

absorbed the time of the Survey of secondary importance, as he defends the practical nature of the work done in the last few years by saying that valuable results merely remain unpublished because he is not in favour of hasty publication. This explains why such a large portion of the last annual report was devoted to the Indian dolls found in the Charlotte Islands. The coal-beds of the North-West, perhaps, were under serious consideration!

The report also brings out the fact that harmony does not prevail among officers of the Survey. This is unfortunate in a body of men whose work depends so much on each other's assistance, and, we might almost say, sympathy; and will be found perhaps the most difficult part to deal with when action is taken. Men of considerable geological attainment, technically, may be found in other countries, but very few of them would be suited to the peculiar character of the work in our country. We venture to say, indeed, that the physical hardships and perils of our Dominion Survey are greater than any other in the world, and that many of the tracts of country explored could only be traversed by Canadians. We do not wish to imply, of course, that only Canadians should be employed, but that, other things being equal, Canadians are best adapted for the work. The Director, it seems, considers the Canadian "too independent" and "not amenable to discipline," and has endeavoured to replace him by a more docile animal.

One thing at least is clear, and that is that the country cannot any longer afford to keep up an expensive Geological Survey unless more practical results can be shown. We must receive a larger proportion of information with regard to the mineral resources of the different Provinces; and this information must be published oftener and illustrated by suitable maps. Whether or not a Bureau of Mines should be established, distinct from the Survey or in conjunction with it, will be a question of expedience for the Government to decide; but such a bureau is required. A model can be found across the border, where the Survey is managed on nearly half the amount required by ours, and gives both "practical" and "scientific" results.

J. C. S.

THE MOODY MEETINGS.

In a city so "evangelical" and sensation-loving as Toronto, Mr. Moody was sure to prove a great success. He drew immensely, hundreds being turned from the doors at each service. It is said that never has so large a number of men been gathered under one roof in Toronto as attended his evening services for men. All classes of the community were represented at the meetings, leading off with bishops, statesmen, presidents and professors of colleges, and so on. One most noticeable feature was the crowd of clergymen, of almost all denominations and shades of opinion, not only supporting the famous Evangelist, but virtually sitting at his feet and eagerly consulting him on matters relating to their own work.

Such a man must have something in him. To show this his success in Toronto was not required; for he has been equally, and often more, successful among people less favourably predisposed towards his peculiar mission than most Torontonians. He has been likened to Wesley and Whitfield; in one respect he is greater than either of these, for, whereas their preaching had the rare advantage of being alone of its kind in that time of pulpit decadence, his has become celebrated when preachers generally are faithful and earnest. We think—and we were not among the favourably predisposed—that there is so much in him as to make him remarkable almost to the point of greatness—greatness, of course, in his own line. What are the elements of his power? Certainly not eloquence, for of eloquence, as commonly understood, he has nothing. As certainly not theological learning, depth of thought, or argumentative skill, for he pretends to none. Nor yet earnestness: many preachers are quite as earnest as he, and show it quite as much. The secret lies undoubtedly in a combination of colloquialism, homely simplicity and directness of appeal, a shrewd knowledge of human nature, irresistible pathos, and an intense faculty of belief. Perhaps the two last elements are the strongest of all. Anything more moving than the way in which he related some of his simple stories we have never heard, and faith with him is a passion.

It were easy to take exception to much that he says and does. His humour is often coarse and nearly always out of place; reverence suffers sorely by it. His lack of education shows itself continually. His methods are sensational, and such as calmer and more delicate-minded Christians do not prefer. Then he is offensively American—by which we mean that he is characterized by many offensive Americanisms in speech, style, and system. But, when all exceptions have been taken, he still remains a remarkable and perhaps even a great man. His faults by no means destroy his effect, and only partially disturb it; as much, we think, can be

said of but few men. He is decidedly a character. In his own way he is unique. He is to be judged accordingly.

At the same time we should be sorry for preachers to take him as a model. Apart from the ridiculous failures which would inevitably be the result of the attempt in most cases, the model is one far too exaggerated to be of general service. Mr. Moody is too dogmatic, too literal, and too emotional. We can put up with these things in him, conscious that he is a sort of genius notwithstanding; but the same amount of dogmatism, literalism, and emotionalism all round would be too much.

