and sermon, 11; Sunday school, 3 p. m.; evensong, 3:45; evening prayer and sermon, 7:45. The rector will preach in the morning and Rev. Alexander G. Cummins, Jr., in the evening.

CHURCH OF THE MESSIAH, Greene and Clinton avenues, Brooklyn, Rev. Charles R. Baker, pastor—Morning topic, "Dependence on God." Baptisms at 4 p. m.

ST. MARY'S CHURCH, Mott Haven, Alexander avenue, near One Hundred and Forty-second street, Rev. Joseph Reynolds, D. D., pastor—Sermons by the pastor, morning, "God's Love;" evening, "Man's Ingratitude."

ST. THOMAS'S CHURCH, Fifth avenue, near Fifty-third street, Rev. John W. Brown, D. D., rector—Services 8 and 11 a. m. and 4 p. m. Dr. Brown will preach at the regular morning service on the Gospel for the Rogate Sunday.

LUTHERAN.

CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY, Twenty-first street, near 6th avenue—Rev. C. Armand Miller, pastor. Morning topic, "The Prayer Life," and at the evening service, at 7:45, "Deceitful Gods."

ST. JAMES'S CHURCH, Madison avenue and Seventy-third street—Rev. J. B. Remensnyder, D. D., pastor. Morning topic, "What Is Life?" Evening, "The Providence of God."

ST. MATTHEWS'S CHURCH, Sixth avenue and Second street, Brooklyn—Rev. W. E. Main, pastor. Morning topic, "Doers of the Word." Evening, "The Beginning of Summer." Confirmation in this church on Whit Sunday.

FINNISH SEAHEN'S CHURCH, No. 53 Beaver street—Rev. V. K. Durchman, pastor. Services Sunday morning in Finnish and in the afternoon at 5:30 in Swedish.

ST. PETER'S CHURCH (GERMAN), Forty-sixth street and Lexington avenue, Rev. E. F. Mohldenke, D. D., and Rev. A. B. Mohldenke, pastors. Mornin topic, "James 1, 22-27;" evening, "Psalm 86."

CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY, Cumberland street, Brooklyn, near Lafayette avenue—Rev. A. Steimle, pastor. Services Sunday morning at 11 a. m. and evening at 7:45 p. m.

CHURCH OF THE ADVENT, No. 426 Columbus avenue—Rev. G. F. Krotel, D. D., LL. D, pastor. Dr. Krotel will preach at 11 a. m. Sunday-school at 9:30 a. m. No evening service.

METHODIST.

PERRY STREET CHURCH, Greenwich and Washington streets (Rev. Ely Quick, pastor)—At 10:45. Subject, "The Hearing Ear." In the evening the church will hold a rally, at which noted speakers will make addresses.

BEEKMAN HILL CHURCH, Fiftieth street, near Second avenue (Rev. D. W. Couch, D. D., pastor)—The pastor will preach on "Our Bible Society" at 10:45 a. m. and on "Mission School" in the evening.

NORTH NEW YORK CHURCH, Willis avenue and East One Hundred and Forty-first street (Rev. W. H. Barton, D. D., pastor)—During the erection of the new church services are being held in a tent on Brook avenue, between East One Hundred and Fortieth and One Hundred and Forty-first streets. Dr. Barton will preach at the morning and evening services.

CHURCH OF THE SAVIOUR, One Hundred and Ninth street, near Madison avenue (Rev. Fields Hennance, D. D., pastor)—Dr. Hennance will preach on "The Magi" at 10:45 a. m. and on "The Early Days" at 7:45 p. m.

CENTENARY CHURCH, Washington avenue and One Hundred and Sixty-sixth street (J. G. Oakley, D. D., pastor)—Rev. T. H. Baragwanath, of Yonkers, will exchange pulpits with the pastor.

FORTH-FOURTH STREET CHURCH, on Forty-fourth street, near Tenth avenue (Rev. W. F. Brush pastor)—Subject at 10:45 will be "The Christian Victory," and at the evening service, beginning at 7:45, the topic will be "Bridling the Tongue."

