

and persistency that sprang from absolute devotion to men and truth, and from the intensest conviction of the reality of the one sure way of salvation. The written Word must be the norm of thought and the guide of conduct, and the Christ himself must furnish the motive and the example. Hence all duty was to him sacred, and all life itself became holy when it was made in its very essence Christly. Therefore it was that he was so clear and strong in proclaiming the need of whole-hearted consecration, of bringing every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ, of making all our thinking, doing, and acting not only a test, but an expression of our Christianity.

Naturally he had much to say on matters of fashion or custom, upon whose propriety differences of opinion prevail among professing Christian people. It was in dealing with such questions that his influence as a public teacher was, perhaps, most deep and lasting. In denouncing particular sins or meanesses he was, it is true, more vehement and thrilling; and our ears still ring with the tones in which he inveighed against national and personal dishonor or injustice, especially to the poor and friendless. But among the many boons which Toronto as a community owes to its loved and trusted friend and servant, probably none is so valuable as that which was conferred by him in showing by precept and example how a man might be an active citizen and at the same time a devoted Christian, the best of companions and withal a saint of God. Of his treatment of what may be called more particularly "burning questions" of public interest, there is here neither space nor need to speak. In dealing with these and the whole class of related subjects, his judgment, tact, and intellectual and moral sympathy were conspicuously manifest. What he has said and done in this sphere of his manifold activity is on record in many a heart and conscience. In much of the home life of the city, and, we may trust, in its public spirit and policy as well, his words and deeds are having their way, not merely as a sweetening influence, but also as a wholesome corrective force.

Scarcely less distinguished was Mr. Macdonnell in his treatment of the great themes of the Christian religion. Here, again, the practical bent of his nature strongly asserted itself. A strict Calvinist in his theology, and devoted to the study of the historical confessions of the Christian Church, he carefully and scrupulously weighed the dogmas of our faith, and deliberately