

—the power of individual purity, of personal sacrifice, of sinless virtue. He held that christianity is the dominant force in our civilization, which but for it would be a feeble and sickly thing. It has banished great evils where it has had sway; softened barbarous nations; dispelled superstitions, but it has not yet so transformed a single nation that good-will exists between every man and his neighbor. It has done much, but it will yield richer social and spiritual results. The service of man will be recognized as the true service of God.

The speaker noted the tendency to cling to the earlier or cruder forms of religion. He said: "If at any time a great advance has been made by a leader of thought, his followers; instead of keeping abreast of him, commonly step backward. This is true of christianity itself today, and in this land the faith of the majority is less spiritual than that which was first delivered to the saints." He reviewed the charges that the doctrine of the resurrection is incredible, and demonstrated its reasonableness. It is more in consonance with the prophecy of promise which our capabilities proclaim. The doctrine of the atonement was next considered, and the objection that it was immoral and opposed to our sense of right and justice considered. He showed clearly that it was not so, as Christ gave Himself, the just for the unjust, that He might bring us to God.

Dr. Ross concluded: "No, the christian religion is not outgrown; its divine force is not abated. It is in accord with the best and most vigorous thought of our time. It is still able to meet the intellectual and spiritual demands of all who come to its consideration with a candid and earnest temper. It is proving itself capable of intensifying and widening the vision of man's spirit and stimulating his moral qualities into activity for the increase of righteousness on the earth. It continues to breathe forth its health-giving influence upon society. Its invasion into realms long sacred to the ethnic religions brings blessings undreamt of to the votaries of these faiths. It receives the homage of the leading statesmen and jurists and scientists and thinkers in the centres of the highest civilization the world has yet seen. The seats of learning in Western Europe and America make recognition of the fact that christianity is the answer of heaven to the cry of the human heart for light, forgiveness and rest, and that its power to develop man to the full measure of his capacity is still unequalled. Philosophy, science, art are all auxiliary. Christianity is the master spirit of the world, and its sway will grow from more to more until all earthly kingdoms shall own its sovereignty and rejoice in its triumphs."

The Principal, at the close of the lecture, gave a brief address, referring to the timeliness of Dr. Ross's subject and the necessity of the Church of Christ being always quick to discern "the signs of

the times," if it would escape the reproach of its Head. It was impossible to avoid a comparison of religious now, even if we wished, and they who seemed to dread comparison and investigation or visited it with penalties would simply be laughed at and allowed to remain high and dry, in dignified isolation, while the river of human thought and progress swept past them. Nothing had struck him more at Chicago than the attitude of sagacious leaders of the Roman Catholic Church, like Cardinal Gibbons, Archbishops Ireland and Feehan and Bishop Keene, to the spirit of the age and to the spirit of this continent. None of the denominational congresses had been so crowded as theirs. They had listened patiently to unpalatable truths and the laity had rallied enthusiastically round their liberal leaders. Were the Protestant Churches preparing themselves for the new conflicts that awaited them in the twentieth century with anything like the same foresight and matchless organization of their forces?

The Principal, in concluding, made two announcements that were kindly cheered by the students:—

(1) That in addition to their old and valued friend, Dr. Thompson, of Sarnia, who would give a course of lectures, beginning probably early in December, Messrs. D. J. Macdonnell and Geo. M. Milligan would give short courses some time after the Christmas holidays, the former on Practical Hints for those preparing for the Ministry, and the latter on The Development of Old Testament Theology.

(2). That, whereas the average number of freshmen in Arts, who signified their intention at the outset of their University Course to study for the ministry, ranged in past years from eight to fifteen, this session therewere twenty-two, or the largest in the history of Queen's. In connection with this announcement, he referred feelingly to the loss they had sustained already in the death of one of those gentlemen, Mr. J. Byrnes, an earnest Christian who had given promise at the Almonte High School of becoming a distinguished student. While his grandmother was still living, though ninety-two years of age, he had been cut off at the very beginning of his career. The church in his native parish was filled to overflowing on the occasion of his funeral, all denominations, including Roman Catholics and Plymouth Brethren, uniting in paying respect to his great worth. He tendered the sympathy of the College to the bereaved parents and family.

The meeting closed with the apostolic benediction.

There was a bicycle race on the cinder track one day last week, in which one of Queen's best all-round athletes took first place. The official time-keepers declared the time for the mile with flying start was 1.49 $\frac{7}{8}$. Queen's evidently has a fast man who should be brought out.