

As usual the closing consecration services were marked by earnestness and power. These moments of heart-fellowship with the Master will abide with us as hallowed memories, and their influence upon the lives of thousands, issuing in deeper spirituality and more devoted service, only the Omniscient can discern. "Well, the Convention is over!" said one, on Monday night. "No," replied a friend, "the Convention has just begun! The inspiration and spiritual help received here will be worked out in ministry for Christ in all the communities from which the delegates have come." That this will be true of this delightful Convention we believe. From thousands of villages, towns, and cities will come reports of new work undertaken and of blessed results attained because of influences received during these days' privileges.



DEEPER SPIRITUAL LIFE.

THE preliminary meetings of the convention were held on Wednesday evening in twenty-two churches in different parts of the city. The common topic chosen for discussion in each of the meetings was "Deepening the Spiritual Life," followed by a "Quiet Hour" of prayer and testimony and consecration. It was fitting that a convention designed to furnish spiritual quickening to the delegates should thus be preceded by meetings so well calculated to bring their minds into sympathy with the important themes to be discussed. Although the weather was unpropitious, the rain falling steadily all the afternoon and evening, yet the meetings were largely attended, and many will look back with hallowed memories to these first meetings of the great convention.

There were also held on the same evening two stereopticon lectures which drew overflowing congregations. The one in the First Congregational church was by Rev. E. Lovejoy, of Stoneham, Mass., on "The Crescent against the Cross." It was a most graphic setting forth by tongue and lantern of the recent outrages in Armenia. The audience was profoundly moved as the heartlessness of the Sultan, the callousness and intrigues of the Softas, the heroic faithfulness of the Armenians to the Lord Jesus were depicted. In the First Presbyterian church the lecture was by Rev. F. S. Dobbins, of Philadelphia, on "The Land of the Rising Sun." The lecturer took his hearers into the cities and hamlets and homes of Japan, and by means of his beautiful pictures gave the great audience a most vivid view of the social and religious life of the people.

PLUMMETS.

Afflictions and trials are the ploughing necessary to make way for the heavenly seed.—*Bishop Derrick.*

The power that made spiritual life possible is the power to deepen it. That power is God.—*Rev. Albert E. George.*

Spirituality is not like a pond in a park, made to look at, but is a great living current, directing us ever forward.—*W. H. Strong.*

Christ died for every one individually, and therefore individual consecration to Christ is the duty of every Christian.—*Rev. Arnold Strenli.*

The Spirit of Christ is the Spirit of missions, and the nearer we get to Him the more intensely missionary we shall become.—*Rev. E. R. Young.*

One verse of the Bible incarnate in one life develops that life more than all the schools and all the rituals of a whole generation.—*Rev. Smith Baker, D.D.*

The man who refuses to cultivate his best nature is as great a criminal before God as he who wastes his force and dissipates his strength.—*Rev. Wm. Rader, D.D.*

Though your entire breast be covered with badges, you are no true Endeavorer unless you are one inwardly, unless the pledge be written on your heart.—*Amos R. Wells.*

We need not only more Christians, but, if the world is going to be saved, we need also a higher standard of piety, Christians that can be weighed as well as numbered.—*Rev. J. L. Campbell.*

The kingdom of God will never come in all its strength and beauty until the whole rank and file of Christian Endeavorship are enlisted in a hand to hand fight with sin.—*Rev. J. C. French, D.D.*

The deeper we are rooted and grounded in love, that love shed abroad in the heart by the Holy Ghost, the sweeter, brighter, deeper, and more profound will our spiritual life be.—*Rev. C. Mason.*

Just as well attempt to grow a field of grain where no seed has been sown as to imagine that you can develop spirituality when your heart has never been renewed by the grace of God.—*Rev. W. D. Reid, B.D.*

Deeper spiritual life means the clearing away of the rubbish and the removing of all the obstacles which lie in the way of the Holy Spirit's complete possession of all our powers of body and soul.—*Rev. C. L. Work, D.D.*

Be not afraid of God's altar. Does it bid you climb the rugged steeps of Moriah? Does it hail you to the great sacrifice? Shrink not from the task. There is an angel waiting for you when you reach the top.—*Rev. Joseph B. Morgan.*

We have come over all the seas, and represent nearly every color and tongue found among the tribes of the earth, inspired with an overmastering desire to know more of Christ, be more like Christ, do more for Christ.—*Rev. W. F. Wilson.*

If we look back over the history of the world we will find that the men and women who have been spiritual athletes and giants in their time have been those who have lived in a horizon that was broadened and enlarged by their faith in God.—*Rev. A. L. Banks, D.D.*

To root sin from the heart requires heroic treatment of self, and the uttermost sincerity in scrutinizing our own motives and secret springs of life, but it is the only treatment that will effect a cure. It is a surgical operation, but it is necessary.—*Rev. Leander S. Keyser.*

Deeper spiritual life must be in contact with human needs. It becomes stronger through duty well done. It craves private devotion—indeed, it cannot do without that—but its correlation is in practical life. It refuses to be shut within a cloister. Deeper spiritual life is found through duty intelligently met, cheerfully borne, faithfully done.—*Rev. L. R. Dyott.*



INAUGURAL MEETINGS.

