The Tendency of the Times.

"The tendency just now," continued Dr. Campbell, "is not to attach much importance to doctrinal truths, but rather to appeal to one or two of the Principles of the Gospel. Now, so far as I am concerned, I want to have the whole round Gospel taught. For instance, it is quite common in evan-Relistic meetings for speakers to appeal to people who know not the Scriptures—who know not the Jesus Christ of the Gospels—telling them to believe on Jesus Christ and they will be saved. Now, I consider that that is not preaching the Gospel; they must inform those to whom they preach who Jesus Christ was; they must convey at least what is stated in the Apostles' Creed.

"There is a failure in this respect in much of the evangelistic preaching of today, and I consider it perilous. Because, what have you? You have the mere imagination of the people appealed to, and they form their own conception of Jesus Christ, without their knowing who Jesus Christ was. Now, the Apostles when they preached, preached Jesus as the Christ. That is, they appealed to the Scriptures of the old time to find that He corresponded to the Scriptures of the old time: and it was because they found that he corresponded to the personage described at large in the Old Testament that they believed in Him. They believed in the historic Christ. I cannot but hold that those who appeal to people to believe in a Christ whom they do not describe are fostering idolatry. That is high ground, but I believe that it is safe ground. It is perilous for people to be taught to believe in a Saviour of their own imagination instead of in a Saviour such as is described in the New Testament. Paul insisted upon it that He was the VERY Christ, and on that ground He was to be believed in. The historic Jesus is the Christ to be believed innot a creature of the imagination of the person appealed to."

In further reference to that defect, Dr. Campbell said: "It was not so with Moody, nor with Torry. Moody taught the true Gospel; he enlarged upon the historic Christ as the Saviour."



"All which I took from thee I did but take,

Not for thy harms,

But just that thou might'st seek it in My arms.

All which thy child's mistake Fancies as lost, I have stored for thee at home:

Rise, clasp My hand, and come."

Halts by me that footfall:

Is my gloom, after all,

Shade of His hand, outstretched caressingly?

"Ah, fondest, blindest, weakest,

I am He whom thou seekest!

Thou dravest love from thee, who dravest Me."

From "The Hound of Heaven."