

The fairies stood in silent trance. Young Puck
 Bounded in air, and through the forest glades
 Tinkled his laugh. "The Spirit of All Time
 Rules, and shall rule, the Spirit of the Day.
 The fairies live in beauty and in truth."
 Thrice did he skip, and down a sunny path,
 Aisle with slow-dropping gold and silver fumed,
 He shot like arrow and was seen no more.

Slowly I rose and turned towards the king;
 But as I spoke a mist fell on my eyes,
 And ere I saw again the empty sword
 Once more the Voice was heard within my soul:

*"Ah, but the sparkle falls, quenchless and true:
 Find it, ye fools!
 'Tis all the void will leave, let it leave you—
 Else are ye tools.*

*"Out in the sunshine, the shadows are past:
 See! how life springs!
 Soon will they lengthen, for ever to last:
 Fold not your wings."*

Students' Missionary Conference.

THE Fourth Annual Students' Missionary Conference has come and gone; the much-beribboned delegates have gone back to their own happy hunting grounds, and Grant Hall—after its amazing burst of reckless festivities—is relapsing once more into its accustomed soberness.

Has the Conference been a success? How can it compare with previous conferences? Had the programme all the elements of weight and balance and inspiration which constitute a really efficient missionary conference?

In attempting to answer these questions one finds it difficult to eliminate the personal equation and arrive at even approximate truth. But we can at least say what we think about some of the general impressions made upon the minds of some of our students.

Perhaps one secret of the success of these student conferences is the cumulative effect of a constant stream of facts pouring into minds alive to the compelling power of just such bare, naked, soul-wringing facts. In the conference we had short, swift glimpses into this land of fact. We saw, as in a glass, darkly, the enormity of the world's need. But there were tremendous gaps in the revelation. Perhaps the time was too short for extensive journeys throughout the great divisions of the world's mission field, but we ought to have had Africa represented by at least one missionary, and the menace of Mohammedanism ought to have been emphasized much more than it was by any of the speakers.