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SOME Associational reports have reached us after our columns were filled.

DEATH has visited our Telugu Mission again and removed two of the missionaries of the Maritime Board, Mrs. Hardy and Miss Gray. They both went out to India last fall, Miss Gray returned after furlough, and Miss Williams to be married to Mr. Hardy. The particulars of Mrs. Hardy's death are given in Miss Harrison's letter, page 168. Miss Gray and Miss Harrison were left alone after Mrs. Hardy's death. Miss Gray must have become ill soon after. Particulars of her death have not reached us yet.

THE ADDRESS OF WELCOME TO DELEGATES.*

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of the United States.

I count it a great honor—a call to preside over the deliberations of this great body. It is to associate oneself with the most influential and enduring work that is being done in this day of great enterprises.

The gigantic engines that are driving forward a material development, are being speeded as never before. The din of the hammer and the ax, and the hum of wheels have penetrated the abodes of solitude—the world has now few quiet places. Life is strenuous—the boy is started in his school upon the run, and the pace is not often slackened until the panting man falls into his grave.

It is to a generation thus intent—to a generation that has wrought wondrously in the realms of applied science—that God in His Word and by the preacher says: All these are worthy only and in proportion as they contribute to the regeneration of mankind. Every invention, every work, every man, every nation, must one day come to this weighing platform and be appraised.

To what other end is all this stir among men—this increase of knowledge? That these great agencies

may be put in livery and lined up in the halls of wealth to make life brilliant and soft; or become the docile messengers of a counting-house or a stock exchange; or the swift couriers of contending armies; or the couriers who wait in the halls of science to give glory to the man into whose hand God has given the key to one of His mysteries? Do all the great inventions, these rushing intellectual developments, exhaust their ministry in the making of men rich, and the re-enforcing of armies and fleets? No. These are servants, prophets, forerunners. They will find a herald's voice; there will be an annunciation and a coronation.

The first results seem to be the stimulation of a material production and a fiercer struggle for markets. Cabinets, as well as trade chambers, are thinking of the world chiefly as a market house, and of the men as "producers" and "consumers." We now seldom have wars of succession or for mere political dominion. Places are strategic primarily from the commercial standpoint. Colonies are corner stalls in the world's market-place. If the product tarries too long in the warehouse, the mill must shut down and discontent will walk the streets.

The propulsion of this commercial force upon cabinets and nations was never so strong as now. The battle of the markets is at its fiercest. The great quest of nations is for "consumers." The voice of commerce is: "And my hand shall find as a nest the riches of the people, and as one gathereth eggs that are left, will I gather all the earth."

But with the increase of commerce and wealth, the stress of social difficulties is not relieved, but increases in all of the great nations. The tendency is not to one brotherhood, but to many. Work for the willing at a wage that will save the spirit as well as the body, is a problem of increasing tangle and intricacy. Competition forces economical devices, and names wages that are, in some cases, insufficient to renew the strength expended. It suggests, if it does not compel, aggregations of capital, and these in turn present many threatening aspects. Agencies of man's devising may alleviate, but they can not cure this tendency to division and strife, and substitute a drift to peace and unity. Christ in the heart, and His Gospel of love and ministry in all the activities of life, is the only cure.

The highest conception that has ever entered the mind of man is that of God and the Father of all men—the one blood—the universal brotherhood. It

* Condensed from the opening address at the Conference, delivered in Carnegie Hall, New York, Saturday afternoon, April 27, 1900.