

man—the devil, was seeking in this present day very diligently after the children. Christ also sought them. He was saying, "Give me thy heart," to every child present. Now we saw with our eyes and handled with our hands, but we loved with our hearts. What Christ wanted was our hearts, i.e., our love. He wanted the children to repent and seek salvation to-day—to get inside the fold and stay there. All the men and women here to-day were inside or outside the fold. When a boy, his father had told him, one morning, to enclose the sheep in the fold at night in his absence. Neglecting to do so, he arose next morning and went out to look after them, to find thirteen of them dead. Christ was the Good Shepherd, and in His fold was perfect safety. He hoped each one would get inside the fold, see that they had their names on the class books, but be more careful still to have them in the Book of Life. He had seen a man a short time before furiously enraged on searching a certain list and not finding that his name was among the voters, and had said to himself, "O there's another Book. Would that that man were as anxious to be enrolled in the Book of Life as to have his name on the electors' list!" In conclusion, he pointed out the way into the fold of Christ, by repentance and faith in Christ.

After singing—

I am so glad that our Father in heaven

Tells of His love in the Book He has given,—

The Rev. T. W. PICKETT addressed the children.

In commencing his address he pointed out the happy circumstances under which they were gathered together, as compared with the state of suffering and misery existing in the famine districts of China, and the plague-smitten South. He called upon all present enjoying religion to rise, when the vast majority arose. He then asked all parents who wanted their children converted to stand, when a large number stood up. He next called upon all present who enjoyed religion, and had experienced it in middle age, and who regretted they had not sought religion when of the same age as these children, to stand. About a score responded,—the children meanwhile watching with the closest interest, and apparently comprehending the strength of the argument in favor of early piety. He next illustrated the growth of sin in the heart by the growth of weeds in the garden. The children had all seen neglected fields where brushes and briars and thorns had sprung up in rich profusion. That was like the human heart that grew up in sin. Brother BLAIR had told them of a great destroyer that went about seeking whom he might devour. It was among these briars and thorns of the uncultivated heart—among the passions and appetites of the sinful soul [that Satan hid]. Hence he was an invisible foe. . . . The former speaker was once lost, and had told him about it. He wandered away in the woods, and could not find his path. By and by he heard a voice, "William," and answering was told to stand still till his father reached him, and then what joy as he was clasped to his father's heart! Now our great Father had a great many lost children in