THE formal opening of the convention took place on Thursday morning in Tents Washington and Endeavor. The rain still descended and the meeting-places were far from comfortable, but both tents were filled to overflowing and the contagious enthusiasm of the vast audiences rose superior to the somewhat depressing circumstances. Bright songs like "Sunshine in the Soul" soon dispelled any gloom that may have existed, and the full, glad choruses swept out over the White Lot telling all of the cheer that Jesus gives to every follower.

In Tent Washington the convention was called to order at 9.30, by Dr. Clark, who began by saying: "The rain cannot drown Christian Endeavor and the wind cannot blow it away," referring to the disaster that had befallen Tent Williston in the night. After simple devotional exercises the invocation hymn, written for the convention by Colonel John Hay, was sung by the chorus and audience with wonderful vigor to the tune "Federal Street":

Lord, from far-severed climes we come
To meet at last in Thee our home.
Thou who hast been our guide and guard
Be still our hope, our rich reward.

Defend us, Lord, from any ill;
Strengthen our hearts to do Thy will;
In all we plan and all we do
Still keep us to Thy service true.

O let us hear the inspiring word
Which they of old at Horeb heard.
Breathe to our hearts the high command,
"Go onward and possess the land."

Thou who art Light, shine on each soul!
Thou who art Truth, each mind control!
Open our eyes that we may see
The path which leads to Heaven and Thee.

After the singing of this hymn, the able and energetic chairman of the Committee of '96, Mr. W. H. H. Smith, was presented amid a waving of flags and handkerchiefs to deliver the address of welcome. His warm words of welcome to the Capital City of the United States were received by the delegates with great enthusiasm, especially when he referred to the special Act of Congress granting the use of the White Lot to the Endeavorers during the convention week. The address was eloquently responded to by Rev. R. J. Service, D.D., of Detroit. He said: "We expected a warm welcome when we came to Washington, and we certainly have not been disappointed. Knowing the gathering that assembles from year to year on Capitol Hill we were confident we would receive a windy welcome, and in that also we have not been disappointed." The principal features, however, of the meetings were the addresses of President Clark and Secretary Baer, which we will publish in our next issue. They were delivered in both tents and were received with great applause.

The meeting in Tent Endeavor was presided over by Rev. Howard B. Grose, of Boston. Two addresses of welcome were given, one by Commissioner John W. Ross, of Washington, and the other by Rev. Dr. Greene, who was to have spoken in Tent Williston. These addresses were fittingly responded to by Prof. W. W. Andrews, of Sackville, N.B., whose address was received with frequent bursts of applause. He expressed the pleasure he had in replying to kind words of welcome, and said that the District of Columbia was to him the most sacred spot in the United States. The foot of Providence had touched Plymouth Rock three hundred years ago, but the feet of Providence now walk in the District of Columbia where the laws that govern the lives and destinies of millions of freemen are made.



CHRISTIAN CITIZENSHIP.

ON Thursday afternoon twenty-eight Denominational Rallies were held in as many different churches. The general topic for the evening meetings was "Christian Citizenship," and under the two mammoth tents, in half-a-dozen churches, and in Central Hall, crowds of Endeavorers met to listen to addresses by distinguished speakers on this important theme. The rain which had prevailed during the preceding sessions passed away and the evening was cool and pleasant.

In Tent Washington the presiding officer was Mr. John Wanamaker, of Philadelphia. He spoke of the imperative duty of all citizens to do their duty in public affairs, and said that true patriotism demanded the interest of all men in the country's welfare. He paid a high tribute to the beloved founder of the Christian Endeavor Society, saying there was but "one Lincoln, one Grant, and one Clark." Rev. Howard H. Russell, of Columbus, then spoke on "Christian Politics and the Saloon." His address, which was pointed and practical, was an eloquent plea for the exercise of that power lying dormant in our Christian citizenship for the suppression of wrong, and quoted in illustration the results accomplished by the Anti-Saloon League of Ohio, of which he is an ardent supporter. After a warm invitation to San Francisco in '97 by Mr. Horsburgh of that city, the address of the evening was delivered by Rev. R. S. MacArthur, D.D., of New York city. He urged everyone to take an interest in political movements and said that if the political pool is a dirty pool Christians should seek to make it cleaner. He made a strong plea for international arbitration and said that during the last hundred years eighty international disputes were settled by arbitration. The reason we do not hear more about these is because writers of histories think better reading can be made by recording the wars of the nations. There was loud applause from the Canadian contingent when the speaker said that he was born under a corner of the British flag and still loved the country and its noble Queen.

After a bright song service in Tent Endeavor,