

to find how quickly your services will be in demand, in that particular line! Try it!

It is impossible, within our modest limits, to get anything like a full report of the Great Council in. We gave a sketch last month. A somewhat fuller sketch will be found in the *Year Book*. This month we give a chapter of jottings and quotations—some spicy *crumbs* that fell from the feast. The complete report will be in the volume elsewhere spoken of—and in the irrepressible “bubbling over” of our representatives, like a fountain too full to hold—for the next twelve months. Fortunate fellows!

LABOR CONQUERS ALL THINGS.—We knew a young man who was utterly unable to pronounce half the sounds in the English language. Fifteen years after, we found him one of the leading ministers of the Methodist church; a gifted orator. “How?” we asked. He said the doctors told him there was no malformation, nor physical reason, why he should not speak plainly, and so he began to conquer the indistinctness; and in a year or two succeeded!

THE Council at London has been most successful. It has aroused a new interest both inside and outside the Congregational churches. Men will never think and feel alike, unless they have the opportunity of consulting together and exchanging opinions. In every large newspaper office, the various editors meet once a day at a certain hour, to consult as to the utterances of the paper next morning. The International Council will become a standing institution.

THE Baptists will be in the next *British International Congregational Council*. Rev. Dr. Clifford asked, “Why are we not in this Council? Dr. Hannay intended we should.” And then he stated that out of eighteen Baptist Churches in London, fifteen made regeneration in Christ, the only requisite for fellowship. So do we, and there is no good reason why Christians thus feeling and acting alike should not consider themselves one. The next Council, proposed for 1896, will be in America; and it is possible our Baptist friends in America are not as far advanced on the question of union with the Congregationalists as are those in Great Britain.

DIFFICULTIES CAN BE CONQUERED.—Years ago a young man about to graduate from college went to the president for advice in regard to the choice of a profession. Said the president: “It is a good plan in attempting to decide this difficult question, to lay aside at first the *impossible professions*. For instance, in your case, you never could become a preacher, owing to the impediment in your speech.” It may encourage some one who hesitates to undertake some important work because it seems too difficult, to know that this young man was Phillips Brooks. Is there a preacher in America doing better work than he?

CORRUPTION!—We cannot profess to give our readers latest public news: the daily press exists for that purpose. But it is right that we should lift up our voice in condemnation of the system of gigantic robbery so long existing in connection with Public Works. If the responsible head of a Department knows nothing of an organized plundering, going on for years, and amounting to millions, what is he there for? And any administration which fails to prosecute and punish such misdeeds—now that they are exposed and established—will be held to be in league with, or under the power of the evil-doers.

THE CLOSE OF THE COUNCIL.—Dr. Joseph Parker gave the closing address. It was in the City Temple. He had the vast audience rise, and audibly answer three questions; thus pledging themselves anew to Christ, and to his cause, and to each other. Thus, (hand-in-hand), they sang “Praise God from whom all blessings flow,” and the Chairman declared the Council adjourned *sine die*. It will probably meet in 1896, (in the United States). The precedent thus set, of meeting once in five years, will most likely continue to be followed: so that the next meeting in Great Britain will be in 1901, the opening year of the Twentieth Century.

WHAT false notions we have of the condition of music in Italy! We fancy Italy to be more musical than England, but in fact the art there is in a degraded state, and has not anything like the hold upon the people that it has here. The death of Signor Roberti, of Turin, reminds me of an incident which proves this. I sat by him at one of the Handel Festivals, and looking down from the press