SIMPSON CHURCH, Brooklyn, Clermont and Willoughby avenue (Rev. J. O. Wilson, pastor)—Services: Morning at 10:30. In the evening the pastor will deliver the fourth sermon in a series on "Elisha."

SUMMERFIELD CHURCH, Washington and Greene avennes, Brooklyn (Rev. Herbert Welch, pastor)—The Rev. Arthur B. Sanford, D. D., assistant editor of the Methodist Review, will preach at the morning and evening services.

JANES'S CHURCH, Reid avenue and Monroe street, Brooklyn (Rev. J. E. Adams, pastor)—Morning service, 10:30. Subject, "Christian Duty in 1897." At the evening service beginning at 7:45, Miss Ruth Sites, formerly of China, will speak.

WASHINGTON SQUARE CHURCH, Fourth street, between the Square and Sixth avenue (Rev. W. F. Anderson, D. D., pastor)—Dr. Anderson will preach at the morning and evening services.

ST PAUL'S CHURCH, West End avenue and Eighty-sixth street (Rev. G. D. Eckman, pastor)—Preaching at 11 a. m. and 8 p. m. by pastor. Sunday-school at 3 p m. Prayer service Wednesday at 8 p. m.

UNION CHURCH, Forty-eighth street, west of Broadway (Rev. Clark Wright, D. D., pastor)—Services at 10:45 a. m. and 7:45 p. m. Earnest Workers' Bible Class, 9 a. m. Mr. John Beatty, leader.

HANSON PLACE CHURCH, Hanson place and St. Felix street, Brooklyn, Rev. C. L. Goodell, pastor—Service Sunday morning 10:30; subject, "The Mystery of Godliness." Evening, 7:45, first of series to young people, "The Story of an Old Book."

RUSSELL PLACE CHURCH, Herkimer street, near Saratoga avenue, Brooklyn, Rev. W. C. Stede, D. D., pastor—Morning service 10:30; subject, "The Strike and Its Lesson. Evening, 7:45; subject, "Saving Souls."

FIRST REFORMED EPISCOPAL CHURCH, Madison avenue, corner Fifty-seventh st, Rev. W. T. Sabine, D. D., pastor, Rev. R. L. Rudolph, assistant. Service at 11 a. m., 3:30 and 7:45 p. m. Strangers cordially welcome.

PRESBYTERIAN.

FIRST UNION CHURCH, Lexington avenue and Eighty-sixth street, Rev. W. R. Harsha, D. D., pastor—Services: Sunday morning, at 11; subject, "The Faithful Four;" evening, at 8; subject, "Man's Best Gift to the World."

ST. JAMES'S, Nos. 211 and 213 West Thirty-second street, Rev. P. Butler Tompkins, pastor—Dr. Tompkins will preach at the morning service, beginning at 11 o'clock, on "Hope in God;" Rev. Dr. Rawlins, of Richmond, Va., will lecture on "Gradual Revelation" at the evening service, beginning at 8 o'clock.

WEST END CHURCH, Amsterdam avenue and One Hundred and Fifth street, Rev. John Balcom Shaw, D. D., pastor—Celebrates tomorrow the tenth anniversary of the organization of the Sunday school. Dr. Shaw will preach the festival sermon in the morning at 11; Dr. H. T. McEwen will speak at the children's service in the afternoon, and Dr. James H. Hoadley, D. D., in the evening.

CALVARY CHURCH, Fifth avenue, near One Hundred and Sixteenth street, Rev. James Chambers, D. D., pastor—Morning, subject, "Young Womanhood;" evening, "A Burning Question."

MADISON SQUARE CHURCH, No. 9 Madison avenue, Rev. Charles H. Parkhurst, D. D., pastor—Services morning at 11, evening at 8.

WEST CHURCH, West Forty-second street, between Fifth and Sixth avenues, Rev. Anthony H. Evans, D. D., pastor—Services, morning at 11, evening at 8 o'clock; Sunday school at 9:45 a. m.

