

Dr. Kellogg's Last Letter.

We transfer from the columns of the Presbyterian Banner what is believed to have been the last letter written by the late Dr. Kellogg. It shows to a marked degree the admirable spirit of the man:

Landour, N. India, April 22, 1899.

My dear Dr. Ellinwood: Ever since, just before we moved up here from Dehra, we had the sad news of Dr. Gillespie's death, I have been wishing, with each week's mail, to send you, and through you, to your associates in the board, the expression of my own very deep and sincere sorrow and sympathy with you all in this great loss. With me, as I know with yourself, it is not merely the loss that we feel we have sustained in his relation to the mission work that saddens, but I feel that I have lost a very dear personal friend. I formed Dr. Gillespie's acquaintance almost as soon as I settled in the Third Church of Pittsburg in 1875, and felt that I had found a man at once to honor and to love. The personal friendship then begun, as you know, has continued unbroken until his removal. For some years he was one of the directors of the Theological Seminary while I was professor; and now these seven years we have had our relations as missionary and secretary, and it is a delightful thing to remember that in all these varied relations, there never arose the shadow of a misunderstanding. It was very rarely that we ever found ourselves disagreeing on any matter which either could regard as of consequence; and on the very few occasions of this kind, I felt, and I think that he did, that this made not the slightest difference in our relations. I am sure that he never wrote a word, the spirit of which he could ever wish to recall. I was greatly pleased when he was called to be the secretary of the Foreign Missions; for I felt that he was just the man for the place, and on that point I never changed my mind. It is indeed a sore loss to the Church that he should be taken away, and to our apprehension before the fullness of his day had come. I cannot wish better for the mission work as touched by this loss, than that another man like-minded with Dr. Gillespie should be found to take his place.

I am glad to say that as for us here, all goes well. Indeed, both my wife and myself have been better this last winter than for some time before. There is no shadow in our horizon except the prospect of having to return to America as soon as this Bible work is done. Of course, this special private arrangement which made it possible for me to come out here again, terminates as soon as the Bible translation is completed, as it will be by the end of this year; and with three more children, whose education will directly be pressing, it is utterly impossible to continue here.

But my wife, no less than myself, has taken root in India, and we shall go home wishing from our hearts, so far as it is right to wish anything which God's Providence makes impossible that our life-work might be ended here. Meantime we cannot but feel much sadness in the thought that so far as we can foresee, this must be our last season in India.

I do not know whether you met my son Edwin when he was in New York, though I think it probable. We have been more than delighted with his success in Princeton (Dr. Kellogg might well be proud of a son who stood at the head of a class of 322.) You will have heard that I have promised the Princeton faculty to deliver the annual course of lectures on missions, the first session after my return. I am as yet only "incubating" my lectures, but think of taking some such general subject as Hindooism in relation to Christian thought, with special reference to the more recent developments, such as the Arya Samaj and Brahmoism, in its various schools, dwelling more, in contrast with my recent little book, on the points of contact than of contrast.

Our Hindi translation of the Old Testament was completed a little before the close of last year, and we are now pushing the revision of the older part of our work, more especially, with all our might. I am also writing a small book in Urdu for the help of our theological students and our native pastors, on the typology of the Mosaic law, as setting forth various aspects of our Lord's redemptive work.

Mrs. Kellogg unites with me in kindest regards. With kind remembrances to your associates in the mission rooms, as ever, fraternally yours,

S. H. KELLOGG.

The Pastor in Social Life.

By Rev. Thomas C. Hall, D.D.

The servant of Christ must go wherever he goes as a servant of Christ. No spirit of simple self-indulgence must be his warrant. This is difficult. All life is difficult. But the trail of the serpent is no more over the social life than over commercial life. Into all life the faithful Christian must go, and with the steadfast purpose to overturn it, and reorganize it on the basis of the New Testament. We are all in danger of being swamped in the rushing waters. The prayer of Christ for His disciples was "not that they should be taken out of the world, but kept in the world." The pleasure-seeking, glittering, ambitious, often heartless throng needs Christ and the Christian pastor, but he must not go with them down, but lead some or all of them up. Nay, he goes to save, if it be possible, the whole organized life of the world for which

Christ died. He must go into social life, so-called, with the distinct purpose of being as he may a helpful, saving element, just as he must go into all life as a saving, helpful element. To do this he needs grace, tact, courage, winning character, and, above all, freedom from all cant and pose. He must avoid alike the effects of flattery and the entrance of ambitions other than the Christ ambition. Many things will cease to be amusements under these conditions. He will arouse antagonisms. Men will seek first to use him, and, finding they cannot, will roundly abuse him. He will almost surely make mistakes. His motives will be misinterpreted. He can only save himself by constant and unswerving effort to take up his cross daily and follow Christ. And along this line he will meet with his dearest disappointments. Nothing so hardens the human soul as the selfish turning of innocent recreation into a business, and devoting blood-bought life to a ceaseless round of social excitement. The man who can even occasionally enter the whirl, as seen in some great city, and keep his head, needs strong purpose and resolute faith. But whether the place be large or small the community's social life needs salvation from unworthy competition, unselfishness and all ungodliness. Nor can it be saved from a distance, by eloquent pulpit utterance or splendid literary appeal. It can only be saved by men and women faithfully reorganizing it in the name and by the authority of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

"Present conditions give rise to fearful dangers. Many are cut off by economic conditions from all proper kinds of recreation that involve expense, while others are tempted by the possession of means to devote all their life to a vain round of expensive amusements. Both extremes are starved and maimed, and in time corrupt the community. The pastor has a direct message from the Most High to cry out against men being thus tempted, and to plead with men for the spirit of sacrifice and self-denial that will alone bring order out of chaos, and establish the kingdom of God on earth, in which God's will will be done here as in heaven. It will be soon felt in what spirit the true pastor takes part with his people in all sides of this life, and he can have judgment with Jehovah if he has faithfully gone everywhere as the messenger of good tidings, making known God's will that all life be saved and redeemed by the cross of Christ. But above all things must be avoided hypocrisy or double dealing, or worldly expedience or shuffling. Let all be done honestly, not doubting, for he that doubteth is damned by his own doubt, and his moral resistance to all temptations weakened and undermined. Do all to the glory of God and walk with Christ, whether alone or in the gay, wild world He loved and died for."—New York Observer.