One thing at least Mr. Moody may and does teach the churches, namely, that if preaching is to be effective it must cast off much of its present stiffness and become more human.

R. A. B.

THE WINTER CARNIVAL.

MONTREAL, December, 1884.

It was a bold idea to take ice and snow, which so many Canadians regard as among the weighty evils of their country, and make of them the most attractive festival ever projected in the Dominion. It was no "solid" man, with a seat at a bank board, where weekly or bi-weekly he could brush crumbs from his vest, and frown at applications for discounts, that conceived the idea of a Winter Carnival. It was the suggestive mind of a youth of twenty-four that first originated the scheme which for two winters has brought the *élite* of Boston and New York to Montreal in the depth of winter for a week's frolic in sleighs and on toboggans and skates. Mr. R. A. McGibbon, who invented the carnival, was fortunate in enlisting the services of other young men in carrying out his unique programme. Of course, he has had substantial aid from men with frost in their hair, but his principal lieutenants have been selected from among the sturdy youths who lead in our numerous athletic clubs.

This winter the Carnival has been fixed for the week beginning January 26th, and already a design for the ice-palace has been accepted, and contracts for its construction given out. As the building is to be larger and loftier than that of last winter, its projectors are a little anxious to see the St. Lawrence arrested by Jack Frost, that its surface may be quarried for the gleaming blocks to be built up during the few weeks that remain before the Carnival. Still, whatever may have been the fate of wheat, or corn, or fruit, never yet have we known the ice-crop to fail us, so we bolster ourselves with that comforting thought. As the palace will be erected by night as well as day, the electric light being employed for the purpose, we can expect some new and very beautiful effects. Its walls, translucent crystal by light from within, become marble when illuminated from without. In its general outlines the new palace will resemble that of last February, except that its projections will be bolder, and its appearance more massive. Every spectacular feature of the Carnival we are promised this winter in improved form. The processions will be greatly extended and diversified by the French Canadian Athletic Clubs, which have organized themselves for that special purpose. The pyrotechnist who makes Coney Island, every summer evening, gleam with flame and colour, is to be engaged for displays much in advance of anything presented last winter.

Perhaps no more agreeable feature of our past Carnivals can be named than the hearty welcome shown strangers at our skating and curling rinks, at our toboggan slides, and by our snow-shoe clubs. This hospitality grows more extensive every year, for the Carnival immensely increases the local interest in winter sport, and constantly multiplies toboggan-slides and rinks of all kinds. At the Club House of the Montreal Amateur Athletic Association, new members are enrolling themselves this winter at a rate which must soon embarrass the managers. Their accommodations will soon be too scant for the thousand young men who will at an early day be on the lists of the establishment. This club-house has been the nursery of the Carnival, and well deserves to be imitated in Toronto, where so many young men would be the better for means of recreation and intercourse.

Last winter the Carnival Committee had two disagreeable experiences—the paucity of good quarters for the overwhelming number of visitors, and the greed of some keepers of hotels and lodging-houses. This time a thorough canvass is to be made for pleasant rooms for Carnival visitors, and Mr. W. R. Salter, who presides over the lodging department, will take pains to arrange reasonable terms in advance for all who apply to him. Any stranger overcharged, or otherwise defrauded, can have his case prosecuted at the cost of the Carnival Committee. With wise foresight, no contribution from the hackmen is to be taken this winter, so that Jehu will not, by virtue of the donation of a dollar, hope to escape unpunished in wrongful charges aggregating a hundred times the sum.

When a Montrealer sees the crowded hotels during Carnival week; the mobs surrounding every slide and rink and procession; the competition for every sleigh—including the antiquated old traps at other times in jeopardy of being broken up for kindlings—he is apt to think that if visitors prefer our sports to our spectacular entertainments, they should come to Montreal at any other time than during the stress of the Carnival. The month before and the month after the Carnival afford all the joys that chiefly make it the great attraction it is, and why should not visitors come when attic rooms are vacant, hotel-keepers civil, and the city can be seen in its normal winter garb of leisurely hospitality?

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