

University sent over the parson novelist, who has waited all these years to describe what happened. Ralph Connor came under the spell, and puts the whole thing very tersely. Henry Drummond was frank, candid, and manly. His religion was natural, and part of the man. He could speak about Christ as his Friend in language that flowed full of music, luminous and light-giving—like a little stream flowing through a meadow. You could see to the bottom; it was full of sunlight, and "sang as it flowed."

In those days the Edinburgh students were not afraid to "come out" for Christ. That after meeting laid hold on Ralph Connor. The quiet air of purposefulness, the look in Drummond's eye that inspired confidence, the men getting up and going to see the evangelist. And, best of all, that simple, somewhat broken and halting confession of faith, with a man's whole eternity in it—"You fellows all know me. I fancy I am well known in this University, and I am known as a 'waster.' I am leaving the college this year. I have decided to take Christ as my friend. I thought it would be a mean thing to go away without telling you. I wish you fellows would pray for me." There was joy among the angels of God that night. The crowd of men went down into the attitude of prayer as if swept by an invisible hand.

Ralph Connor met Henry Drummond afterwards in his usual haunt—in Edinburgh drawing-rooms, and in the clubs and saloons of the High Street and the Cowgate, natural and well beloved. Readers of Ralph Connor's books can see the influence of Henry Drummond on the Rocky Mountains evangelist.

"The 'Greatest Thing in the World' evidently suited the miners and railway men, and paved the way for his visit with Lord and Lady Aberdeen. He preached in Ralph Connor's little church to an overflowing congregation, and he preached Christ. "That scene on the platform waiting for the train is very memorable. Drummond was an individualist. His cry was get on. His advice was—We can't go back, Godon. We must brace up and look forward."

The whole sketch is instinct with real touches, and brings up memories of a wonderful man and a wonderful time, fast fading in the distance of years. He might be a mystery from a theological standpoint, but his eye was keen, he loved Nature in all her moods, and best of all, he lived in the hearts of his friends. There is a touch of pathos in the last time of meeting between the two kindred spirits. The visit to his home in Glasgow, the work at the proof-sheets of his last book, the picture of his mother, are all given with exquisite taste. We know now that he was then coming near the Valley of the Shadow. We know how brave and human he was, how that terrible disease hardly ever touched the invincible faith and love of the real man. We recall the day when he was borne up the streets of his native town to lie in the shadow of the churches on the hill. We joined in Dr. Whyte's prayer about his passing into glory. It is good to go back on all the past with a true and tender pride like Ralph Connor, his friend of these days that can never come again.

#### Chinese New Year.

Time flies like an arrow, days and months like a weavers' shuttle.—Chinese Proverb.

Chinese New Year is a variable feast and a time of much merriment, the chief event of the China year though it have thirteen

months as the past one. And yet though it varies from Jan. 21 to Feb. 19 it can be exactly retold, so the Ottawa Chinese were all ready for it, and decked out in their best attire enjoyed themselves in relaxation from their industry and calling upon their friends to discuss the New Year and its promise. None the brightest, if you accept the views of several of the speakers at the Chinese gathering in the evening at Buck St. Presbyterian church. There was a full attendance of scholars, including representatives from Knox School, and others taking part were beside Rev. Mr. Turnbull, chairman, Rev. Messrs. Gladstone and Scott, Mr. A. G. Rose, the prime mover in this effort, and Dr. Thomson, Chinese missionary in Eastern Canada, who has been giving some weeks to Ontario points. The Chinese however were the chief actors and seemed much to enjoy their exercises, of thanks to their teachers, reading and recitation of Bible verses, with wishing all a Happy New Year, following with Chinese music and a phonograph of Chinese tunes. Then followed refreshments kindly provided by the teachers, and none the less appreciated and enjoyed. Several of the older scholars alluded most gratefully to the years of faithful help by such pioneers as Messrs. Rose, Stewart, and Keane with several lady co-workers; Leung Chee specially as one of the first arrivals a dozen or more years ago, alluding also to the increase in numbers and interest, half a dozen new applicants for church membership, beside fifteen already thus received in Ottawa. Mr. Rose, in accepting for himself and teachers the thanks of the scholars, alluded to these same good results, specially in Mark Wah's being now a student preacher in China, formerly received into Buck St. church by Rev. Dr. Moore. Dr. Thomson, after a New Year exhortation in Chinese, told of encouraging work of Rev. and Mrs. McKay in Macao and appointment of Misses Dickson and Dr. Little to join them soon. The note of ill promise in China in these days of war, was not so much wounded as the mistreatment of them in Western lands and close at hand. But this is too large a question for these notes. Suffice to say the Chinese are a patient lot, very appreciative of kindness and coming to distinguish between friend and foe; though we are unwilling to concur in their Oriental saying, "East is East and West is West, and never the twain may meet."

