

great requisites of all oratory of the highest sort—sympathy with the theme, sympathy with the audience, sympathy with the occasion—were inspired and supplied in very unusual measure. There was no excuse for not saying something worthy to be remembered, and most of the speakers certainly needed no excuse. Where there were so many memorable words uttered, and so many famous speakers took part, it might be invidious to discriminate; and I shall be content simply to portray for and convey to the readers of the *Review* a general outline of the proceedings as they impressed one who was in attendance.

One of the main features of these meetings was the *crowds* attending. A list of some three hundred delegates was published, and they represented the whole earth—all parts of the United Kingdom; Africa—the Congo, etc.; various countries of Europe; also Asia—India, China, Japan, Burnah, Turkey; again, the West Indies—Jamaica, and other islands of the sea; America—the United States, the British provinces; and Australia—New South Wales, New Zealand, and other parts of the habitable globe. Delegates and visitors from every section of the earth and every great people were there; but these were a small part of the real attendance. At Nottingham and Leicester the crowds found no building adequate; and so it would have been at Kettering, but for a very spacious tent capable of holding five thousand, which was at times taxed to its capacity. The opening meeting at George Street Chapel, Nottingham, was one for prayer, and properly set the key-note for the week. By 9 o'clock the Mechanics' Hall was filled with breakfasters, and up to 10 o'clock at night, in two gatherings that proposed to be successive, but were near being simultaneous, the interest continued unabated; and so it was, day by day, the beautiful weather seeming God's smile on the occasion. At the last meeting I attended at Kettering, the enthusiasm seemed still rising to a higher floodmark, if possible, than ever.

Another notable feature was the general excellence and high tone of the *addresses*. We missed Dr. McLaren, of Manchester, and some other illustrious men. What Spurgeon could have contributed to such an anniversary one could only sorrowfully imagine. There was now and then a playful allusion to the modern advanced notions of theology, to the higher criticism, and the progressive laxity of modern doctrine, and not a few more serious signs that not a little of this leaven of rationalism has pervaded the Baptist body, which we have been wont to regard as a bulwark of the old faith; but these were spots in the sun. We prefer to forget them and praise God for the noble utterances which characterized the whole occasion. If there was any noticeable mistake, it was in the line of too elaborate preparation. The literary feature sometimes proved more prominent than the spiritual. Some of the addresses were more like papers written for leading reviews, and will read better than they sounded. The conviction grows on me that what is needed on such an occasion is not intellectual and scholarly treatises or essays, but plain, careful, thoughtful, sug-