

little station, and called to the stationmaster: 'Mr. Smith, have you got any of those' scursion tickets left? I want one, please.'

Mr. Smith smiled as he gave me the ticket, and said: 'You needn't be in such a hurry, the train doesn't go till to-morrow.'

## The Northfield Schools.

(New York 'Observer'.)

No one comes to a Northfield convention without becoming deeply interested in the work which Mr. Moody has developed here in the interest of Christian education. I use the word Christian advisedly, for Bible study has the foremost place in the Northfield educational scheme. I was talking with a student here, about his progress in Latin, and he said: 'I failed in Latin last session, but it was because I could not keep it up without slighting my Bible study, and that can't be done here.' It is seventeen years since East Hall was opened by Mr. Moody, to accommodate the girls who had responded to his invitation to come and obtain training in the Bible and the ordinary English branches at a moderate cost. Mary Lyon's idea, embodied in Holyoke Seminary, was Moody's first plan. It has grown with the years, and he has advanced as God has led him to wider endeavors. The sixteen acres with which he began have increased to two hundred and seventy, halls and dormitories have been added, each one nobler and more beautiful than the last; till now there are on the seminary grounds seven dormitories, a library, recitation hall, gymnasium, and the Auditorium which can be crowded to hold audiences of three thousand people. The rude farms on which stood old barns and fences have given place to cultivated lawns planted with valuable trees, and traversed by fine roads; while parts of the property are carefully worked to supply the demands of the school for food. In order to give education at a low price to poor girls, the price of a year's board and tuition was fixed at \$100. The students were also to do all the housework. There are now from three to four hundred pupils; and Bible study, domestic work, and what is called household science, fill the time. The course may be continued four, five or six years, and graduates are qualified to enter any woman's college in the country, to preside with intelligence and dignity over a public or private institution, or to adorn with Christian virtues the sphere of home.

Mount Hermon aims to do for boys a similar work. It is situated across the Connecticut river, about four miles from Northfield, in the town of Gill, and comprises seven hundred and fifty acres of fine farming land on a magnificent hillside. It has farmhouses and barns, half a dozen brick cottages, Crossley Hall which will lodge two hundred students, Silliman Science Hall, and several other large buildings. There are a fine chapel, a library of five thousand books, incipient collections of minerals, birds and animals, a good laboratory, and a music room, where all must learn to read music whether they can sing or not. In one of those rooms the volunteer student movement had its birth, and an average of three hundred young men are here preparing to become intelligent and useful men. The school is industrial as well as educational. The boys work on the farm and take care of the house; they also earn money by overwork on the farm, in the laundry and in following such branches of trade as they may have practised before coming to the school. Some sixty boys are at Mount Hermon through

the summer, and pay their board by their work in the buildings and on the farm. None but young men with good health, and good habits, and a real desire for education, are encouraged to enter Mount Hermon; and those who intend to devote themselves to evangelistic or missionary work, are, other things being equal, preferred in their admission. The charge for board and tuition is the same as in the girls' seminary, but the minimum age of admission is sixteen years. The combination of Mr. Moody's faith and business tact have been often illustrated during the building of Mount Hermon. At the outset, he showed his breadth of view and wisdom in the location of the buildings upon two parallel ridges, the higher one being occupied by the dormitories. He would not consent, as a trustee—for this school is a corporate institution—to begin to build, until a certain amount of money was in hand; and when the work was begun he allowed nothing to stand in its way. On one occasion the trustees had come to the end of their resources, and five thousand dollars was needed for the completion of a part of the work. A gentleman in the board of trustees suggested the name of a possible giver, and urged that Mr. Moody go and lay the case before him. Many duties were pressing upon Mr. Moody, and he felt that he could not spare time from them to solicit money. 'Brethren,' said he, 'I don't think we have tried prayer, enough. I will write and spread the case before Mr. —, and we will all lay it before the Lord.' Mr. Moody wrote a letter in which he put the claims of this school for the Christian education of young men with all the wisdom, force and earnestness of which he was capable. Then he spread the sheet before him, and kneeling down, besought God's blessing upon the appeal, and sent it upon its errand. The letter was brought in with others to the breakfast table of the Christian man to whom it was addressed. He read one page carefully and laid it down, continuing his meal. Then he took it up again, and after reading further, resumed his breakfast. The third time he took up the letter. He began at the beginning, and after reading it through to the end, rose, walked into his library, and drew a cheque of five thousand dollars to Mr. Moody's order, inclosed it with a note, and sent it to the post. 'I did this before I went downtown, so that nothing should prevent me,' he said afterwards. When Mr. Moody opened his mail the next day, he found the answer to his prayer.