FIFTH AVENUE CHURCH, No. 708 Fifth avenue, Rev. John Hall, D. D., pastor—Services, morning and afternoon; no evening service.

WEST FORTY-FOURTH STREET UNITED CHURCH, No. 434 West Forty-fourth street, Rev. Homer H. Wallace, D. D, pastor—Morning topic, 10:45, "The Gospel Does What the Law Can't;" evening, at 7:45, "A Judgment Day Record in Which We Will Find Satisfaction."

ADAMS MEMORIAL CHURCH, Rev. Dr. Jesse F. Forbes, pastor—Preaching by the pastor at 10:30 a. m. and 7:30 p. m. Sabbath school at 9:15 a. m.

THE SCOTCH CHURCH, Ninety-sixth street and Central Park West, Rev. Dr. Wylie, pastor, preaches at 11 a. m. and 8 p. m. Sabbath school, 2:45 p. m. Christian Endeavor Society, 7 p. m. Prayer meeting Wednesday evening, 8.

PARK CHURCH, Eighty-sixth street and Amsterdam avenue, Rev. Anson P. Atterbury, D. D., pastor—Public worship at 11 a. m. and 8 p. m.; preaching by the pastor; Sunday school at 3 p. m.; prayer meeting Wednesday 8 p. m.

FIRST UNITED CHURCH, Thirty-fourth street, Seventh and Eighth avenues—Preaching by pastor, Rev. T. W. Anderson, D. D.; morning, 11; evening, 7:45.

FOURTH AVENUE CHURCH, corner Twenty-second street, Rev. John R. Davies, D. D., pastor—Public worship at 11 a. m. and 8 p. m.; pastor will preach at each service; Wednesday evening, prayer meeting at 8.

FOURTH CHURCH, West End avenue and Ninety-first street, Rev. Joseph R. Kerr, D. D., pastor—Services at 11 a. m. and 8 p. m.; Sabbath school, 3 p. m.; Wednesday evening meeting at 8 o'clock.

CENTRAL CHURCH, West Fifty-seventh street, between Broadway and Seventh avenue—Rev. Wilton Merle Smith, D. D., pastor, will preach at 11 a. m. and 7:45 p. m.; Sabbath school at 3; Christian Endeavor, Monday, 8 p. m.; devotional meeting Wednesday at 8 p. m.

PARK CHURCH, Eighty-sixth street and Amsterdam avenue, Rev. Anson P. Atterbury, pastor—Service Sunday morning 11 a. m., evening 8 p. m. Rev. George W. Knox will preach.

FIRST REFORMED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (Covenanters), One Hundred and Twenty-fifth street, between Sixth and Seventh avenues, Rev. James D. Steele, Ph. D., pastor. Services at 11 a. m. and 4 p. m. Rev. Alexander Allson, D. D., of Yonkers, will preach.

UNIVERSALIST.

CHURCH OF OUR FATHER, Grand avenue and Lefferts place, Brooklyn—Lewis Edwin Pease, D. D., pastor. Service in the morning only, at 10:45; topic, "Our Possessions."

MOUNT VERNON UNIVERSALIST CHURCH—The Rev. Augusta J. Chapin, D. D., will preach at 11 a. m.; topic, "The Allegory of Eden."

UNITARIAN.

AT LENOX AVENUE UNITARIAN CHURCH, corner of One Hundred and Twenty-first street, Rev. Merle St. C. Wright, pastor, will preach at 11 a. m.; subject, "Nature and the Supernatural." Sunday school at 9:45 a. m. The distinuished Buddhist, Dharmapala, will speak at 8 p. m. on "The Buddhist Idea of Immotality." All welcome.

REFORMED.

MOTT HAVEN CHURCH, Third avenue and One Hundred and Forty-sixth street—Rev. G. Edwin Talmage, pastor. Morning subject, "Temptation." Sunday-school at 9:45 a. m. and 2:30 p. m.

