

is the mighty principle to which we owe our free institutions, and all the civil and political liberty we enjoy.

It was Christianity, too, that inculcated active charity, so that for the first time in the history of mankind, the sick, the unfortunate, the suffering, and those afflicted with hideous disease, became objects of sympathy, compassion, assistance and care. The result of this is seen in the erection of hospitals, almshouses, orphanages, ragged schools and other institutions of the kind. Before Christ, these did not exist. Rome and Athens had no hospitals. That magnificent building, the Royal Victoria Hospital, is but the crowning work of this spirit of charity given to the world by Him who "went about doing good." This, too, is the spirit that lies at the root of the advance of medical science, and the consequent blessings it has brought to suffering men.

To Christianity, too, we owe the elevation of art and literature. for she gave to men new ideals and new inspiration. Dante, Pope, Milton, Shakespeare and Tennyson were steeped in Hebrew and Christian thought and ideas, and owe to these the inspiration that produced the creations of their noblest genius.

This is but the least conceivable fraction of the influence of Christianity on the world, and greater than all, is what I have not mentioned, its cure for sin. This is what we have to give the world. Christianity! that which has given to the world the highest possible moral ideal, and the highest moral life, assuaged human suffering, ameliorated the world's wrongs, relieved human wants and woes, made men more manly, society more humane, subjects more loyal, more happy and more prosperous, and governments less despotic, and more useful and more just.

And Christianity has not lost its power. It is more potent to-day than ever. It is progressive. It must be untrue to its principles before it can be stagnant like Oriental religions. It is

evolution of the highest kind. The character of the Christian must be progressive. The Christian nation must be progressive; progress towards a higher civilization, a higher type of national character, a more perfect society, and a more perfect government; for the end and aim of Christianity is to make a perfect individual, a perfect Society, a perfect nation and a perfect world.

Christianity is a spiritual force, and that is the greatest of all forces. Railways, steam and electric power, factories, workshops and commerce are not the world's elemental civilizing powers. Behind these lies soul. Behind these lie ideas, and these material things are but effects or consequences. It is the soul that controls the world for good or ill, and not wealth or military power. Our work is with soul. We present a living Christ who gives to men the highest type of soul. This must tell on the nation, and on the world, and on eternity. Is our work not then important? Is what we offer not of the highest value? Christianity is the mightiest power for good that has ever touched the world, and may God help us to so teach it in its purity, that it may accomplish through us God's purposes in the world.

And now comes the sad duty of saying our farewells. Our class numbers eleven. Its characteristic feature is that it is the most modest class that has graduated for some time. Two things we have learned in college. Our own ignorance, and how to work. Two of our number, taking Greeley's advice, go to the far west, where they have determined by preaching the Gospel, to lessen the expenses of government, by bringing about a state of things in which the mounted police force will be banished from the country, because no longer necessary. Four of our members will, in all probability, settle in the vicinity of the Dominion Capital, where they will do what they can to keep the politics of the capital pure. One of our number,