

men as Rev. Dr. Fairbairn, or (Rev.) Sir Wm. Robertson Nicoll, the eminent editor of the British Weekly.

To hear Dr. Whyte in St. George's regularly was one of the privileges of life in Edinburgh which it was well not to miss.

The "Conversion" of "Brother Lawrence"

"Conversion" is a word of which the staid Presbyterian is apt to be somewhat shy; it somehow gets associated in his mind with street-preaching and revival meetings; and yet it ought to be as familiar to us as "The Ascent of Man," "The Descent of Man," or the renewal of progressive life in nature. After all conversion may be defined as simply a matter of life direction (though that, of course, is no simple matter); and surely that man is converted who turns from the lower, insists on facing towards the higher, and with unflinching optimism never wholly yields to "failure," but holds that "we fall to rise again." In thus phrasing it, of course we are not meaning to exclude the "divine agency," which is "broader than the measures of man's mind."

Of all experiences or records associated with "conversion," it has always seemed to us that the story of what led to the conversion of "Brother Lawrence" was one of the most remarkable. In the preface to the edition of the book mentioned it is stated thus:

"His conversion, which took place when he was about eighteen years old, was the result, under God, of the mere sight in mid-winter of a dry and leafless tree, and of the reflections it stirred respecting the change the coming spring would bring. From that time he grew eminently in the knowledge and love of God, en-

deavoring constantly to walk "as in His presence."

The Value of the Book

For the information of those who heard Mr. Woodside's address, and others whose interest may be awakened by perusal of the summary of that address published in this issue, we may note that the full title reads: "The Practice of the Presence of God; being Conversations and Letters of Nicholas Herman of Lorraine." (Translated from the French.) The publisher's name is noted above.

"The value of this little book (says Mrs. Pearsall Smith in the introduction) is its extreme simplicity. The trouble with most of the religion of the day is its extreme complexity. "Brother Lawrence" was not troubled with any theological difficulties or doctrinal dilemmas. For him these did not exist. What "Brother Lawrence" did all can do. No theological training nor any especial theological views are needed for the blessed "practice" he recommends. No gorgeous churches, nor stately cathedral, nor elaborate ritual, could either make or mar it. * * * This little book, therefore, seems to me one of the most helpful I know. It fits into the lives of all human beings, let them be rich or poor, learned or unlearned, wise or simple."

It should be added that the book is small and the price cannot well be prohibitive to any interested reader.

College Life in Western Canada

There is scarcely need now-a-days to talk of the development of college spirit: college spirit is among the things that are.

Anyone with a few years' familiarity with Westminster Hall life could not but be impressed by several evenings of social fun and frolic indulged in by the "boys" at the close of the