BETHANY CHURCH, 235 East One Hundred and Ninth street, Rev. Paul Sommerlatte, pastor—Service Sunday morning 10:30; subject, "Preaching of the Gospel." Evening, 7:30.

MISCELLANEOUS.

CHURCH OF THE STRANGERS, Mercer street, near Eighth street, Rev. D. Ass Blackburn, pastor—Dr. John McNeill will preach in the evening. Morning sermon by the pastor on "Ingratitude."

SALVATION ARMY, No. 1 CORPS, 122 West Fourteenth street—Sunday morning holiness meeting, Evening, 8 p. m.; subject, "Heaven: Its Geography, Location."

VOLUNTEERS OF AMERICA, Volunteers' Armory, Concord and Fulton streets, Brooklyn—Sunday morning, consecration service; evening, evangelistic service. Conducted by Colonel Pattie Watkins Lindsay, of Central Regiment.

REV. JOHN M'NEILL preaches in CARNEGIE HALL, Fifty-seventh street and Seventh avenue, Sunday, May 23, at 4 p. m.; Ira D. Sankey and George C. Stebbins sing. Mr. McNeill also preaches at 8 p. m. in CHURCH OF STRANGERS, Mercer, near Eighth street, and in COOPER UNION, Monday, at 3 p. m., his farewell service in New York. Next week Mr. McNeill will preach and George C. Stebbins will sing in Brooklyn, on Monday evening at 8 o'clock in HANSON PLACE BAPTIST CHURCH, corner South Portland avenue and Hanson place; on Tuesday evening in SECOND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, Remsen and Clinton streets; on Wednesday and Thursday evenings in LAFAYETTE AVENUE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, corner South Oxfordstreet and Lafayette avenue.

ASSOCIATION HALL, Twenty-third street and Fourth avenue. Sunday, 3:45 p. m., address by Mr. Richard L. Purdy, of the Bank for Savings. Special music by Mr. Fred Gillette, bass soloist. Men invited.

FIVE POINTS HOUSE OF INDUSTRY, 155 Worth street, William F. Barnard, superintendent. Service of song on Sunday at 3:30 p. m. Singing by the choir of children of the institution. Public cordially invited. Donations of clothing and shoes solicited.

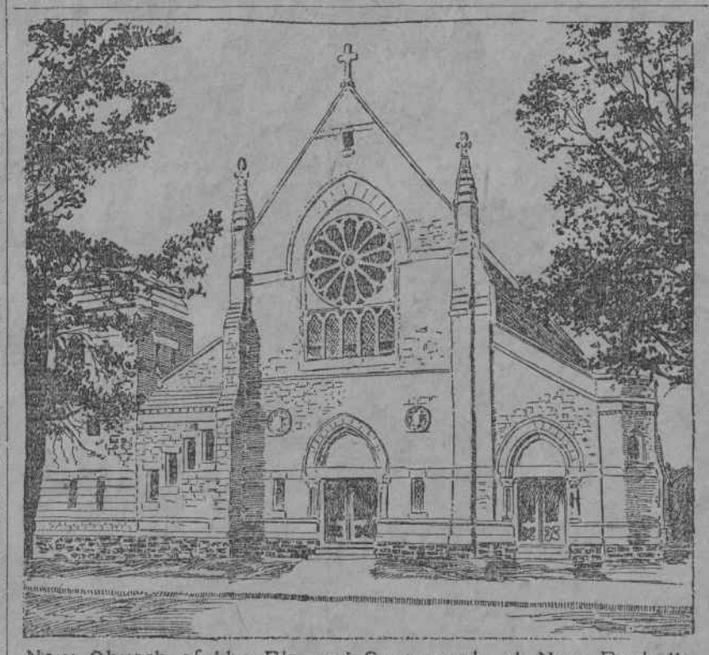
GOSPEL TABERNACLE CHURCH, Eighth avenue and Forty-fourth street. Rev. A. B. Simpson, pastor, will preach Sunday at 10:30 a. m. Evangelistic services at 7:30 p. m. Week night services 8 o'clock.

