

forceful speaking and more direct appeal than one hears in the churches of Edinburgh.

The preachers here are acquainted with the currents of modern thought. They read widely and think deeply. They know the problems that the thinkers of the day are facing, and they see how the Gospel helps toward a solution. It is often said that modern thinking strips a preacher of spiritual power. One has only to listen to the leading preachers of Scotland to feel the groundlessness of the charge. Here are men who look at life's problems from the modern viewpoint, and who, with a richness of thought and intensity of spirit that cannot be surpassed, are bringing the old Gospel to meet the world's new needs. They are adapting their message to their hearers' condition, and they are meeting the response that the Gospel always finds when preached with spiritual insight and power.

The prince of Scottish preachers is still the venerable Dr. Alexander Whyte. Usually he occupies his old pulpit once every Sabbath. It is impossible to imagine anything more searching than his message: "Come, my brethren, let us have a lesson in humility," was his introduction to a sermon that the writer was privileged to hear. Then he searched out the hidden sources of pride in the heart, and with exquisite appreciation described the Scriptural ideal of the humble man. The sermon was rich in illustration and in quotation from the Puritan fathers. He sent us away feeling the vanity of our boasted achievements and attainments, and longing to sink self in service.

If Dr. Whyte's preaching is penetrating, that of his colleague, Dr. John Kelman, is inspiring. He sounds the battle-cry and one cannot but respond. He points out the great things that there are to fight for and labor for, and the high possibilities in every life. If Dr. Whyte reveals the secrets of the soul to itself and shows the reason for humiliation, Dr. Kelman indicates the powers latent within us and the great things we are called to do. Two sermons that we have heard from Dr. Kelman were on Abraham. The analysis was keen. One felt that the preacher understood the old patriarch and was able to look at his problems from Abraham's own viewpoint. Then Dr. Kelman has the gifts and temperament of the orator. He knows how to appeal to the hearts of the people. Consequently, whenever and wherever he preaches, the building is crowded, and often hundreds are turned away.

The students form a large element in Edinburgh's population, and a great work is done among them. The place formerly filled by the late Henry Drummond was taken by Dr. Kelman when pastor of New North Church here. When he was transferred to Free St. George's he continued that work as far as possible. And it is said that to hear Dr. Kelman at his best one must listen to him addressing a gathering of students. But meanwhile the work for this class in New North Church was not neglected. This church is situated right in the midst of the student district. Its present pastor, Rev. J. R. P. Slater, M. A., is well equipped for this work. He has profound scholarship and wide culture, a winning personality, independence of thought and directness of speech. A little band of Vancouver men went together to his church one morning and heard a masterly sermon on Romans I. Here was a doctrinal grip that surprised us. This man had mastered the problem that Paul was wrestling with, and he understood Paul's solution. But he was also close to the problems of human life, and the way in which he applied the lessons of that chapter to the experience of today no one who knows his own heart can ever forget.