

MOODY'S SCHOOL.

"Better be a worm and feed upon the mulberries of Daphne, than a king's guest."

Beautiful spots are not so common on this globe but that if one of them constantly verifies its good reputation, it will always be honored with visitors.

To the Greek, Daphne was more than beautiful. It was sacredly beautiful. It was always thronged with worshipful visitors. To the New England Christian, Northfield is more than beautiful. It is sacredly beautiful and every summer it is thronged with worshipful visitors.

It was neither interest nor even curiosity that tempted Ben Hur into Daphne; but at a certain moment during his visit at Antioch, when he had nothing better to do, he simply drifted into the renowned grove, the old saying having flashed into his memory:—"Better be a worm and feed upon the mulberries of Daphne, than a king's guest."

It was on account of some such saying concerning Northfield, that I chose to go there for a week this last summer, rather than elsewhere. Once there, indifference must go.

"The town of Northfield, Mass., founded in 1663, is beautifully situated on both banks of the Connecticut river, at the northern line of the State, and adjoining the States of New Hampshire and Vermont." It is the birthplace of the great evangelist Moody, though we usually associate Chicago with his early years. The latter place was indeed his home until it burned in the great fire of '71, but in '75 he made Northfield his permanent residence. Here he was accustomed to prepare during the summer for his winter campaigns, and he was soon holding in his own house meetings for Bible study, open to the neighbors. From this beginning the idea of a school was conceived, to give young men and young women a Christian education. In the spring of '78 the first purchase was made.

"The story of this first purchase is characteristic of the whole after history of the school. As Mr. Moody and his friend Mr. Marshall stood discussing the advisability of buying the land, they quickly agreed that it should be done. No sooner