

PROFESSOR HENRY DRUMMOND.

BY DR. CUYLER.

Rev. Dr. Cuyler has been across the sea and has been giving "Glimpses of Great Britain" in the New York Evangelist. In one of them he speaks of Professor Drummond, author of "Natural Law in the Spiritual World," which has gone through forty editions in two years.

"A few years since I received a very cordial letter from Mr. Drummond, in which he very kindly said: 'If you come to Scotland I shall leave no stone unturned to meet you.' Informing him that I would be in Edinburgh to-day he came at once from Stirling (where he is spending part of his vacation) to give me the desired interview. Punctually at ten o'clock I espied a tall, slender young man—looking more like a college senior than like a college professor—inquiring at the hotel office. That bright, handsome young fellow youder must be Drummond, I said to myself; and I was not mistaken. His fair rosy cheek, light sandy hair, and eager eye are all unmistakably Scotch also. No one would take him to be over five and twenty, although he tells me that he is just thirty-four. We sat down at once for a delightful two hours of heart talk, in which his modesty, his candor, his fervid enthusiasm, and his devout evangelical spirit came out most winsomely. I never met a man of genius who impressed me more by his transparent truth-lovingness and humility of temper than Henry Drummond.

Delicacy forbids the publication of a private conversation, but on two or three vital points the Christian public has a right to know the position of the most gifted of the rising men of Scotland. "I am thoroughly hospitable to all new truth, as long as it is *truth*, in science, in philosophy, and in Biblical exegesis," he said to me. "I am not afraid of any; I seek for it, and welcome it, and have no fear that it will disturb the solid foundations of Bible Christianity." He smiled when I said to him, "Some orthodox people are afraid that a Drummond's head will swim." He very significantly remarked: "I am too busily engaged in trying to lead young men to Christ to be disturbed by false philosophy or loose theology. Nothing but the simple Gospel of Christ gives me the implements I want in guiding and saving souls, whether in high life or in low." That sentence tells the whole story. There is no danger with the faith of any man who consecrates himself to loving labors for the salvation of souls. The work that Prof.

Drummond has accomplished among the young men of Edinburgh and Glasgow is not surpassed by that of Mr. Moody himself. While I was talking with him Mr. Barclay (who is one of Moody's corps of workers) came into the room, and it was delightful to see the cordiality with which Drummond greeted him as one of his true yoke-fellows in Gospel labors.

I urged him to visit America next year and let himself be heard in such places as Princeton, Yale, Harvard, and our New York Union Seminary. He said that five years ago he made a flying visit to our country, went to the Yellowstone Park, spent one day in New York, called on Longfellow in Cambridge, and then hurried home again. I could not even obtain a photograph of his bright boyish face—for he refuses to sit for one. God bless and hold fast and strong this great gifted man who has "come to the kingdom for such a time as this!" I am very sorry that I cannot accept this kind invitation to go back with him to Stirling and to see his venerable father; but I am off in an hour or two to Annandale in the highlands of Dumfriesshire. Mr. Drummond's last words to me, as his eager and ruddy countenance vanished down the stairway, were "Give my love to Mr. Moody." That's enough. There is no danger that any man has been or will be seduced by scientific speculations or new theologies as long as he sends his love to Dwight L. Moody.

We quote the above because of the vivid picture it gives of Prof. Drummond, and to show Dr. Cuyler's opinion of the man. Dr. Dawson of Montreal, one of the leading Christian Scientists of the day, in an article in the Homilistic Review, shows that, however evangelical Prof. Drummond may be, there are some of his scientific positions in his celebrated book, "Natural Law in the Spiritual world," that are little better than caricatures.

"A short time ago," said a gentleman of New Haven, "I asked President Wolsey if, with his increasing age, experience, and wisdom, he had arrived at any satisfactory explanation of that great problem, the evil and suffering in this world. 'No,' replied the venerable ex-President, but this one thing I do know to be true: the older I grow—the holier life I live the happier I become.' Such testimony from a man of his years and experience is a sermon in itself.