

CLEVELAND CONVENTION.

Address by Rev. Dr. Clark — Notes on the Opening.

Specially reported for the Presbyterian Review.

CLEVELAND, July 12. — Cleveland has broken the record!

When some months ago Chairman Tyler of the Committee of '91 asked Governor McKinley to give the address of welcome from Ohio, he suggested that after being given in the Sangerfest Hall holding 11,000 people, it might be repeated in the tent, holding an equal number, the Governor said, "Well, Mr. Tyler, I know something of the Sangerfest and I hardly think you will fill that." This morning, half an hour after the doors were open the big hall was crowded, and thousands were hurrying to the tent; another thirty minutes and the tent was overflowing into the Epworth Memorial Church, and a little later Woodland Presbyterian had to be thrown open for the remainder. Thus for once, if never before, Governor McKinley's judgment was at fault.

The Convention really began last night, when fifteen of Cleveland's largest churches failed to hold the thousands gathered for preparatory prayer.

This morning the meeting opened with a service of praise at 10.30, at the conclusion of which T. Willis Baer, the secretary of the United Society announced amid profound silence that Father Endeavor Clark would not be present owing to a severe attack of nervous prostration. This was a blow to the Convention for which it was not prepared, and it was with deep feeling that all united in earnest pleading led by Dr. Wayland Hoyt, for his recovery. Dr. Tyler, chairman of '91 committee, then delivered an eloquent address of welcome, followed by Governor McKinley who was greeted with a Chautauqua salute that looked like a sea of white. Owing to the absence of Dr. Dille, of San Francisco, the Rev. Wm. Patterson, to the great joy of the Canadian delegation, was chosen in his place to reply on behalf of the visitors. And well he did it. As in glowing words, pungent with humor, he declared the gratitude of the delegates, Canadians felt proud of their whole-souled Irish orator. Then came that for which all were eagerly waiting, Secretary Baer's report. We have just room for a few of the salient points. Figures speak. Listen!

Total membership 2,023,800. To this Great Britain contributes 75,000, Canada 134,589, United States, 1,500,000, while Australia, India, Japan and other lands make up the whole army. The Presbyterians in both the United States and Canada lead the van. Thus does the mighty work go on, and to God we give all the praise.

Next week we will give you a grand number with bright, brief gleanings from all the Convention speakers and meetings.

Address by Rev. Frances E. Clark, D.D.,

President of the United Society Christian Endeavor.

READ AT THE THIRTEENTH INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION, CLEVELAND, JULY 12TH, 1894.

A picturesque scene is that which the Scriptures record as occurring near the close of the life of the Prophet Elisha. The dying seer places his hands upon the haunches of King Joash, which hold the royal bow and arrow, and he tells him to shoot. The king obeys, and out of the open window the arrow speeds, while the prophet cries out, "The arrow of the Lord's deliverance and the arrow of deliverance from Syria."



REV. FRANCES E. CLARK, D.D.

the name of the Lord.

"Strike again for the principles that have made you strong.

"Strike once more for converted loyalty and outspoken devotion and definite service.

"Strike again for Christian Citizenship, and for the Extension of the Kingdom in all lands, and for your World wide Fellowship.

"Do not be content with one, two, or three blows for the right. Strike, and strike, and strike again until the day is won."

If I can read aright the times, this is the message for to-day.

1. Strike once more for the principles that have made Christian Endeavor strong.

As an organization becomes popular and vigorous, it sometimes forgets the principles that gave it strength and vigor.

Let that never be said of the Society of Christian Endeavor.

What are our principles? If I know anything about them, they are the ideas involved in the Pledge, the Consecration Meeting, and the Committees.

We have struck with these arrows three times, but let us not excite the just wrath of God's prophets by staying our hands. Four, five, six, perhaps sixty-six, times do we need to reiterate the truth involved in our pledge;—that it is reasonable to vow and to pay unto God our vows, that there is nothing in the Christian Endeavor pledge that the weakest and obscurest young Christian cannot fulfil; that this, more than all other things, gives lasting power to our Society, and that without it, in its substance, no Endeavor society is worthy of the name.

