

NEWFOUNDLAND

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THE EDITOR ON HIS TRAVELS.

No. II.

A dream of years was realised when I reached the land of the "Stars and Stripes."

Like many others from the mother country, I had strong and unreasonable prejudices against our American cousins—at least, against some of their ways of doing things and many of their institutions. I expected to meet with insolence from every car-driver and crossing-sweeper, to be shouldered off the sidewalk by every passing pedlar; to be disgusted with "guessing," swaggering, and braggadocio. I expected to find the churches filled with ladies in full dress costume, the gentlemen with hats on, smoking cigars; to hear the ministers talking politics, or reading essays on political economy. I thought I should find little boys and girls dictating to their parents where they should spend the summer vacation, etc.; and everything in the same free-and-easy—or Young American—style. But how have I been disappointed, and confounded, and humbled! I would advise those who have not been to visit the great Republic to say nothing about it; they just know nothing. The opinions that we get from those strolling pedlars, or even some of the boasting tourists or book-making travellers, are as far from sober truth as we can well imagine anything to be.

I was at home with an old member of my church in St. John's—Mr. J. Heath. The kindness of himself and family was unbounded. I was rejoiced to find all of them walking in the ways of the Lord. I spent my Sabbath pleasantly, and, I hope, profitably too. In the morning I heard the pastor of Franklin-street Church, Somerville, the Rev. William Hubbell. In the afternoon I preached in the same place. In the evening attended the annual meeting of the Boston Young Men's Christian Association, in the Tabernacle where some time before Messrs. Moody and Sankey held their great evangelistic services. There were supposed to be 7,000 present on this occasion. Among those who took part in the service I remember Rev. Dr. Webb, Congregational; Rev. Dr. Phillips Brooks, Episcopalian; Rev. Dr. Tyng, jun.,

Episcopalian; Rev. Dr. Gordon, Baptist; and Mr. Sankey, who sang some of his beautiful solos and also spoke most impressively. There was a large choir, under the direction of a doctor of music. It was one of the most delightful services it was ever my privilege to attend. The Young Men's Christian Association is a power for good in Boston, and, indeed, in all the cities of the great Republic.

I was fortunate to be in Boston during what is called anniversary week—that is, the week in which the annual meetings of the various religious and philanthropic societies are held. I was anxious to learn as much as possible, and especially to become acquainted with the working of the churches known as "orthodox Congregational." Through the courtesy and kindness of the Rev. Mr. Hubbell, I had an introduction to the leading men of the various societies in the Congregational House. I soon felt myself almost as much at home there as I would in Memorial Hall, London. I was present at several meetings in Tremont Temple, in Pilgrim Hall, and in the Cradle of Liberty, or Fanuel Hall. In the latter place I was favoured with a rare feast. The meetings of the week are brought to a close by a festival, given by the Congregational Club. I met at this meeting missionaries from almost every part of the world, heard some of the best speakers of the denomination, and perhaps the best professional singers in Boston. On the same day I was the guest of an Association of Oberlin students at their Alumni dinner. Some of the first students of that great institution that the great Dr. Finney did so much to build up were present, and this was one of the most delightful meetings I was privileged to attend while in America. I shall long remember the pleasant intercourse, the deep religious feelings and joys of that afternoon in Pilgrim Hall.

While in Boston I visited a few of the public institutions; among others, the Free Library, the Museum of Art, and one of the public schools. It is impossible to speak too highly of the people of that ancient city. The entire municipal regulations appeared to me to be far in advance of anything I had seen in England. I gave a lecture on "Newfoundland," in Franklin-street Church; also in Newton, where I met the Rev. Mr.