NEW YORK PORT SOCIETY, MARINERS' CHURCH, corner Madison and Catharine streets, Rev. Samuel Roult, pastor. Sunday services, 9:30 and 10:45 a. m. and 2:30 and 7:15 p. m. Meetings every day at 10 a. m. and 7:30 p. m. Services at West Side Branch, 128 Charlton street, Sunday, Tuesday and Thursday at 7:30 p. m.

SPIRITUAL AND ETHICAL SOCIETY, Adelphi Hall, Broadway and Fifty-second street, Mrs. H. T. Brigham, inspirational speaker, will answer questions in the morning. Evening, memorial address. Members and friends of the G. A. R. especially invited. Good music. All seats free.

REFORMED CATHOLIC.

REFORMED CATHOLIC—Services in Christ's Mission, No. 142 West Twenty-first street. Evening, 7:45, Rev. James A. O'Connor, pastor, conducts the service. Address by a distinguished lady on "The Experiences of a Christian Life." All invited.



New Church of the Blessed Sacrament. at New Rochelle.

THE new edifice of the Church of the Blessed Sacrament, at New Rochelle, is al but completed and will be dedicated next month. As told in the Journal last Summer, Father cLoughlin's flock had become divided, and even the wealthy ones belonging to the remaining remnant of the congregation refused to give him that financial aid which he deemed necessary. The church is built of the marble which formerly composed the Park Avenue Presbyterian Church, at Twenty-third street, New York City. It is the largest edifice of the kind in Westchester County. Its length is 160 feet, width 90 feet, height to peak 60 feet. The tower is not completed in height, which is to be 190 feet. It is 25 feet square, and is now 50 feet high. The floring of Georgia pine has been laid, and the 200 pews are being put in place. These wil give a seating capacity of 1,000.

The three altars will be built of wood for the dedication ceremonies, and the altar decorations taken from the old chapel next door, where the parishioners now worship.

The church has so far cost $60,000, and it is thought about $40,000 more will be used upon it, before the tower and grand altar and grand organ shall be put in place.

Among the Catholics.

The Preacher this morning in St. Patrick's Cathedral will be the Rev. P. Daly.

The Very Rev. Thomas O'Donoghue, C. M., has opened a two weeks' mission in St. Raphael's Church, Bilasville, Long Island City.

The Rev. M. J. Conway, of the Fathers of Mercy, formerly of St. Francis de Sales's, has been assigned to St. Vincent de Paul's, New York.

The Dominican Fathers opened missions on last Sunday in the following places: Pawtucket, R. I.; Lowell, Mass.; Dorchester, Mass.; Fremont, N. Y., and Philadelphia, Pa.

For the past two weeks the members of the Redemptorist parish, Brooklyn, have been busily engaged preparing for a bazaar, which they propose to hold some time during the month of June.

The new marble altar of St. Augustine's Church, on Sixth avenue and Sterling place, Brooklyn, was consecrated on Thursday, Mgr. Martinelli, the Apostolic Delegate, performing the ceremony.

On Saturday the children of the Cathedarl will receive their First Holy Communion and Confirmation. The Communion Mass will begin at 8 o'clock. The preparatory retreat will commence on Wednesday.

Interest in the coming four days' celebration in honor of the thirteenth centenary of the death of St. Columbkille is rapidly growing, and it is expected that the parade on June 9 of the Irish Catholic societies of this city will be one worthy of the occasion.

At St. Alphonsus's Church, West Broadway, this (Sunday) evening, a sermon will be delivered by the Rev. James L. O'Neill, C. P., on the devotion of the Holy Rosary. The contributions for the Jubilee Fund for the decoration of this church amount to $1,813.42.

On Thursday, the feast of the Ascension, the High Mass will be celebrated at 10 o'clock in St. Patrick's Cathedral. Vespers will be sung at 8 o'clock in the evening, and will be followed by a sermon and the semi-annual reception of the Sodality of the Children of Mary.

