

They preach the doctrines which they can sing. Christian preachers have to do mainly in the pulpit and act with Christian truth; and their mission is not to make their hearers sad, but glad; not to cast them down, but to lift them up; not to enslave with fear, but to give liberty, as to captives. We preach, then, the Gospel; and yet not so much the Gospel as the Cross in the Gospel; and still not so much the Cross as the Ransom on the Cross, crucified and dead; and further, not so much the dead Christ, who was borne by Joseph of Arimathea, assisted by Nicodemus, down into the fragrance and bloom of the garden where there was a sepulcher, but the Living Christ of the World's Easter, and now sitting at the right hand of God the Father Almighty, and whence He is shedding forth His gifts from on high. He it is whom we preach, "foolishness to the Greeks, a stumbling-block to the Jews, but to them who believe the wisdom of God and the power of God."

Preaching which has such a Being for its subject-matter is always fascinating in a world of guilty consciences. Let Mr. Bailey crowd a vast inclosure with the finest specimens of each variety in the animal kingdom, and, adjoining that inclosure, let Mr. Moody spread his capacious tent, standing on a dry-goods box, his audience on rough seats extemporized from a lumber-yard, unaccompanied by any instrument of power save his Bible and the Gospel hymns, and, after a few days of competition, he will draw the multitudes to him and hold them as with hooks of steel, week after week and month after month, while Mr. Bailey, in his menagerie, is left in comparative solitude. In this world of lost men, there is nothing so attractive as a revival of religion. If the offense of the Cross has not ceased, so neither have its charms.

---

### III.—THE SECOND SERVICE.

BY DAVID JAMES BURRELL, D.D., NEW YORK CITY.

It is safe to say that nine ministers in ten are troubled about "the second service." In the average church the morning congregation is encouragingly large, but too often at the other appointment the preacher faces a disheartening array of empty pews. (1) There is nothing new in this. It has been substantially the same as far back as the memory of man runneth, and, so far as we know, ever since the institution of the two services. Those who imagine that "the former things were better" will find themselves at a loss to prove it. (2) It would be an easy matter to suggest many reasons for this condition of things: such as family cares, distance from the sanctuary, exhaustion in Sabbath duties, inability by reason of youth, age, or illness, and, above all, spiritual apathy. But nothing is gained by a too close in-