

THE
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THROUGH THE UNIVERSITY—
AND AFTER!

CONVOCATION Day at the University must be a great day for those who have won their way to scholarly distinction and are anticipating degrees and prizes; and it must be a rather sad day for those who have to take their places among the "plucked." But there are charms for an outsider in Convocation Hall, as well as for those gowned and hooded gentlemen who looked so profoundly learned and so exceedingly uncomfortable in their Academic robes. It is a goodly and a pleasant sight, this crowd of young men in the eager excitement of their great red-letter day. And when from many a lusty throat there came loud declaration of the goodness of the fellow, who was the "chiefest scholar of the year," the enthusiasm became contagious, and we almost forgot

"We were growing o'd
And our locks were turning gray."

A goodly sight indeed! These young men are the flower and promise of our land, and the largest hope of our time. The State and the Church and the homes of Canada have vested interest in these men. And above all things the Church should have a large place for them in her tenderest solitudes and prayers. Our thought is especially of those who have completed their course of training and now stand face to face with the august and magnificent possibilities of life. These graduates of whom we are proud, and who themselves have a right (especially in these days of confused honours) to be proud of laurels honestly won before worn; let us make these young men aware that we are not only proud of their triumphs, but hopeful and deeply concerned for the life that lies before them. The faithful plodding toils of college years are pledges of what they may make of life if they will. While fathers and mothers and friends are congratulating them let them not miss the warm grasp of a pastor's hand. Let them feel that the Church as well as the ministry and the home, looks on with hopeful eyes. For the Church needs these young men, and these young men need the Church. They are the material out of which, by God's grace, the pillars of the Church must be carved. For them the Church has many a glorious message. The God who met the young King in Gibeon and said, "ask what I shall give thee," and gave Solomon in answer to his prayer an understanding heart to do his royal work, is still the God of young men, and asks the same question, "What shall I give thee?" and for the most part these young men will get what they ask for. Through the University—and after! If these lines meet a student's eye,

may the writer suggest that these happy days of pilgrimage are not the end, even though they be crowned with medal and diploma. They are but the pathway that leads to the golden gate of life. And life, the richest, the noblest, the best, is life in Jesus Christ.

REV. C. H. SPURGEON.

THE silver wedding of this eminent clergyman, or rather the celebration of his pastorate that has now reached a quarter of a century, took place last month in the Tabernacle Church. The sum of well-nigh \$30,000 was presented to Mr. Spurgeon as a token of the affectionate regard entertained for him by an immense circle of friends. This amount was made of innumerable contributions, ranging all the way between half a cent and twelve hundred and fifty dollars, thus bringing to light that the widow's mite, and the poor man's offering, as well as the donations of the rich, went to the overflowing of Mr. Spurgeon's cup of blessing. But like David, when his three valliant warriors broke through the ranks of the enemy and risked their lives in order to bring their king a cup of the pure water of the well of Bethlehem, who, refusing to drink water that was made precious by the readiness of these men to sacrifice their lives for it, poured it out as an offering unto the Lord; this minister of Christ would not accept one dollar of the gift of his people for himself, but gave it all to the Lord. It is said that Mr. Spurgeon gives all he can save from his vast income to the cause of Christ. What a blessing to the world is such an example! In presence of it, the infidel has to hide his face in very shame. It is Christ-like, and by such a spirit as when the Saviour was upon our earth, the poor and suffering, the erring and sinful become beneficiaries of the Friend of friends.

Mr. Spurgeon is well entitled to the honours which have been so freely accorded to him by a cloud of witnesses. During a quarter of a century, he has stood in front of the battle between truth and infidelity, between Christ and the devil. He has drawn the multitude not by sensation, but by sound and faithful preaching of the Gospel. His sermons, originally delivered to the thousands who meet in the Tabernacle, have gone forth in printed form to countless thousands over the world. His contributions as an expositor, are exceedingly valuable. His work as a philanthropist is far reaching and beyond estimation. His duties as a teacher and trainer of candidates for the ministry, have been of a very multifarious and onerous nature. Spurgeon cannot be fully known and esteemed at his proper value by his contemporaries. He will be far greater after he has gone to his reward than he is to-day. To future theologians and active ministers and aspiring students, he will be a better study than Whitfield is to us. But while this is the case, it is most gratifying that such a great

and good man is so far understood and appreciated as to call forth the recognition of his services which has just been rendered with so much enthusiasm. It is the universal desire that Mr. Spurgeon be long spared to render still greater service to the cause which he has so much at heart.

ORDINATION OF MR. W. EWING, B.A., TO
THE WORK IN MANITOBA.

On the evening of 27th May last, in Zion Church, Montreal, W. Ewing, B.A., was solemnly ordained to the work of the Christian ministry in Manitoba. The Rev. Dr. Wilkes occupied the chair, and was supported by the Rev. Prof. Fenwick, J. F. Stevenson, LL.B., A. J. Bray, J. L. Forster, and Geo. Wells (American Presbyterian.)

Rev. J. L. Forster conducted the devotional exercises, after which the chairman stated that Mr. Ewing had successfully passed through his college course, having taken his B.A. last year in McGill and the Calvary Silver Medal for Historic Theology in our own College this spring; and further, that after earnest prayer and deliberation, he had determined to give himself to the work of the ministry in Manitoba, and it was for the purpose of setting him apart to this work that they were assembled together.

The chairman then called upon Mr. Ewing to read his doctrinal statements which were marked by clearness and independence of thought, and showed that Mr. Ewing had sympathetically examined the great questions of the day. The statements being satisfactory, the chairman called on the Rev. A. J. Bray, who spoke a few kindly words on the work in Manitoba, and wishing Mr. Ewing Godspeed, offered the ordination prayer.

The Rev. Prof. Fenwick then delivered the charge to the newly ordained minister, setting forth the characteristics of a good minister of Jesus Christ and affectionately urging him to give full proof of his ministry.

The Rev. J. F. Stevenson, LL.B., followed, speaking of the blessedness of self-denying missionary labours, and after him Rev. Geo. Wells of the American Presbyterian Church, referring to his own experience of Western frontier life, spoke words of cheer to Mr. Ewing and in a most affectionate manner gave him the right hand of fellowship.

The service, which was throughout most solemn and impressive, was concluded by the Rev. W. Ewing pronouncing the benediction.

As those interested in our work in Manitoba may like to know something more about Mr. Ewing, we will add a brief sketch of his history.

Mr. Ewing was born in the year 1854, in Melbourne Eastern Townships, his father (now a deacon of the Melbourne Church) having settled there about '37. When the Rev. W. McIntosh settled in Melbourne Mr. Ewing profited much under his instructions, but yet had experienced no vital change of heart when in 1873 he entered the science department of McGill College intending to study for the profession of an engineer. By the providence of God he was led to board with some of our students in Montreal who were happily the means of leading him to the Saviour. Soon after his conversion he began to seriously contemplate entering the ministry, yet fearing to act rashly he meditated upon the subject nearly eighteen months before he took the final step and entered our College. When once the step was taken he never hesitated nor looked back. His previous training had not specially fitted him for classical studies, yet by most tremendous labours and beginning with Greek as a perfectly new study he was able to pass the University examinations. At one time his fellow-students feared that his health would give way, but he was mercifully preserved, and now has gone forth in the best of health, not only taking his B.A. in 1878, but receiving the Calvary Silver Medal in C.C.B.N.A. this spring.

For a long time he has contemplated settling in