The fiftieth anniversary of the College of St. Francis Xavier, in West Sixteenth street, will be celebrated during the week beginning June 13 next, with a series of elaborate ceremonies and entertainments. The arrangements for the celebration are under the direction of the Rev. Thomas E. Murphy, S. J. president of the college.

Rev. J. F. X. O'Connor, S. J., will deliver his new illustrated lecture, "The Prince of Peace," in St. Francis Xavier's College theatre, No. 40 West Sixteenth street, on Tuesday evening. The lecture is to be given under the auspices of the Young Ladies' Sodality for the benefit of the parochial schools.

The annual meeting of the directors of the Catholic Missionary Union will take place in the early part of June. Archbishops Corrigan and Ryan, Father Dyer, of St. Joseph's Seminary, and Father Taylor, together with Father Doyle and Father Elliott, will mark out plans for the extension of the work during the year to come.

At 6 o'clock on Monday morning Archbishop Corrigan will officiate at the solemn consecration of the chapel of the Sisters of the Divine Compassion at Good Counsel Farm, White Plains. Bishop Farley will be the celebrant of the pontifical mass at 10:30 a. m., at which the Rev. William O'Brien Pardow, S. J., will preach. There will be vespers at 4 p. m.

General O'Blerne's lecture on "The Poor of New York," in St. Patrick's Cathedral, last Tuesday evening, was attended by a larger audience if possible, and more enthusiastic than that which had greeted Father Daly the week before. This week Mme. Lemcke will give her lecture on "Cooking," and next week the course will be brought to a conclusion by Mrs. Darling with a discourse on "The Philosophy of Singing."

The St. Regis House, which includes the Convent of Our Lady of the Cenacle, One Hundred and Fortieth street and the Hudson River, was recently incorporated. It is to provide a place where women may temporarily retire for the purpose of entering into a spiritual retreat, devoting themselves to prayer and meditation. The incorporators are Marie N. Hoguet, Marie Salembier, Jennie Bachelard, Susana Connery and Bertha Salembier, of this city.

The Catholic Summer School, the organization of which is under the direction of Rev. John Talbot Smith, the well-known author, promises to be a great success. Monday night a public meeting will be held in the Knickerbocker Theatre. Among the speakers will be Judge Daly, of the Supreme Court; Judge Fitzgerald, of the Court of General Sessions; Mr. O'Brien, assistant superintendent of public schools, and the very Rev. Dr. Conaty, rector of the Catholic University of America.

Five rectors of New York churches will celebrate this week the twenty-fifth anniversary of their ordination. On May 25, 1872, the Right Rev. Bishop McNeirny ordained a class of young men in St. Joseph's Seminary, Troy, and among them were the Rev. John J. Keegan, pastor of the Church of St. Thomas the Apostle, West One Hundred and Eighteenth street; the Rev. John McQuirk, LL.D., rector of St. Paul's Church, East One Hundred and Seventeenth street; the Rev. James Flood, rector of the Church of St. John the Evangelist, East Fifty-fifth street; the Rev. John F. Lynch, of the House of Reception, No. 415 Broome street; the Rev. Ignatius M. Delveaux, of St. Boniface's Church; the Rev. William J. O'Kelly, of the Church of Our Lady of Good Counsel, and the Rev. Henry J. Gordon, pastor of the Church of St. Charles Borromeo, West One Hundred and Forty-second street. Each of these priests came on the same day to New York.

Among the Israelites.

Services in memory of the late Dr. Alexander Kohut will be held in the Jewish Theological Seminary, on Lexington avenue, at 3:30 p. m. to-day. Addresses will be delivered by Mr. Joseph Blumenthal and Rev. Dr. David Davidson.

Rabbi S. H. Sonneschein preaches in English this morning on "A Golden Text for Charity."

Rev. Dr. Joseph Silverman will preach today at Temple Emanuel, on Fifth avenue.

"The Zion Movement" will be the subject of Dr. R. Grossman's sermon at Temple Rodef Sholom to-day.

Religious News in Brief.

The Swedenborgians are holding a convention in St. Louis.

The proposed congress of religions in connection with the world's exposition to be held in Paris in 1900 has