

Cutting the ice however was similar to writing upon the sand, for the king of coldness was near, even nipping the fingers and toes of the workmen now and then, and they were no sooner gone, than the ice grew again and the snow fell, and covered all as it is to-day. Yesterday morning we marched around the avenue for exercise with the mercury 6° below zero. It has been colder for a few days at a time, but not as a general thing, and should anyone ask how we stood the cold wave that struck Boston, you may say we only heard of it through the newspapers.

There have been so many concerts and lectures for our entertainment this term that it is hard to know which to speak of first. Perhaps you will be interested in hearing of Mrs. Joseph Cook's informal talks about her two years tour in Europe, from which as you know, she and her husband returned a few months ago.

Her talks have been given in the chapel to the whole school on Fridays at 2:5 P. M., instead of the usual Bible lessons at that hour. Mrs. Cook is very tall and though not handsome has a smile that makes her face radiant and one of the sweetest voices in the world. Her hair is almost white, perhaps from ill health as she is still young looking and she dresses very quietly in black. In the beginning she reminded us that there was only one public speaker in the family, and she was not that one. She then took us immediately to Athens where we ate Thanksgiving dinner with her upon the Acropolis and while we tasted the honey of Hy-mettus she pointed out the place where Paul stood preaching to the Athenians, and afterward descended to Dr. Schliemann's beautiful marble house, where we met his interesting family and talked of excavations and the certainty of the Trojan war. This occupied the hour on two Friday's and in the meantime, Prof. Leotsakos gave us a lecture with dissolving views on ancient and modern Athens, so that we could the easier follow her in her in her rambles. Prof. Leotsakos is an Athenian and a graduate of the University of Athens; he has been five or six years in this country connected with a school in Worcester and the Summer school at Amherst. His English was very broken, but he appeared perfectly happy when rehearsing from a play of Sophocles. Mrs. Cook next

told us of their trials on the voyage from Athens to Alexandria. It was very amusing to hear her tell of Mr. Cook's anger when he found some grand Turk had taken all the first-class accommodations on the steamer with his harem of twenty wives and retinue, while it was with the greatest trouble that they at last secured a cabin. The landing at Joppa was exciting as the waves ran high and the picture drawn from the night ride from Joppa to Jerusalem was vivid and made memorable by the total eclipse of the moon as they rode over the sandy plains. The natives said "the moon was sick."

They were sometime at Jerusalem, and walking about Bethlehem, one day they entered a dwelling and she sat down with the woman at her mill that she might know what it would be like for "two women to be grinding at a mill." She gave too, a touching scene of the Jewish pilgrims outside the walls of Jerusalem, chanting the Lamentations of Jeremiah and certain Psalms, bewailing the fall of the Temple. She is going to take us next to the Pyramids and then to India. Dr. Duryea is giving a very interesting series of Tuesday evening lectures on Evidences of Christianity. Last night waxing warm against Agnosticism and other theories as fanciful, he said, "If you are skeptical, go home and exercise your knuckles on the ripples of a washboard and you'll find there is something real in life."

You would enjoy, too, Prof. Niles lectures on Geology especially the one he gave with views on the Peaks and Passes of the Alps. He spoke of his teacher Prof. Agassiz, exploring the Alps, and gave much of his own experience among the mountains, where the frost builders are still at work, and this fact of the frost building mountains, and tearing them down is constantly dwelt upon by the lecturer.

Last Monday evening there was a song recital by Mrs. Humphrey-Allen, of Boston. If I repeated what I heard around me, it would be, "she wore a magnificent white satin dress, and sang like an angel," and she did. It was very hard to come back to earth and find we were common mortals still, after listening for an hour to such an exquisite voice.

Botany grows more interesting every day. We have finished germination and are beginning the study of flowers as a harbinger of

the coming spring. Perhaps there will be something pleasant to tell you after we have visited the display of orchids in the Hunnewell greenhouses.

Do you have any fences in Oregon, and if so do the grizzly bears lift the gate latch and walk in, and do you sit at your back doors and practice archery on the wild Indians as they go by?

MARY STUMP.

Letter from Bro. C. H. Hodges:

GLENCOE, OR., Feb. 26, 1883.

J. F. Floyd:

DEAR BRO.—I came to this place six months ago, having been engaged as teacher in the public school; found a few members of the Christian church at Shady Brook, two miles from here.

I at once put in my church letter with them, and commenced laboring in the cause of the Master, and found my congregation made up of people belonging to various denominations, Adventists, Baptists, and some who claimed to belong to the Church of Christ (or Advent Christians), some United Brethren, Presbyterians and Methodists. None of these were strong enough to form an organization of themselves.

I commenced in a very humble way to preach the simple truths of the Gospel to them, advocating Christian union on the platform of the Bible alone.

On Sunday last we all had the pleasure of seeing many of these discordant elements (the immersion portion), united on the following conditions viz:

1. That we call our body by no other name except the Church of Christ, or Church of God.
2. That we receive as members all persons who believe that Jesus is the Christ the Son of God and have obeyed his commandments.
3. That we take the Bible as our only rule of faith and practice in life, discarding all creeds and doctrines of men.

We had a good meeting. A very large number of Christians were present and favored the union. The very best of feeling prevailed. The spirit of the Master was in the hearts of all his followers. It was an occasion that all will look back to with joy and pride. We meet the third Lord's day of next month to elect officers.

Thus the Lord's work moves quietly on "to conquer and to conquest."

Your brother in the Lord,
C. H. HODGES.

Letter from Sister Hawes.

EDGECOMB, KANSAS,

Feb. 17, 1883.

Dear Bro. Floyd:

We have been having a very interesting meeting here. Bro. J. J. Henry did the preaching. He organized a church of twenty-eight members, fifteen of whom had never been members of the Church of Christ. P. J. Hawes preached last Lord's day.

Yours in Christ,
GRACIE HAWES.

Letter from Bro. Craigie Sharp.

PORTLAND, OR., Feb. 26, 1883.

J. F. Floyd:

DEAR BRO.—I was at Farmington, W. T., a week ago, and met with the brethren there. They have no house at present, but hope to be able after a while to build one or buy. They now meet in the M. E. house. They are working hard to build up the cause on the sure foundation of Apostles, Prophets, Jesus Christ being the chief corner stone. Bro. Morgan preaches for them once a month. Bro. Jackson, formerly of Eugene, Oregon, has just been elected one of their elders, and the cause now looks bright. But there is a good opening in Farmington for a brother who would engage in the furniture business, as it is a young and growing town with rich farming country around it. Any brother wishing to locate in this country will find the brethren ready to receive them with outstretched hands and warm hearts in the cause of our Master.

Yours fraternally,
CRAIGIE SHARP.

The late A. T. Stewart was one of the wealthiest men in the United States when he died, and yet he was not allowed to find even a quiet resting-place for his body. Though he possessed millions in life, when death came he was powerless to own his own grave. His body was stolen, and even now it is not certain it has been restored. After all, it is better to be rich in faith and good works; then we may know "how to abound and how to suffer need," and "in whatsoever state we are therewith to be content."—*Commonwealth*.

Civility is in itself a fortune, for a courteous man always succeeds in life, even when persons of greater ability sometimes fail.