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AN EVENING WITH MR. VARLEY.

BY THE EDITOR.

After spending several weeks in Hamilton, St. Catharines, New York, and other places, Mr. Varley, the Evangelist, recently returned to this city, and spent one evening, addressing an immense audience in the Metropolitan Church. For the sake of those who have not had an opportunity of hearing him, and also for the sake of setting forth the precious Gospel truth he delights to preach, we give, as we took it down from his lips, a pretty full outline of his sermon on the occasion; simply prefacing it with the remark, that it suffers very much, of course, in this reporting it, as all discourses must, from our inability to reproduce Mr. Varley's intense earnestness and pathos in its delivery. Choosing for his theme the parable of the marriage supper, and of the wedding-garment, as recorded in the xxii. chap. of Matthew, Mr. Varley said:—"There is nothing more suggestive of high enjoyment than a wedding-feast; yet this is the figure chosen by our blessed Lord to set forth the happiness of the Christian life. Many persons are tempted by Satan to regard religion as a melancholy thing. But what if we should reply to an invitation to a wedding-supper, begging to be excused because we expected the occasion to be one of such gloom and dulness that we did not wish to be present! Not more unreasonable is it to regard the service of Christ as a thing to make men unhappy. What a scene is here pourtrayed! What a glorious scene will that be when the cry shall be heard—"Behold the Bridegroom cometh!" Let us look then, for a few moments, at the figure our Lord has chosen. The Parable consists of two parts; the first referring primarily to the unbelief and overthrow of the Jews for rejecting their Messiah, and the destruction of Jerusalem—an overthrow so dreadful that Titus, the Roman General, refused to be acknowledged as the victor, and said it was God that had destroyed the city; and the second part referring with equal clearness to the calling of the Gentiles: "Go ye, therefore, into the highways, and as many as ye shall find, bid to the marriage." In its wider application, however, it is the invitation of the Gospel to all mankind."

"Observe," said Mr. Varley, "the largeness of the invitation! It is to the destitute, and the lost, of every class and nation. There is not one here that is not invited—'all, as many as they find,' were welcome—the intemperate, the fallen, the hardened in sin—all are included." Then, referring to the speedy second coming of Christ, in which he is a firm believer, Mr. Varley proceeded—"This is supper-time! The world is in a disturbed and excited condition—trembling as if in the throes of a volcano. Europe is on the verge of revolution. Human government is breaking down in every form. And the servants of God are going out, as never before, and calling men to the feast of the Gospel. The day has been long, as we view such matters, but eighteen hundred years are not too long for God's idea of the day of grace.

Now, I come to ask you—the first time in this New Year—to invite you all to