

that I could not understand, could not make out a word of. The hymn is given out, the people rise and they let four or five people in the organ loft do all the singing, and not one in twenty of the congregation is even paying attention, but all looking round the church perfectly careless. That does not put a man in a good frame of mind for preaching. Then I would give out, "Rock of Ages," thinking I would get something I could understand, and they would get up and sing it to a tune I knew nothing about. I tell you it would not make me feel much like preaching. Let us ask God's blessing upon this important subject.

"WHAT MORE CAN BE DONE FOR OUR YOUNG MEN?"

REV. DYSON HAGUE opened this topic. He said:— "What we want to do for our young men is to get them to cry out, 'Wash me and I shall be whiter than snow.' We want our young men who drift down our streets Saturday and Sunday nights to send an earnest cry to God, 'What can I do to be saved?' What more can we do for our young men? Four classes of the community can influence them far more than they have been influenced, and the foremost instruments for getting hold of young men are the homes and churches. Let every Christian parent pray earnestly and incessantly for the boy from the time of his birth till he is twenty-one years, and we will see in our communities a vast number of our young men saved who are now unsaved. Too many parents forget that the power of Christ is going to give them their children if they will earnestly thank God, before the answer comes, for what He is going to give them by your prayers. How many of you are placing before your boys the idea that the grand object of life is to get on, to make money. Have you morning, noon and night prayed that those boys may be Christ's? How many of you have put before your boys the thought that the grandest thing to do in this world is to do God's service? If there is a millionaire present, I would not stand in his shoes for all the inducements he could offer. I thank God I am in the Christian ministry, trying to save souls. If you pray for your boys and place before them that the grandest thing is to serve God, many of them will be saved. What can the Church do? It can use more influence than it is using. I thank God for the suggestion we received from Mr. Moody, that every Church should appoint the best person possible to devote the whole of his energies to getting hold of young men between seventeen and twenty years, who are continually drifting away from us, and get them into our Sunday Schools and Bible classes. There are two classes who can influence young men more than they are doing. The first class is employers. The great majority of our young men are employed in warehouses, banks and offices, presided over by nominally Christian men. How many of those think of asking their clerks whether they are saved. How many say that a certain employee is worth \$1500 a year; he is the best clerk I have got. His body is precious to you. What about his soul? What have you done for that young man? The answer will probably come. "I asked him with fifty others to have tea at my house about a year ago." What then? "We talked, and then we had each other good night." Did he ask the young man if he was saved; did he pray with him? Are there not employers here who have twenty or thirty young men in their offices, who have never spoken a word to any of them about their souls? Young men look up to their employers, and if you will speak to them and do what you can to save them, you will succeed. Suppose

you can not speak to them yourself, send them to the minister or Sunday School. You can get tickets for the Y.M.C.A. for the whole of your employees at a very reasonable rate. You can start a Temperance Society among them. You can interest yourself in their souls, and let each one know that his soul's salvation is a matter of concern to you. If our employers were more earnest in this regard, very many young men would be saved. There is another class of the community—and I touch upon this subject without any fear whatever—who could do more for young men than they are doing, and they are the young women of our city. Where are the young men each evening? The greater proportion are in the drinking houses. When young men consort with young ladies, how many of you say to any of them, "Are you saved; can I help you in any way to heaven?" A young lady asked a young man, "What think ye of Christ?" and asked him to stop drinking. It was a revelation to him. He did not love the girl, but he had high regard for her, and this word spoken was the means of turning that man. A simple word from you, who have more power over young men than any other class, will do much to save. Do you think it is proper for you to be three nights a week with a young man whose person is something to you, and yet never think of saying a word to him about his soul. We want to be in earnest with regard to the saving of souls. The Word of God is quick and powerful. When ever I have been with a young man and have not spoken to him about his soul, I feel as if I had committed a wrong. Let us try and do more for the young men.

MR. ALFRED SANDHAM—For the last twenty-one years the question daily presented to me has been, "What more can we do to reach young men?" And that brings up the other question, "What are you doing?" "Are you doing anything?" Mr. Hague has spoken about separation between a young man and his family. The 109 Psalm says, "Wherewithal shall a young man cleanse his way." The Hebrew word for young man may be translated, "shaken off, or separated from." There is reference to a young man being cut off and separated from his parent. You go into an orchard and look at the trees. They are laden with fruit. It is not ripe. You do not think of doing anything for it. You come along later. There has been a storm; the apples have been shaken off. One of two things must take place. Either they must rot and perish, or they must be taken up and cared for. Does the farmer allow them to care for themselves? No. He goes out with his sons and they pick the fruit up carefully and put it in a place of safety, that with age it may become mellow and pleasant, so that when the time for eating comes they will be pronounced good and agreeable. It is the care bestowed upon the fruit after it has been shaken off that is the cause of the pleasure afterwards. So when a young man comes into our city he has been shaken off, he is no longer attached to the parent stem and to the father's and mother's care. He must then either perish or be picked up. What are you doing to save young men from perishing? Are you doing anything? I wish to give in this connection two or three thoughts as what the Y. M. C. A. in this city is trying to do. In Toronto, according to a calculation we made a short time ago, more than one half, nearly two-thirds of the young men, are to be found in boarding houses. I question whether any other city of the same size contains the same number of young men who are away from home! I can take you to a street within a pistol shot of where we are standing where are whole blocks composed of boarding houses, and from garret to first floor the rooms are filled with young men. What is going