

Monday Lectures.

THE first Monday meeting of all the students was held on the 16th instant. These meetings promise to be of an unusually interesting character this session. It is the intention of the Faculty to secure the services of the leading ministers of different denominations to address the students. At this meeting the Rev. Dr. Stevenson, of Emmanuel Church, gave an account of the recent meeting of the American Board of Foreign Missions.

In his introduction he alluded to the warm sympathy existing between Presbyterians and Congregationalists. He pointed out that the latter have more in common with Presbyterians than with any other denomination. The two bodies are united together by historical ties and sympathies. In the dark period of their career, when the great conflict between oppression and liberty raged in Great Britain, they stood shoulder to shoulder, they spoke to one another, prayed together, and suffered together. They are both descended from the Puritans of whom all may well be proud. He had been among the offspring of these Puritans, the other day in Portland, where he saw men and women who are worthy children of those who suffered for truth.

The Doctor, after describing in glowing language the panoramas of beautiful scenery he witnessed on his way to Portland, proceeded to give an account of the meeting. He, in a very happy manner, delineated the characteristics of the various speakers who took part in the exercises. Reports were read from different parts of the world, where missionaries are employed by the Board. An interesting historical account was given, showing the origin of the association and the changes undergone by it from its commencement. The tendency of the exercises was to fill one with delight and joy. The Doctor spoke hopefully of the prospects of missions. If he were told by his Master to do anything for Him he would do it. If he were told to go as a missionary to heathen lands he would do so because he was commanded. They did not, however, go to their work without the assurance of success. The reports from various quarters testified to the fulfilment of the Divine promises.

His admiration for the Puritan type of thought and character was deepened. The exhibition of the play of intellect was of a high order, and stimulating in the highest degree. If the teaching of Puritan doctrines produced such noble-minded men, and gentle-spirited women, their offspring need not hang their heads when they reflect upon their origin.

The Doctor remarked that there were certain breezes that threatened to severely strain the doctrines of our common faith. These need not create any uneasiness, nor need we give any great attention to them, nor be discouraged by them. At the great meeting from which he had just returned there was the heartiest agreement

upon all the great doctrines of Christianity. They were exhorted to allow nothing to withdraw them from the maintenance of the plenary inspiration of Scripture. They were exhorted to adhere to the atonement of Christ as not only the manifestation of God's love to man, also as the ground on which and by which man may, in harmony with justice, be taken into the favor of the Most High. So, with regard to the whole range of Christian doctrines, there was the heartiest unanimity. He urged a faithful adherence to the old land-marks. Let the hand raised to interfere with these, pause and tremble, before touching them. What could bring such a band of men and women together but a glorious thought? Our nature has lost its brightness and glory, but God left us not without witnesses. Great thoughts alone bring disinterested men and women together:—the breaking of the fetters of slavery, the preaching of the glorious gospel, which makes us feel there is something in us worth saving. It was inspired with this great thought that they assembled together.

THE Rev. Mr. Wells, of the American Presbyterian Church, delivered an address on Monday afternoon, Oct. 23rd, taking for his subject, "Outside Studies."

The reverend gentleman bringing with him that ripe culture, which has been derived from extensive travel, and wide research in the domains of literature, ancient and modern, captivated the students both with the manner and matter of his address. He urged upon them the advantage of pursuing a line of study outside those special departments, which are regarded as essential to the preacher, in a pre-eminent degree. They should have some line of reading outside of professional labors. In order to promote progress in this outside subject of study, time must be utilized. Needless excrescences should be lopped off. A great deal too much time is spent in reading the daily newspapers, and reviews. Ministers should not pursue this special line of study with the view of packing their sermons with literature and science. It is not profitable employment to be forever combatting science, falsely so called, in the pulpit. Sceptical scientists might be compared to the celebrated Kilkenny cats, who devoured each other. As to what studies should be taken up—this must largely be a question of temperament, disposition, &c. The speaker strongly urged upon the students the advisability of spending a part of their time in the country. He described in glowing terms some of the scenes of his boyhood upon the vast prairie, with its waving grass, and clumps of shrubbery, where the sun rises at the point where "the blending blue and spreading green" seem to meet. Whilst in the country, Ministers, who are naturally so inclined, should study natural science, and strive to elicit the facts of the buried past. They should study the flowerets that bloom on the lea.