At another crisis, it was proposed to ask a wealthy friend for ten thousand dollars which was needed. One of the trustees said that the man had changed his methods of benevolence, and gave now only in sums amounting to three hundred dollars a day and to a variety of objects. Mr. Moody said, 'I will go and see him.' The man's hour for Christian giving found Mr. Moody in line with a number of others waiting his turn. When it came, and his name was announced, his friend said, 'Why, Mr. Moody, didn't you send your name right in; I am very glad to see you.' 'Then,' said Mr. Moody, 'I have come at the right time. I want ten thousand dollars for Mount Hermon;' and he proceeded to spread the case before him. In reply, Mr. — said that he had changed his method of giving, and gave no more large sums, but only a certain amount daily. 'But,' said Mr. Moody, 'you believe in the work?' 'Yes.' 'And you are willing to help it forward?' 'Certainly.' 'Then, why not give the money now, three hundred dollars will not

do any good.' After a little thought, he said, 'Mr. Moody, I will give you five thousand dollars.' 'But that is only half enough. Don't you see that I need the ten thousand dollars now. I can't spare the time to come every morning for two or three weeks to get the rest.' Mr. Moody's importunity and ready wit prevailed. His friend burst out laughing at the idea of Mr. Moody's coming every morning till he got the sum he needed, and he sent him home with the ten thousand dollars. Thus has Mount Hermon been reared by prayer and faith and Christian benevolence. It is by no means complete, but it offers an excellent preparatory course of education to young men of good principles and habits in connection with Bible study and Christian influences, for very little money. Its students find easy admission into colleges to which they can afford to go, and need not fear to apply for examination at our best institutions. The high moral tone and thorough discipline of Mount Hermon are valuable recommendations for any student.

It remains for me to speak of one more institution of recent organization—the Northfield Training School—which was commenced in 1890. A large hotel had been built for the accommodation of visitors to summer conventions, but during the winter it was unoccupied. It is a fine building, admirably situated and well kept, and during the summer months is full of guests of the choicest kind. When the season is over, the Northfield Training School for women begins in the same building, and some of the girls who have been busy in the chambers and dining rooms of the hotel, take up their courses of study for the winter months. The object of the school is to train Christian women to become skillful and effective workers in all forms of Christian service from the simplest in the family and the church to the most varied demands of mission work in the home or foreign field. Bible study lies at the foundation of the system, upon the principle that a thorough and ready knowledge of the word of God and its practical use will best prepare women for benevolence and Christian work. Instruction is also given in sewing, dress-making, cooking, nursing and housekeeping. The school has thus far been self-supporting, although only \$100 is charged for the two terms of six months. Miss Alice E. Bird, of Wellesley College, is the principal and is assisted by able instructors, and occasional lectures are given by Mr. Moody and others who have had successful experience in Christian work. These institutions, in order to be permanently useful need larger endowments. They are conducted thriftily and economically. A fund from the sale of gospel hymns has furnished a portion of the needed income, gifts and donations have been freely added, but in order that these great educational advantages should not be diminished, nor be made more costly, large endowments are needed. The work commends itself, and no one can visit the place, and learn its history and understand the working of the different schools, without being convinced of its great utility and value. It is one of those investments which will produce, like the good seed sown on good ground, an hundredfold.

AUGUSTUS.

## All Muscle.

The elephant has more muscles in his trunk than any other creature possesses in its whole body, the number being, according to Cuvier, not fewer than 40,000; while in the whole of his body man can only boast of 527. This is why the elephant's trunk is so exceedingly strong, and at the same time so exceedingly delicate in its movements.—'Children's Friend.'