

tions in the States is so large and so widely extended that its annual Conference or Assembly has been enough hitherto to absorb all its interest. But here the representative men of all the great denominations from North and South came together for the first time; and an array of talent was the result, gratifying from every point of view, but especially gratifying when we consider that all take a bold stand on the side of the one Lord and Master.

So much has been written about the Conference that we need say little. The impression produced on the New York public was wonderful. Thousands would assemble day after day, and sit for long hours patiently, listening not to "little anecdotes," but to abstruse philosophical or theological papers, or to condensed facts about the state of religion in other countries; and the popular excitement was actually greater than that which greets the most brilliant orator or prima donna, and equal to anything evoked during the war.

What are to be the results? Results are in God's hands, but surely not in vain has there been given to us such a demonstration of the real unity of spirits that binds together evangelical Christendom. More light must be the result as to the distinction too often forgotten by us between supreme and subordinate truths; more love between Christians, that it may be again said, "see how they love one another;" more unity, unity in praying, in working, in home and foreign missions, ending perhaps in a federation of Churches or even in organic unity more earnest work in preaching, and teaching, and testifying for Christ; less idolatry of symbolical books and the founders of our particular Churches; less of isolation and practical high-churchism, less of envy and jealousy, of misrepresentation and proselytizing, of denominational vain-glory and mere denominational zeal.

The next Conference of the Alliance is to be held in Rome.

THE PROSPECTS OF OUR CHURCH.

Our prospects are decidedly brighter than they were a few months ago. At the meeting of Synod we were discouraged by hearing much of vacancies actual and prospective, and by hearing little of any available supply. In this strait we remembered the prayer, "Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest that He would send forth labourers into His harvest;" and while we were so praying, we were answered. About the very time, the Colonial Committee were receiving offers of service from several men, and they accepted three, and these three are now all at work in our field. A fourth has come to us, of his own motion, from Scotland; and we expect a fifth—one of our own young men who has studied in Edinburgh—early in the new year. Though we have vacancies still, we can breathe freely, and while our prayers have been answered, our previous lack of faith has been rebuked.

The Synod thought not only of present needs, but of the future. And in view of the great want of Divinity students, it asked kirk-sessions to appoint a special day of prayer to God, as well as for special appeal to the people, and requested the moderator to prepare a pastoral address on the subject. Is it too bold for us to say that already we see the fruits of this? The fact at any rate is that while we have few students studying Divinity—only three or four between the Colleges in Scotland and Canada, we never had so many in the Arts Classes—especially in the first three years of the course—who had the ministry in view, besides others whose names have come to our knowledge, who have commenced to prepare themselves for entering College with a similar intention. There are now in Dalhousie College from twelve to sixteen young men who hope to be in the ministry of our Church, and this fact alone is enough to make us say that our prospects are cheering, beyond what they have ever been before.

Such a fact does indeed impose on the Church the grave consideration of the ques-