

no rival. It was no wonder that they became to thousands an authoritative oracle.

IV. *This world-wide mission of Spurgeon is seen also in the benevolent institutions which he founded and fostered.*

Probably the most conspicuous contribution to missions at home and abroad, of any man of this generation, unless it be George Müller, is to be seen in the general work of this "Kelvedon lad." He was the originator and inspiration of the *Pastor's College*, which has sent forth nearly one thousand students, one hundred of whom have gone to their reward, while seven hundred and thirty are still actively busy in God's work, six hundred and fifty of them being Baptist pastors, evangelists, or missionaries, who for the past quarter century have instrumentally added to the Church over one hundred and eighty thousand souls! The *Stockwell Orphanage* has five hundred boys and girls in training for Christian lives of service, and has been sending out thousands whom it has prepared for society; and the *Alms-houses* provide homes for the old and needy, while missionary enterprises at home and abroad, whose name is legion, attest the broad sympathies of the aggressive man of God, who, as Macaulay said of Goldsmith, left nothing untouched and adorned whatever he touched.

Nowhere did Charles H. Spurgeon prove a failure. As is promised to the man who is planted by the river of God, and takes into the very roots of his being the Word of God, whatsoever he did, prospered. His success in every sphere was so marked that he seemed specially fitted for everything he undertook. He was evidently in league with God.

How long and how vigorously his work will survive him is yet a problem. As to the Orphanage, it seems established on permanent foundations; it is always full, and has thus far always been supplied with needed funds from its strong hold upon popular confidence and sympathy. It is painful to see it stated that the Pastor's College has had to reduce its number of students by three eighths, and that the Sunday offerings applied to its support are not nearly up to the former standard. It is to be hoped that this, if true, is but a temporary decline. After enjoying weekly contact with the students in that Institution, for two college years, and lecturing to them every Friday, the writer can bear witness that, for average ability, soundness of doctrine, and aggressive spirit, he has never known any equal number of young men in any other theological seminary. They do not wait to graduate before they engage in work; they are a power for God even during their period of training, and Britain, not to say the church everywhere, owes to them a debt that is incalculable, for their persistent advocacy of sound doctrine and apostolic church life.

Mr. Spurgeon found necessary, in the multitude of his arduous labors, to commit in part, to other hands, much of the administrative duties connected with these institutions. A quarter of a century ago he called to his aid his only brother, James Archer Spurgeon, who, until the very death of