

and rejoiced over his coming more than over all the other children. He had been lost, and now he was found !”

At the age of 17 Dwight felt an irrepressible anxiety to strike out for himself, and he accordingly went to Boston with his mother's blessing on his head, and commenced his city life as a clerk. He was drawn to Dr. Kirk's Congregational church, and with Edward Kimball's Bible class. Here he made considerable sport by his desire for knowledge, and his abrupt ways. He was led to Christ by the instrumentality of these influences, but through lack of instruction was not permitted to join the church till a year had passed, or he was able to give an intelligent account of himself as a believer. Nothing daunted, he kept straight on ; but at last, feeling his own deficiencies among a people composed so largely of the educated, and being kindly advised by his pastor that he had not better attempt to speak in the meetings, he became discouraged and left the East, and gravitated to the metropolis of the West, and began work in a shoe-store in Chicago, September, 1856. Says one of his biographers :

“On Sunday he sought out a Mission Sunday School, and offered his services as a teacher. He was informed that the school had a full supply of teachers, but if he would gather a class, he might occupy a seat in the school-room. The next Sabbath he appeared with *eighteen boys*, and a place was assigned him for his new and rough recruits. This was the beginning of his mission to the ‘masses.’ On that day he unfolded his theory of how ‘to reach the masses’—‘Go for them.’

“Soon after, he commenced the ‘North Market Hall Mission School.’ The old market-hall was used on Saturday nights for dancing ; and after the motley crowd had dispersed, Mr. Moody and his associates spent the late hours of Saturday night and the early hours of Sunday morning in removing

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