

OUR BRASS BAND.

DUET BY TWO ECCLESIASTICS—THE REV. DRS. WILD & HALL.

The former of the two favours us with a strain on the subject of his estimate of his own productions; he is indebted to the Editor for a (doubtless) *base* accompaniment, which *translates into English*, comments, and presents the performer's argument from another point of view. "For nearly four years I have accustomed myself to give my congregation, on Sabbath evening, a special sermon on some prophetic topic. My church, although quite large, has been crowded all along with intelligent listeners, and that is no small thing, considering that it is situated between the churches of the Rev. Henry Ward Beecher and Rev. Dr. Talmage. These hearers have been select, they have come from all parts of the cities of New York and Brooklyn, and from all other churches, and (from) no churches, Catholics, Protestants, scientists and infidels, and thank heaven, many of this latter class have been savingly converted to God. We have been especially favored with the presence of ministers, doctors, lawyers, and gray-haired and bald-headed folks. The number of aged persons, and the majority of men over women (by which is intended—the greater proportion of men) have always been special features. Strangers visiting us from various parts of the country, to whom I have been introduced, have invariably expressed their surprise of these features.

The Champion, the weekly paper that publishes these discourses has had a large sale; frequently the edition has been bought up in a few hours after issue. Now, putting this and that together, I am obliged to believe that these Sunday evening discourses have some merit. (Hard case this, to be reluctantly "obliged to believe.") By letters and personal interviews I know they have been instrumental in bringing many to a knowledge of the truth as it is in Jesus. (Such is said to have been the result of propounding smut from the pulpit.) It is now just six months since I sent to press my book entitled "The Lost Ten Tribes and 1882." In this short time it has been reprinted in England, where it is having a large sale. It has also been published in Canada. And it is passing into its third edition here. The past week a party sought my good will and right to translate it into French. These facts speak well for the great theory advocated and taught, both in that volume and (in) this. That book has made its way without the imprint and prestige of any of the great publishing houses and for advertising I have not paid one cent. By many persons (including the publisher probably) I have been solicited to publish another book, etc."

I hope the reader will remember that *by the grace of God* I have preached these sermons (an important element this, in the reader's faith) and therefore (will) expect to read my ideas, etc.. I know they will do good, if they are read as generously as they have been proclaimed (i.e., in view of the consideration of an alleged \$8,000 per annum). The writer happily "cares not if critics try to be as *burlesque* as *The New York Herald*"* With reference to this performer's statement that "for advertising he has not paid one cent," one is apt to enquire if the printer was so kind as to print his autobiography gratuitously, and if that production be or be not of the nature of an advertisement?

With regard to the statements that "my church has been crowded all along with *intelligent* listeners," "these hearers have been select," "the weekly paper that publishes these discourses has had a large sale," etc., it may be permissible to observe in the

first place that this style of diction is not calculated to remind one of the Apostles, and possibly the problem admits of being presented in some such form as the following—Given, a condition of profound ignorance, on the part of a certain class of persons, accompanied by a craving "for some new thing;" the occupant of a pulpit who is sufficiently acquainted with the baser side of human nature, and sufficiently callous to perpetrate smutty jokes therefrom, and the halo of glory with which this performer desires to invest his following, appears to us to vanish like a morning cloud.

The latest phase presented by the Reverend Victor B. Hall (so far as we are aware) bears the date of September 11th; under this date, the aspiring General of the (Salvation) Army assumes the character of *martyr*. He performs in a *minor key*, to the following effect, in one of his advertising sheets—"Published by the persecuted Victor Hall family, and their friends, in defence of their religious liberty, their birthrights, and other *vested* rights as Simplers and Vitalists."

Such of the sane members of the community as have listened to the several performances of Messrs. Wild, Rose, and Hall, may perhaps have been struck with the respective appeals, as illustrative of the estimate taken by these performers of "the more than average degrees of Canadian education and refinement."

A CANADIAN SENNACHERIB.

The Hibernian swooped down like a wolf on the prey,
After vouching one sound, the third previous day; *
With his appetite sharpened, he pounced on the gold,
And left other creditors out in the cold;
With writ and with sheriff extorted his due,
In a style too felonious for most wolves to do;
For the dollar almighty has long been his god,
And to grasp it, he's many a crooked path trod.
Though taintless of tenets of prelate or priest—
As remote (at the least) as the West from the East—
Of late he's submitted to UNCTION EXTREME,
And invested in churches, whereby to redeem
A possession enduring—yon side of the stream.
It would surely beseem all good people who'd thank
Their devout benefactor, to furnish a tank,
And preserve him, like Mahomet, 'twixt the earth and
the heaven,
That his dust be unmixed with terrestrial leaven—
Preserve from the worm—from corruptive disaster,
And say for all time—"Here floats Billy McM-st-r!"

* This relates to testimony rendered by a certain HONORABLE gentleman, with regard to a customer, which resulted in that customer being intrusted with goods, and further resulted in the HONORABLE gentleman pouncing on the goods three days after rendering the afore-named testimony.

The Editor must request the indulgence of his subscribers in relation to the non-appearance of THE CRITIC in November. Before he can feel justified in publishing any number of the journal, it is necessary to cover the cost with descriptive advertisements, and this, owing to the season of the year, and to other causes, he found it impossible to do, even though he spent five weeks between three of the cities of Ontario, with that object in view.

BOILERS.

Many a life is unconsciously jeopardized by the condition of the boilers which generate the steam required to work the machinery in the several establishments wherein people are employed. It is high time, that whether we are governed by Conservatives, Grits, or Democrats, sufficient common sense were found within the walls of Parliament, to insist on immediate and periodical boiler inspection.

* From "How and When the World will End."—Huggins, New York.