

nationality.) In another sense, he belonged to a very small *minority*—a French Congregationalist. If he saw a man casting out devils, be the man Protestant or Catholic, he would say to him, "Go on and cast the devils out." A writer in the *Revue du Monde* recently said, "I am not a believer in Christianity; but after all, all the noble and most glorious things done in the world, have been done by Christians!"

DR. DEXTER'S SPEECH.

On Monday night, June 9th, Dr. Dexter said: One who, like myself, has spoken for thirty years mostly by the pen, finds a difficulty in addressing a meeting where many—perhaps most—of those present know more of the matters in hand than himself, you come together so as to learn to do work and to be better workers for the Lord Jesus than ever before. Every age has its own duty, and we want to know what God has for us to do, *now*. One great thought is pressing—"How can the Gospel be brought down more into contact with the mass of humanity?" Was it not one of our Congregational brethren, who, through the cry of "Outcast London," has roused the mind of the world on this subject!

A great wave of immigration is rolling to our shores. Dynamiters among the rest. The great heart of the American people has no sympathy with the talk and aims of such immigrants. What can be done with such people when they do come to us? How can we do it? How can we reach them? Some say, "Hire a Theatre." "Put up a great preaching-tent!" I thank God for all the good that has been done in such ways. But, "Can the church not do the Lood's work?" I believe the Church of God is God's engine for the salvation of men—poor men and rich men! But you ask, "Can't I, in some way, and through my church get hold of the people?" To do so, obstacles must be taken out of the way. Things may have existed once, to make certain forms and modes advisable, that do not exist now. A sentinel was found in the middle of a lawn, at a palace in St. Petersburg, and no one could tell *why* he was placed there; it was simply a military tradition. But, with much research, it was at last discovered that long ago, in the time of the Empress Catherine, she had ordered a sentinel to protect a *daisy* growing there;

and though the *daisy* was gone generations ago the *sentry* was continued! Poor people don't come into your churches, because they are not quite sure whether everybody welcomes them. I don't know whether you have anything you cherish so much that deserves it so little, as a quartette choir—I don't see any here! We must have the church as a place where the rich and the poor meet together—the Lord the Maker of them all! Let me illustrate this from a church to which I belonged—in fact I believe I was pastor! We could seat nearly 2,000, and the community around us was largely leavened by poverty and vice. We took a survey of our surrounding population. I called the deacons together, and as we looked on the map of the vicinity, I said, "Let us divide it into ten divisions, and visit every family, and talk to them, and get their children to Sunday School." The people came. The children came, and in the two Sunday Schools, and the two Mission Schools, 1,200 to 1,300 children were taught. We looked out for the sick; and in alphabetical turn we watched through the night with those who needed this ministry. And they came to us—won by kindness—to be taught the way to the better life!

In *some* way, cannot the Church put out its hands, and reach the poor and needy around it? Some argue against the Truth; but is not Christianity able to take care of itself? Don't be afraid of a little opposition! We want self-consecration. We want to go out to the poor around us; and we shall see the desert blossoming like the rose! We are going to see the people all righteous; and you and I are going to help to make them so!

ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

The reference to this was not altogether clear, in July issue of THE INDEPENDENT. The change in the mode of electing the chairman does not come into effect till next year, and is sufficiently indicated in Rule Four as amended at Montreal:—"On Thursday morning, immediately after the devotional exercises, the Chairman's Address shall be delivered, and the roll shall be called, and the Chairman for the next year shall be elected by ballot without nomination. For this purpose, the ballot papers shall be sent by the Statistical Secretary to every member of