

spire, which is of stone, reaches a height of ninety-nine feet, its graceful appearance being partly due to its octagonal form. As might be supposed, the parochial records, which are preserved in the vestry, show some odd and curious entries. Among the financial items of a certain year of the eighteenth century there appears an account for ten shillings as stipend paid to an official who was known as the "dog-whipper," and whose duty was to drive all dogs out of the sacred building. This entry accords with the statement of an ecclesiastical historian to the effect that Archbishop Laud enacted that the spaces between the pillars supporting the chancel rail in every church within his jurisdiction were to be sufficiently narrow to prevent dogs from entering the altar sanctuary.

In this church I preached both morning and afternoon. The attendance was not as large as the rector had hoped, but the showery nature of the weather was sufficient to account for the absence of some of the parishioners. Indeed, many of the rural people of this part of England were greatly discouraged at this time, much of the cut and bound grain being still in the fields in a wet and damaged condition. Much interest in the subject of missionary work in Canada was, however, shown by the congregations at St. Michael's on this day, and liberal offerings were given for the maintenance and extension of S.P.G. work.

Leaving the kind rector of Aughton and his family immediately after the second service, with a promise to return at an early date and enjoy their proffered hospitality again, I proceeded by cab to Seaforth, a suburb of Liverpool, and preached in the parish church to a congregation of five hundred. After the service one of the churchwardens brought the contents of his S.P.G. mite chest, amounting to \$115; and added the sum to the offertory collection. This large contribution was no more than the gentleman had on several previous annual occasions presented as the result of his systematic self-denial. "A rich man," my readers are perhaps inclined to say. That may be true, and yet how few rich men give so liberally or so unostentatiously!

In the cathedral city the annual diocesan meetings of the S.P.G. were held on the following day, the Lord Mayor presiding at one, the Lord Bishop at another. The afternoon meeting was held with a view to enlist the sympathy of the mercantile and commercial men of the city, many of whom, leaving their offices and warerooms, cheerfully devoted more than an hour to the consideration of a subject that generally has few charms or attractions for those engaged in purely secular vocations. Among the frequenters of the mart and the exchange in this haven for ships there were thus found not a few who, while accustomed to observe the apostolic precept "not slothful in

business," were mindful also of the two accompanying counsels, "earnest in spirit, serving the Lord." The evening meeting was for the accommodation of the general public. On this occasion one of the speakers was the Earl of Stamford, a gentleman who proved by the character of the sentiments which he expressed that the designation "nobleman" was not to him inaptly applied; for only from a noble mind could such excellent sentiments have been evolved. He seemed to have realized the justness of Tennyson's test: "'Tis only noble to be good."

On two evenings during this week I had an opportunity of using lantern and slides. At Lathom, where this method of illustration had not been announced, the attendance was not remarkable; but in the Sunday-school building of St. Paul's Church, Prince's Park, Liverpool, the parishioners, notified on the previous Sunday by their clergyman, assembled in strong force. Eyes and ears were equally engaged in receiving the message of the deputation. Much surprise was expressed at the contrast between the Indian convert and his heathen fellow-tribesmen, as well as at the sublimity of the scenery in western Canada. Many of the pictures were quite new to both old and young. Canada and the Church's work in Canada seemed to excite the liveliest possible interest. At the close of the meeting the rector and not a few of the congregation lingered to thank the deputation for the double profit received. I already felt rewarded for the labor and time expended in making the journey through the prairies and rocky regions of the Dominion, and in obtaining views on track and trail, and in camp, shack, and school.

The following Sunday was partly spent with the aged rector of All Hallows' Church, Allerton, another suburb of the great city. The congregation was not large, but the collection was satisfactory. Including a single offering of \$100, the amount was no less than \$160.14. In the afternoon I returned to Liverpool, and took the tram-car for the old church of Walton, in which in the evening I addressed a congregation of seven hundred, and obtained for the society \$29.60. This church, like that at Seaforth, was in the midst of a hard-working population of mechanics; but, unlike Seaforth church, it had not one wealthy attendant. Hence the collection was in proportion to the congregation, small. Many of the offerings were pennies, some were shillings, none were sovereigns. The experience of deputation speakers with whom I have since conversed seems to accord with that which I had now already gained. The common opinion is that the S.P.G. receives annually a vast number of small offerings and comparatively few large gifts. Some of its supporters are among the poor of this world. These give willingly the