

authority, of articles of faith, as a guarantee of orthodoxy. Our churches have done a good service in presenting so striking an illustration of the union of Liberty and Faith.

Other causes for thankfulness were noticed in "the readiness of our churches to profit by great and popular impulses and movements towards spiritual progress," in "the missionary spirit" which has distinguished them during the present century, "in the service they have been enabled to render" in "the diffusion of intelligence, and of liberal principles in politics and religion throughout the world," in "their disposition towards unity both with other Christian communities and among ourselves," in the spirit of philanthropy which had been fostered, as instanced in "the labour and self-sacrifice of John Howard, and the energy and devotion of Andrew Reid," in the culture and power of our ministry, and in the type of Christian character which Congregationalism has fostered among us.

There is amongst our churches, he thought, less of *traditionalism, conservatism, absorption in material aspects of religious life*, than is to be met with among some religionists. There is a noticeable union of liberty with reverence. There is a determination, which nothing can break, to keep prominent and living the bond between Christianity and national and social life. Yet, it becomes us to rejoice with trembling. We are not exempt from the temptations and the perils of the days in which we live. The lessons of the past should teach us where to look for wisdom to direct our steps amid untrodden ways, for strength to nerve our hands for work as yet untried. May a grateful review of the past impart faith for present duty, and irradiate our day of toil with the sunlight of unsetting hope!

The Rev. Dr. Allon followed with an address on "Reasons for thanksgiving to God on account of the present condition of these churches in regard to peace and unity," and after him the Rev. Fred. Stephens, on "Reasons for thanksgiving to God on account of the recent revival of Evangelistic zeal."

We can only give Dr Allon's remarks on the religious condition of England at the present time:— "Whatever test may best demonstrate spiritual life—its tenderness, its fidelity, its activity, its self-sacrifice—this test would never in our history have elicited a more satisfactory result than now. Ragged schools, theatre preachings, and a hundred forms of ingenious and self-sacrificing Christian agency, attest a keener Christian sensibility, a larger sense of the presence of Christ, and a more pervading love and service of Christ than our church life has ever known. Nay, in our very social atmosphere there is a more pervading and intense Christian element than we have known heretofore; so that everything pertaining to Christian thought and life touches more responsive susceptibility and elicits more ready and practical response. Let a man speak of Christ almost where he will—I had almost said, and well nigh *how* he will, ignorantly, foolishly even—men listen with respect for his theme, and respond to the simple power of it. This feeling pervades all churches from the Roman Catholic and the High Anglican to the Unitarian and Positivist, and according to their different characters and forms it is filling them with life. For all which we thank God, and take courage. Of the brotherhood, the purity, the intelligence, the devotedness of our ministerial life I must not speak, nor of the general peace and prosperity of the life of our churches. Much might be said about both. But speaking relatively, and making all reasonable allowance for exceptions, we have abounding cause to be thankful to God. We live in a good time; an earnest, let us hope, of a still better time which is coming." Surely a cheering picture. May the hopes expressed be more than realized.

LOST

Somewhere between Sunrise and Sunset,

TWO GOLDEN HOURS, each set with SIXTY DIAMOND MINUTES.

No Reward is offered, as they are lost forever.

—Selected.