

the Union or Anti-Union controversy was a subject of the deepest humiliation to many in Scotland. Many an earnest prayer rose to Heaven that the zeal and fervour spent in that controversy might be consecrated to nobler ends. The answer came. Very soon after the controversy ceased, the Spirit descended. The experience was like passing out of the bitter frosts and storms of winter into the genial and sunny summer. And now "Christian parents thank God for touching the hearts of their children and turning them to the Lord; ministers of the Gospel say they never spent so happy a winter, and never had so much pleasure in admitting young communicants, the number of whom has often been quadrupled, while their spirit has been all that could be wished; Professors of Divinity tell what a quickening has been among their students and how much the young men have been blessed in their evangelistic work; and Christian teachers talk of the marvellous waves of blessing rolling over their schools and classes, and pre-eminently of the singular impression that has been made on the Training College of the Free Church in Edinburgh, where the Normal students, male and female, seem all to have been impressed and most of them converted. In Glasgow the work has been on a larger scale than in Edinburgh, especially among young men." Seventy young men in Glasgow and thirty in Edinburgh, declared themselves ready for Foreign Mission service!

While the visits and ministrations of Messrs. Moody and Sankey have been eminently blessed, the revival has extended to many parts of Scotland which these men have not visited, and in some of these places the work of grace has been more extensive in proportion to population than in any place they have visited. God has shewn His sovereignty; He can use what means He will. Still, it is to be remembered that the means which He used to kindle the hallowed fire in Scotland were the direct, earnest, scriptural discourses and prayers of Mr. Moody, and the Gospel songs of Mr. Sankey.

All through the present movement there have been no sensationalism, no undue ex-

citement, no prostrations, screamings, ecstasies, but on the contrary, quietness and order. It has been a Revival without Revivalism. It has not led to sanctimonious separation, but the opposite. It has drawn all Christian sects more closely together. The hugging of crotchets has given place to earnest working for souls.

Mr. Sankey by "singing the Gospel" brought the truth home to hearts that might otherwise be proof against it. The use made of singing during the past few months shows that it is, rightly conducted, a means of grace. "We seem to be on the eve of learning two great lessons—the spiritual power of sacred song under the action of the Holy Spirit, and the need of the same exercises of preparation and prayer for the singer as for the preacher, in order that the souls of both may be filled with the truths that are spoken by the one and sung by the other." The hymns sung by Mr. Sankey have sprung all at once into immense popularity. You hear them in drawing-rooms, workshops, dressmakers' rooms, Sabbath schools, prayer-meetings; you hear them sung by the street boys, and by the very organ-grinders. The fisherman in his boat, the plowman in the field, the mother at the cradle, resort to them. The songs of Burns in their palmiest days were not as popular as these.

Dr. Blaikie strongly urges pastors to watch and guard the fruits of revivals, and to find if possible avenues of usefulness for the zeal of young converts. He emphatically insists on the importance of Scriptural instruction, Bible training; and this we note for the encouragement of brethren who have to deal with persons like those whom Dr. Blaikie has in view. Young men will be more ready to offer themselves for the ministry. These he encourages to pursue their studies however irksome at times,—and to prosecute Christian work at the same time. He has no sympathy with the young men who wish to "skip the curriculum." "A sense of its need and a willingness to undergo it, will rather be proof of their having in them the stuff of which good durable ever-improving workers are made; while on the other hand if they slight it as