#### The "Catholic Association" in Ireland.

At a recent meeting of the Council of the Imperial Protestant Federation the following resolution which explains itself was unanimously passed:—

That the Council of the Imperial Protestant Federation (comprising and representing forty-nine British and Colonial Evangelical organizations) respectfully asks the immediate attention of His Majesty's Government to the existence, aims and methods of the 'Catholic Association,' which has been founded under the auspices of the Roman Catholic Archbishops and Bishops of Ireland in order to secure religious and civil supremacy for their Church by a system of boycotting all Protestant subjects of His Majesty, and by this means to extirpate all so-called heretics by depriving them of their means of living. The Council respectfully draws the attention of His Majesty's advisers to the recent speech of the Solicitor General for Ireland, in which it appears that the Roman Catholic Church are requiring their Irish co-religionists to sign written undertakings, binding them to deal with no Protestants, and to confine all their social and

business transactions solely to Roman Catholics. And the Council would, moreover, draw attention to the fact that the Solicitor General for Ireland in his speech truly characterized the 'methods' of the 'Catholic Association' as 'scandalous,' and as engendering sectarian strife between His Majesty's Roman Catholic and Protestant subjects in that country.

The Council of the Imperial Protestant Federation, therefore, expresses its earnest hope that His Majesty's Government will forthwith take action, under the Parliamentary powers entrusted to it, to suppress the 'Catholic Association' of Ireland as an illegal body, the aims and methods of which, being intolerant, are inimical to good government, and calculated to produce civil strife by engendering, in the interests of the Church of Rome, sectarian animosity between the Protestant and Roman Catholic subjects of His Majesty in Ireland."

#### Sparks From Other Anvils.

Herald and Presbyterian: It is a joy to the bearer of joyful news, and it must have been an especial joy to the angels to bear the news that Christ was born. The Gospel is the glad tidings of great joy. Ministers and all who proclaim it are God's messengers, telling men of peace and salvation.

Glasgow Leader: Whether we realize or admit the fact or not, it is true that each one of us has a duty to perform in lightning and brightening the lives of some of our 'Brethren and Sisters of Sorrow.' God creates His own opportunities, and expects us to take advantage of them. They may only occur once, and if neglected the loss is irremediable.

Christian Guardian: The besetting sin of the day is selfishness. Ask the leaders of any missionary movement why it is that the heathen are not converted, why it is that God's Word is not in every land, why darkness and wrong are not overthrown, and they will tell you that what retards the work, and keeps back the light from those who sit in darkness, is not the active opposition of scoffers and unbelievers, but the selfishness, the sinful selfishness, of professing Christians. It ought not so to be. The privileges of Gospel grace, the Sabbath's peace, the church bell's chime, the altars raised for prayer, the gladness born of faith in God, the hope of eternal life, all that Christianity means to us, should make it an impossibility for us to be other than active mission workers.

By way of the new Glasgow Chronicle we hear from St. John's, Newfoundland, St. Andrew's church there, under the pastoral charge of Rev. Andrew Robinson, appears to have had a prosperous year. There were 27 baptisms. The pastor expresses the desire that the baptisms should be in the presence of the congregation—in the public assembly. This is certainly to be preferred, and we hope the loyal Presbyterians of St. Andrew's will revert to the way dear to their Scottish ancestors. 17 members were removed by death. The roll is now 332 an increase of 9 during the year, notwithstanding removals by death, etc. The Report says:—The visit of Dr. Grant was much appreciated, and resulted in quickened interest and increased sympathy. This year the sum collected amounts to \$365 30, and has been allocated proportionately to the Augmentation, Foreign Mission, Home Mission, and Assembly Fund Schemes of the Church. From all sources contributions to Church Schemes will amount to nearly a thousand dollars.