

permental life is what the people need, and what the masses require. The fine rhetoric and eloquent sermon are pleasing to the cultured ear, but the plain preaching of the Word will most readily touch the heart of the educated as well as the ignorant. As an illustration of the method of one clergyman in bringing the Church to the people, let me state an incident: In a country Parish, a good many years ago, the pastor had grown feeble mentally and physically. He was unwilling to resign or to have an assistant. His people became dissatisfied and the younger members of the congregation were being drawn away by the more attractive preacher of a dissenting church. The Churchwardens and older members were anxious and much troubled, when a young Curate in a neighboring parish, came to the rescue, by offering to give them a week-day service if a suitable place could be had for the purpose. There was no public hall in the place and the school-house was too small. One of the farmers living on the border line of the two parishes offered his barn, and there the Church Service was read and the Gospel preached with such earnestness and simplicity, that the young people, attracted at first by the novelty, soon became deeply impressed, returning to the old ways, "As doves to their windows." The farmers for miles around would leave their work at the busiest season, taking their horses from the farm wagon and driving them with the family carriage to the Church in the barn. It was an impressive sight on a summer afternoon, that large congregation seated on rude benches, while the sweet evening service was read. The old fashioned tunes of Mear, Hallowell, and Sherburne made strange music among the brown rafters above; "when the sparrow had found an home, and the swallow a nest for herself, where she may lay her young" here they flitted in and out, quite unmindful of the worshippers below. The great wide open doors gave a full view of the meadows beyond, from whence came sweetest odours of many blossoms, mingling with the perfume of the newly mown hay stored in the capacious barn nothing could be more solemn than the Gospel preached amid such surrounding, nor more impressive than the preacher's methods, drawing his lesson from the object in view. The flowers of the field and the sparrows, so suggestive of the Father's care, bringing home to each heart the Saviour's *object lessons* in faith: The story of His birth never seemed such a reality as when told within sight of a manger where the "horned oxen fed." It mattered not that this manger was unlike the one at Bethlehem. The youthful imagination could readily picture the Holy infant in swaddling clothes on the bed of "sofetest hay" while the shepherds came to adore.

Many years have passed away since then. That faithful preacher was early called to his reward, but "his works do follow him," as many now living can testify. May not his example be followed with profit by some other earnest worker who would reach the masses? The seed may be sown outside of Church walls. "The poor must have the Gospel preached to them." If they will not come within consecrated walls let other places be consecrated by invoking the presence of Him who makes every place "hallowed ground."

May other Christian ministers be encouraged in the work of reaching the masses by this incident in the life of one whose short life was richly blessed, one who began his ministry among those who afterwards became his devoted parishioners with his Service in the Barn.

J. C. T.

Y. M. A. MOCK PARLIAMENT.

The formal opening of the first session of the second parliament held in connection with the meetings of the Y. M. A., on April 10th ult., will make that date a memorable one with the members for one year at least. It was on that evening that His Excellency, F. O. Allison, Governor General of Canada, had been pleased to ask parliament to assemble, in order that he might then meet with it, and extend to it the power to perform its usual functions.

For some days previous to that date leading members of the association had faithfully been preparing themselves for the occasion, both by reading what other politicians had said and done on similar occasions, by consulting those who had been privileged to witness *real* openings, and by diligently studying whatever works of reference they had been enabled to obtain; and for any person, not a member of the association, to have intimated that these members were possessed of less positive information regarding the method of procedure, on the occasion of opening of parliament than the leading statesmen of Canada whom they then represented, would have called upon the presumptuous individual the stern disapproval of the members of both parties.

For reasons best known to themselves, the opposition party did not deem it wise to nominate a representative of their party to contest with the government nominee for the speakership; so the election of a speaker, which is generally the first question upon which a parliament is called to divide, and to show the strength of the respective parties, on this occasion passed off with but little excitement, and Mr. James A. Belyea was declared by the clerk to have been unanimously elected to that position. Mr. Speaker Belyea had scarcely sufficient time to "extend his humble thanks to this house for the honor it had done him, in electing him Speaker," when it was announced that His Excellency was in waiting and that he desired the attention of the house. His Excellency, on entering, was escorted to the throne, when he proceeded to read his speech; this completed, he immediately retired.

The address in reply was moved and seconded by Messrs. Trueman and MacKay; others who spoke upon it, were Messrs. Turnbull and Murray (Opp.) and H. C. Wetmore, and L. P. D. Tilley (Gov.), after which it was passed without division. The first government measure was then introduced by Messrs. Mott and Manning.

The bill was in amendment to the present Franchise Act, and provided that the various sections of that Act relating to the qualifications of voters, be repealed, and that in lieu thereof one section should be inserted providing that the only qualification to be required of a voter is "that he shall be