So for the Consecration Meeting. This is our land of Florida, where we not only seek, but find the fountain of perpetual youth. Our hour of consecration is our hour of rejuvenation. Anteus touched earth with but one foot or one finger, and was revived and quickened for a stronger fight. At the monthly roll-call meeting we touch heaven, and are revived for a further journey and conflict in the world.

So with the Committees. They are essential. They mean Christian work. They stand for individual service. All these are not mere methods or crutches or helps over hard places; they involve principles that go with the name "Christian Endeavor," and with which the name should always go. Upon the maintenance of these principles depends, I am confident, the future success of Christian Endeavor. Do not think that the time has come when we can ignore these ideas or treat them lightly.

Do not suppose that the public has so fully accepted them that they can be safely dropped out of sight.

At union meetings and conventions, in your own society and in more public gatherings, by print and by speech, let us strike not three times, but five or six times, until all the world knows for what Christian Endeavor stands.

May I suggest that more of the money raised in our State conventions might be profitably spent in circulating this fundamental literature rather than in any other way? Sow broadcast this seed. Show that Christian Endeavor has principles—definite, reasonable, workable principles, principles in which we believe; principles that we can defend; principles that constitute the strength of the movement.

II. Again, Christian Endeavorers, strike once more for good Citizenship. Right nobly have you rallied around this standard during the past year.

From East and West and North and South has come the good news,—“Christian Endeavor stands for the election of good men, for the enactment of good laws, for sturdy and steady opposition to the saloon, the gambling-hell, the lottery, the violation of the Sabbath.”

It stands by such men as Charles H. Parkhurst, and every kindred spirit in every political party that seeks to purify politics and to make this Immanuel's land.

I congratulate you that none of you have been cajoled into making our organization the tail of any political kite. To be a Christian Endeavorer does not mean that one is necessarily a Republican, or a Democrat, or a Populist, or a Third Party man, a Blue or a Grit, a Tory or a Liberal.

It does mean that he is necessarily a good citizen, and that he will exert every ounce of his influence, to whichever sex he belongs (if the young men will excuse the generic pronoun), for the right.

While Tammany flourishes in New York, and open gambling in Chicago, and licensed prostitution in New Orleans, and the Louisiana lottery has moved only across the street to Honduras, the outlook is dark.

It is dark, but not hopeless.

This last year has seen Boss McKane sent to Sing Sing, and Brooklyn redeemed. It has seen Croker fly to Europe. It has heard Woolley speak in Chicago and Indianapolis, and Murphy in Boston, and has witnessed a score of other good-citizenship campaigns. It has seen thousands of Endeavorers go to the primaries who never went before. It has seen a splendid verdict pronounced against the saloon in Canada, a verdict that Endeavorers have made emphatic in a hundred towns.

Thank God for the year's work! But you have only struck once, Endeavorers. Strike again and again and again, until, if Christ should come to Chicago or New York or Toronto or San Francisco, he would find clean streets, and clean city halls, and clean men in them, with never a brothel or a dive to pollute the air that he should breathe.

III. For Missions, too, more has been done during the past year than ever before. That eloquent Roll of Honor tells us that tens of thousands of dollars have been given.

The Missionary Extension course, with that "son of thunder" at its head, has kindled a genuine missionary prairie fire wherever it has swept,—through Illinois, into Indiana and Wisconsin and Kansas, south into Tennessee, and east into New York.

But it is a kindled nation, and not merely blazing patches of missionary enthusiasm, that we desire to see, and Christian Endeavor bears the torch that can kindle this fire.

Millions should be given where now are given thousands. A very moderate calculation puts the earnings of active Christian Endeavorers at \$150,000,000 for the last twelve months. One-tenth of that, \$15,000,000, would be nearly twice as much as all the Christians of America gave to home and foreign missions within that time.