

by on their own concerns, and the good Samaritan among the nations, has no where as yet put in an effective appearance in behalf of those who have fallen among far worse thieves and murderers than ever infested and made hideous the dreary, dangerous road that leads to Jericho.

"For the oppression of the poor, for the sighing of the needy now will I arise, saith the Lord; I will set him in safety from him that puffeth at him."

STUDENT'S INTERNATIONAL MISSIONARY CONFERENCE.

THIS great conference which has been long looked forward to and for which great preparations were made, was held in Liverpool, England, from the first to the fifth of January. Its object was to emphasise the purpose, progress, and possibilities of the Volunteer movement, stimulate missionary enthusiasm among students generally, and arouse the whole Church to greater missionary effort. Arrangements were made for a very large and representative gathering and the expectations were fully realized. No more representative meeting of students as regards numbers has ever taken place in Europe. Of British delegates present there were 675, 60 foreign, 180 missionaries and representatives of missionary societies, 42 of which from all the leading evangelical associations were represented. There was a total of 915 students, of whom 213 were volunteer students for the mission field, and 134 were women. Twenty-four different nationalities were represented. "It was a most interesting sight," says the *Belfast Witness*, "to see students of so many types of thought, with such varied kinds of training and tradition, coming together for the purpose of exalting Christ as the only Lord and Saviour of men, and devising means of carrying His message of love to every land."

The conference opened with a conversation on Wednesday evening, and on the three following days the arrangement was, first a prayer meeting, next sectional meetings in the forenoon for the discussion of special phases of missionary work, then in the afternoons and evenings great public meetings held in the Philharmonic Hall capable of seating 2,500, which was usually filled and sometimes to overflowing, though admission was by ticket and some parts of the hall had to be paid for. The interest and aid lent by the Y. M. C. A. of Liverpool is illustrated by the fact that every day the whole conference was invited to luncheon by some prominent member connected with it, Sir George Williams being one of them.

We can only mention some of the persons and subjects prominent in this great gathering and, in a word, the spirit of it. At the opening on Wednesday evening the Lord Bishop of Liverpool presided. On behalf of the University, Principal Rendall extended a welcome. The spread of colleges and universities in recent years, he said, was an old tale, but he thought it was a new and very startling tale to many, that these colleges and universities were becoming so much the forces and centres of Christian life and energy as that great gathering denoted.

Dr. Pierson, in the course of a powerful address, said that, whatever politicians might say, the great heart of the American people beat in sympathy with the hearts of the English people. If two such nations as these should be found embroiled in conflict there would be a jubilee nowhere but in hell. There could be no conflict between them without a shadow spreading over both countries, and another shadow darkening their prospective destiny. He went on to show that with regard to Christ's purpose of having the Gospel preached to the world, there were three features: (1) Universality, for all the world and addressed to all Christians; (2) celerity; and (3) spirituality. The particulars of evangelization in this generation are:—(a) Multiplication of facilities, such as inventions; and (b) multiplication of instruments—e.g., the sending out of women as missionaries, and the young men's movements, Y. M. C. A. and S. V. M. U.

Dr. Gillison, of Hang Kow, China, spoke of the "Intellectual Preparation of the Volunteer"—(1) general; (2) with regard to medical training. Mr. Eugene Stock, editorial secretary of the C. M. S. gave an address on the "Training of the Character of the Volunteer." Dr. Pierson spoke again and asked:

"What should the Church say in recognition of this mighty miracle of the nineteenth century? What new inspiration should she have in her marvellous march round the Jericho of heathenism? The Church must recognize the stamp of God upon the Students' Volunteer movement. He urged on all present to support this movement by impetuous, united and individual prayer."

Egerton Young, Wesleyan missionary to the North American Indians, spoke of work amongst them. Mrs. Duncan McLaren, who had just returned from a tour among mission stations in the East, spoke on, "How the Nations Pray." Mr. T. C. Studd, one of the well-known "Cambridge seven," represented China and said:

"For the 400 millions of China there were 2,000 missionaries, half of them being women; whereas in England, there are 50,000 ordained ministers for forty millions. There is no love in China. Child-murder is everywhere. And yet God has done wonderful things among them, enabling Ohloamen to bear aggravated mental and physical suffering. He closed with an appeal for volunteers to go and work in China."

