

Spurgeon said he was always surprised when God blessed him. The fellowship of the Spirit is the final blessing, but comes not of the will of man, but of the will of God; not of the act of man, but of the doing of duty whereby character reaches such a stage that in God's wisdom the fellowship will be a blessing.

Rousseau, Ont.

shall we do when at our feet lies unmeasured power! What we can do we must do, and what we must do we must answer for if we do not do. Come on, Leaguer! climb the hills of glorious achievement in the dawn of the new day and add glory to the name of Him whose we are and whom we serve!

(b) The victories of our fathers demand

give what they have and are to bring in its glorious realization!

(b) We should do it with consecration of life and service. Until we give ourselves fully to Him we are not likely to give what we have to Him.

We speak of consecration. Do we know what it means? Do we consecrate our lives and our livings to Him? We

pray for Him to take us but not to take our gold. We would make a pretense of giving ourselves to Him but we make our own disposition of our substance. What mockery to God. If the consecration of the Church was as real as it should be, millions for God would be here to-day.

3. When we have done it.

(a) The spiritual power we pray for but do not have will come to us.

(b) We shall help to usher in the kingdom of God and bring happiness to earth's great millions.

(c) We shall have eternal satisfaction in knowing that we have helped Jesus to save a world.

Let us go into this work with our eyes on the hills whence cometh our help, and we shall be instrumental in the great

and eternal service of crowning Him King of Kings and Lord of Lords.

APPROPRIATE.

There is a fitness in things, even on funeral occasions. Nothing could have been more becoming in the life and character of the late Colonel R. G. Ingersoll than the ceremonies connected with his funeral, which, it is reputed, were attended by about forty persons. The exercises consisted in the recital of the Colonel's last poem and the repetition of his famous oration at the grave of his brother. No God, no Bible, no prayer, no minister of the blessed gospel, and no music to tinge the mournful occasion with the light of hope. No wonder the sorrowing wife and children clung with a superstitious devotion to the mortal remains, refusing to bury their dead out of their sight. Christianity is worth all it costs, just to have it on funeral occasions. Contrast the Christian funeral with the Godless and comfortable and hopeless and lifeless scene. Even the sweet cadences of the organ must not intrude while the mortal remains are being cremated. In what mournful contrast this with the Christian stanza, "Let music cheer me last on earth, and greet me first in heaven!"—*J. W. Hill, in Central Christian Advocate.*

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COMPOSING ROOM, METHODIST BOOK AND PUBLISHING HOUSE.

THE TWENTIETH CENTURY FUND.

BY REV. W. J. SIFFRELL, B.A.

(Synopsis of an address delivered at the International Epworth League Convention at Indianapolis.)

The Twentieth Century is a big thing and the movements of the Twentieth Century will be big too. What may be their distinctive character I cannot tell, for I do not know what great idea God will drop into some mighty mind; but there is one movement already in vogue and upon that I am to address you. It is "The Twentieth Century Thanksgiving Fund," already having had inception in the mother-land, your own America, and in Canada.

May I fasten my impressions upon your thought under three statements covering this great call of millions for God? as follows:

1. Why we should do it.
2. How we should do it.
3. When we have done it.

First, then, why we should do it.

(a) Because of the greatness of our possibilities.

The measure of our responsibilities is measured by our possibilities. Dawning upon us is a new century, fresh in youthful vigor, abundant in energy, with no force weakened by sin or marked by failure. More doors lie open to us than ever before. A mightier army than history ever marshalled stands ready to obey our orders. Forces never paralleled in the past are at our command. What

that we do something worthy their sainted memory.

What names glow on history's page, what lives they lived, what conquests they made, what battles they fought, what victories they won. Shall we do less? Epworth Leaguer, shall it be said of us that we refused millions for God when they counted it all joy to suffer and die for him. Think of an Abraham, a David, an Isaiah, a Paul, a Wesley, and a great army of other sainted heroes who went before us in paths of service, wet with their own blood, only that they might prove their devotion to Him. Are we marching on? I fear sometimes we are in retreat and that we need men with the devotion of a Paul and the courage and enthusiasm of a Sheridan to call us back to duty and to God.

2. How we should do it.
- (a) We need enthusiasm.

Enthusiasm! Yes, enthusiasm. Do not let that word out of religion nor out of the Church. Enthusiasm! Some one has said "we only play at missions." Perhaps so. But this I know, "We only play at giving." Hide your heads now! Give me the money spent by church-members in whisky and tobacco and I will girdle the earth with missionaries and carry the gospel to every heart. When I think of the devotion and enthusiasm men will exert in the cause of their native land I feel like crying: Oh for Hobsons and Gordon Highlanders in the church of Jesus Christ—men who make His kingdom and its coming the ideal of life and