

The place of young men to-day, he said, was more favorable than it was in past years. This could be attributed to the advancement of civilization together with its improvements. It may be said without any hesitation that there has been within the last fifty years, more found out concerning the secrets of nature, than in the previous 6,000 years. It is a grand thing, he said, to be a young man because it is possible for him to see the greatest changes in the world. He illustrated this by showing how some of our largest cities have grown from a mere hamlet, within the life of a single person. It is reported by a Japanese, that Japan experienced such a change within the last ten years, that all that was left in its former state was the natural scenery. The countries which were at one time hostile to any missionary efforts, are becoming, through various agencies, gradually prepared for the reception of the Gospel.

It took a number of years of hard labour and ingenuity before "Hell Gate Rock," New York, could be removed, and it was not until the rock was honeycombed by the workmen, and the giant powder applied, that everything was prepared for the removal of that obstruction in the passage to the harbour. Now God has, for years, been preparing the way for the Gospel in India, China and many other places, and the evidences of that preparation are to be seen every day, in that heathens are abandoning their idols, and allowing the word of the Lord to have free course. Some day a great upheaval will take place. This should be an incentive to young men to give themselves wholly up to this noble work in which they may have such ample opportunities to be used as the honoured instruments of breaking down the barriers of heathenism and letting the prisoners free. The question of health may arise as a barrier, to keep persons from going to the foreign field, but this need not be a hindrance, for if, the speaker said, common sense, discretion and prudence are used in this respect there is no reason why a person should not be just as safe in the foreign field as at home. Professor Drummond maintains that we should not go into a district at the risk of health, but we must remember that Christ in giving His command made no such limitation, but said, "Go ye into all the world and preach the Gospel to every creature."

Let us then be ready to go just wherever He wants us and then, and not till then, will we be complying with His request.

Dr. Pierson concluded his remarks by asking the young men to get into the closest possible relation with God, and remember what God wants is a truly consecrated life in His service.

After the Chairman, Rev. Principal MacVicar, had thanked Dr. Pierson on behalf of the friends present for his valuable and instructive discourse, the meeting was closed with the benediction.