On Friday afternoon the subject was the Holy Spirit, and the speakers were Revs. S. H. C. Macgregor and F. B. Meyer, of London. In the evening Dr. George Smith, convener of the Free Church Foreign Missions, dealt with the historical aspect of missions in a masterly way, which showed a deep philosophic grasp of human history from the point of view of the kingdom of God. Other speakers were Miss Gollock, one of the secretaries of the C. M. S. and Dr. Pierson, who dealt with, "The relation of the Holy Spirit to the character and service of the missionary." On Saturday forenoon, Mr. Donald Fraser, of Glasgow University, chairman of the Conference, read the report which showed that there have been 1,086 Volunteers in Britain (of whom 208 were women) since the beginning of the movement, four years ago. Of these 212 have sailed. The result of the movement has been that there is a larger number of candidates offering themselves to missionary societies than ever before. This motto, "The evangelization of the world in this generation," is meant to lead on the Church to a more complete obedience to our Saviour's last command, which, they held, was meant to express the obligation of Christians in every age to preach the Gospel to the rest of the world.

The Saturday evening meeting was marked by two interesting events. One was a partial realization of one of the great aims of the leaders of the British S. V. M. U. to start the Volunteer movement among the large Continental universities, where at present there is so little aggressive missionary spirit. And now the foreign delegates, who had been greatly influenced by the meetings, after holding private meetings, solemnly agreed among themselves to draw up a declaration and form a S. V. M. U. in their respective countries of Scandinavia, Germany and France. Indications of similar awakenings in other countries were also evident. The other was in connection with the financial session. The expenses connected with so large a gathering are necessarily very considerable, and when the contributions for them were summed up after the meeting they were found to amount to over £1,600, a sum more than sufficient to cover all.

On Sabbath two meetings were held, afternoon and evening, after 8.30, the last being for gathering up the main ideas of the conference and pressing them on the students.

Other speakers at the Conference were: Mr. Eddy; Mr. Frazer; Rev. W. Park, convener of Foreign Missions in the Irish Presbyterian Church; Rev. J. Thompson, C.M.S., Travancore; Rev. Paton Begg, L.M.S., Calcutta; Miss Tulloch, L.B.M.M., Jaunpur; Miss Sharpe; Dr. Muirhead, of Shanghai; Dr. Harry Guinness, of Cayo Balolo; and Mr. Pilkington, of Uganda, Africa; Miss L. Guinness; Dr. Schor, of Jerusalem; Mr. Wilkinson.

"It would be premature," says the *Belfast Witness*, "to attempt to estimate the results of this Conference, but, in addition to those already referred to, there can be no question that by it the colleges will be greatly moved for Christ; the churches will come to see that the possibility of carrying the Gospel to the world is brought distinctly nearer, and will be led to back up the offers of men by the giving of money. All admit that the Conference has been of God and has shown Him independent of men and circumstances. One of those present summed up his impressions in these words: 'Is anything too hard for the Lord?'"

Books and Magazines.

OUR JOURNEY AROUND THE WORLD. By Francis E. Clark and Harriet E. Clark. A. D. Worthington & Co., Hartford, U.S.

Those who are interested in Foreign Missions will do well to read this book. In this tour around the world, the rrvant authors touched at the leading mission stations of Europe, Asia, and Australasia. They are open-eyed observers and have given a vivid account of the mode of life, habits and personal characteristics of the people of the countries visited. Though this tour was undertaken primarily in the interests of the Christian Endeavor movement, Foreign Missions, as a special and conspicuous feature of that movement, was kept distinctly in view all the way through. The volume is furnished with 220 illustrations and a well executed map of the world, showing the itinerary of the author. As a contribution to the more intimate acquaintance with these lands and their peoples it is an addition to Foreign Mission literature of rare value, and should have a place in every mission library.

