

birth Discussion here would have been profitable, but a richer treat was in store, for Rev. Mr. Craig, a Baptist missionary, fresh from his work among the Telegus in India, was present, and was now called to the platform. His earnest pleading with the young men to consecrate themselves to work in the foreign field, and especially in India, was touching. That afternoon was one not soon to be forgotten. After a brief prayer the members adjourned to meet in McMaster's Hall in the evening. The spirit of this meeting was somewhat more subdued. The history of "Missions in Madagascar" was very sad. More was thought than said. After some earnest timely words from Prof. Clarke and Revs. Wells and Stewart, the students strolled around the splendidly equipped college, and afterwards sat down in little chatty groups to partake of the hospitality of their hosts.

On Sabbath the members of the association formed a manly, thoughtful band as they sat in the front seats of the different churches where special sermons were preached to them.

These discourses, both in subject and spirit, formed a fitting climax to the series of meetings. Rev. Mr. Stewart, of Hamilton, dwelt impressively on Christ's devotion as the measure of consecration of the candidate for the ministry of the Gospel, whether destined to go abroad or labor at home. In the afternoon Rev. Mr. Wells, of Montreal, preached in his usual thoughtful and polished style, on Faith as the source of power in this work. The service in St. James' Cathedral, in the evening, was changed to suit the occasion, and Rev. Canon DuMoulin spoke in suggestive stirring words on, "The Harvest truly is Great," etc. At the conclusion of this service the students gathered in the school-room for a last short prayer meeting, which, none who were present will ever forget. After singing "Blest be the tie that binds," etc., the members shook hands, sorry to part but thankful that they had been together.

Such is a brief sketch of the Alliance and its first convention. To say that this gathering was a success is to give it but meagre praise. Many of those who took part look on this convention as almost *the* event of their college life. If the future of the Canadian Inter-Collegiate Alliance was thought doubtful for a time, that doubt has now been dissipated forever. But enthusiasm is not the chief end of any society. Men ask for practical results. We shall specify some of these.

First, there is an increase of brotherliness among students of different denominations. They find that the doctrines on which they differ, although the subjects of libraries of books and weeks of lectures are worth little compared with the broad certain truths on which they agree, but which for that very reason are little dwelt on in college. They meet on this common ground. They meet to consult on a work of pure love. The best in every man's heart is drawn out. The petty differences are covered up, and men are drawn together by the radiance of the beauty of their common christianity. Now, for its very self, what result is more desirable? But this charity may help in the solution of that great problem now perplexing the minds of all interested in higher education,—the economy of our educational forces by confederation or consolidation. The next generation, we make bold to say, by reason of this organization would have less difficulty in dealing with this problem than is at present found.

Again, there is an increase of the missionary spirit. By a missionary spirit we mean a spirit which forgets self for the elevation of the lost, whether in Africa or Toronto. But one asks, does not the very act of man devoting