

Canadian Missionary Link

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CHRISTMAS BELLS.

Sing, Christmas bells !
Say to the earth this is the morn
Whereon our Saviour-King is born ;
Say to all men—the bond, the free,
The rich, the poor, the high, the low,
The little child that sports in glee,
The aged folk that tottering go,—
Proclaim the morn
That Christ is born,
That saveth them and saveth me !

Sing, O my heart !
Sing thou in rapture this dear morn
Whereon the blessed Prince is born !
And as their songs shall be of love,
So let my deeds be charity,
By the dear Lord that reigns above,
By Him that died upon the tree,
By this fair morn
Whereon is born
The Christ that saveth all and me !
—Eugene Field.

THE DIVINE BIRTH.

(From "The Life of Lives," by Dean Farrar.)

Christ lifted the gate of the centuries off its hinges with His bleeding hands. History has borne its witness to Him. . . The Jews fell into utter and immediate ruin in accordance with His prophecy. The grandeur of the Roman Empire was humbled to the dust and vanished before Him. The Northern nations, abandoning their ignorance and savagery, knelt humbly before the "White Christ," and, conquerors though they were, accepted the religion of the Christians whom they had conquered.

The first Christian emperor wore upon the labarum of his armies His cross of shame ; and it is set in jewels on the diadem of many kings. The oldest crown of Europe—the famous iron crown of Lombardy—was venerated

because it was believed to be made of an iron nail from the cross of Golgotha. . . Rudolph of Hapsburg, founder of the great Empire of Germany, when no scepter could be found amid the tumult of his coronation, grasped a crucifix and swore that that should be his scepter. Napoleon, the last great conqueror of modern days, said in his exile, "I know men, and Jesus Christ is not a man. . . Between Him and whoever else in the world there are no possible terms of comparison."
"There is nothing fruitful but sacrifice"—and the noblest and most continuous self-sacrifice which the world has seen has sprung simply from the belief in, and the imitation of, Jesus Christ.

NOTES ON CONVENTION.

Through the untiring efforts of Mrs. Chas. Stark, Mrs. W. J. Robertson and Miss Boyd, the arrangements made by the Bloor Street Circle for the comforts of delegates left nothing to be desired. This committee and their large staff of helpers are to be congratulated on the efficient manner in which they served at lunch and supper upwards of five hundred guests each day.

We all appreciated having with us "Sister Belle," who was a member of our Board in the very early days of organization.

Without exception, every Association was represented either by its Director or Assistant Director. These workers, always enthusiastic, by their meeting and conferring together will go home inspired and strengthened.

MARIE C. CAMPBELL.

We wish all our readers a Merry Xmas, and at the same time would like to remind them that the close of the year is a good time to examine the date on their Link labels, which tells when subscriptions expire, and if in arrears forward to the Editor and make a glad New Year.