The February *Arena* is probably the most attractive issue of this great reformative and progressive review that has yet appeared. In it are found notable papers by Forbes Winslow, D.O.L., of the Royal College of Physicians of London, on "Madness as Portrayed by Shakespeare." "The Land of the Noonday Sun," by Justice Walter Clark, L.L.D., of the Supreme Bench of North Carolina (profusely illustrated). "The Bond and the Dollar," by John Clark Ridpath, L.L.D.; "The Government and the Telegraph Monopoly," by Prof. Frank Parsons of Boston University School of Law; "A Half Century of Progress," by Professor Mary Lowe Dickinson, President of the National Council of Women. "Utopia of Sir Thomas More" (Part II) by the editor of *The Arena*; concluding his series of papers on "The Century of Sir Thomas Moore." *The Arena's* two serials—"The Valley Path" and "Between Two Worlds" gain greatly in interest with each succeeding issue. The book reviews also are a strong feature of this issue, occupying twenty-seven pages. [The Arena Publishing Company, Copley Square, Boston, Mass.]

In the February number of *Harper's Magazine*, Caspar W. Whitney takes his readers, in the third paper of a series describing a recent trip through the North-West Territories, far beyond the pale of civilization into the unknown wilderness of the North. None of our readers desirous of gaining an accurate knowledge of this vast and comparatively unexplored region should fail to gain the means of securing access to these realistically descriptive articles, whetted as their appetites must have been by the few excerpts which we gave in these columns some time since. "A Mother in Israel" is an entertaining study by H. H. Boyesen, whose late lamented death left a considerable void in the realm of American letters. There are five other stories, all of which will be found, as usual, of the best quality. An article descriptive of "The New Baltimore," "Personal Recollections of Joan of Arc," and "The German Struggle for Liberty" are as informing as they are engrossing. [Harper & Bros., New York.]

"Endeavor Handbook" for 1896; The Christian Endeavor Herald Co., Toronto. "The Sunday School Times," portraits of editor, contributors and business staff, John D. Wattles & Co., Philadelphia, Pa. "Blessed be Drudgery," by William O. Bunnett; Chicago, Charles H. Ken & Co. "That Monster the Higher Critic," by Martin R. Vincent, D.D.; Anson D. F. Randolph & Co., 182 Fifth Ave., New York city, N.Y. "Rome and the Provinces," by William C. Morey, Ph.D., Professor of History in Rochester University; The University of Chicago Press, Chicago, Ill. "The Unseen Foundations of the Old Testament," by Rev. Wm. Deas Kerswill, M.A., B.D., Professor of Hebrew and Church History, Lincoln University, Lincoln, Pa., U.S.

The Montreal *Presbyterian College Journal* for last month contains a series of interesting articles on "Dr. Goldwin Smith's 'Christianity's Mission,'" by Rev. Prof. Campbell, L.L.D., F.R.S.C.; "Christian Theology Spiritually Discerned," by Rev. Prof. Falconer, M.A., B.D.; "Theological Education in the United States," by Rev. Prof. Ross, M.A., B.D. Rev. Prnc p. l MacVicar writes on "Rise and Progress of the Presbyterian College, Montreal," and Rev. Prof. Scrimger continues his articles upon "Hard Sayings of Christ." The attractiveness and interest of this number is added to by likenesses of the professorial staff of the college. [Box 42 St. Catherine St. Centre, Montreal, Que.]

In addition to continued stories and articles *Scribner's Magazine* for February contains beautifully illustrated articles as follows:—"Life in the Altitudes—The Colorado Health Plateau," "Sevillana," "Design in Bookbinding," "The Ascent of Mount Ararat," "Hunting Musk Ox with the Dog Ribs." There are other articles also of interest not illustrated and poems: "The Hermit and the Pilgrim," by Clifford Howard; "The Singer" and "Wood Songs." "The Point of View," "The Field of Art" and "About the World" deal with the usual variety of topics. [Charles Scribner's Sons, New York city, N. Y., U. S.]

The life of Napoleon is occupied in the February *Century* with Napoleon as the Western Emperor, and covers the events of Friedland, Tilsit, the meeting with Queen Louisa of Prussia, and the splendors of Paris and the unification of France. It is one of the most beautifully illustrated instalments of the history that have yet appeared. It includes among other pictures Meissonier's "Marshall Ney" and "Friendland" and Detaille's "Vive L'Empereur."

Ex-President Benjamin Harrison discusses "The Presidential Office" very comprehensively in his "This Country of Ours" series, in the February *Ladies' Home Journal*. He details the provisions and methods of electing a Chief Magistrate, and has much to say bearing upon the eligibility of a President for re-election.