

of Mr. Blackham, very successfully carried out in the Midland counties:

Chorus (St. Paul)—“How Lovely are the Messengers.”

Hymn—“The Son of God Goes Forth to War.”

Trio (Elijah)—“Lift thine Eyes.”

(Miss Cherry, Miss King, Miss Layton.)

Prayer—With Lord's Prayer.

Anthem—“Ye Shall Dwell in the Land.”

Lesson—Psalm xix. Read alternately.

Quartette (Elijah)—“O Come Every one that Thirsteth.”

Hymn—“I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say.”

Solo—“O Ye that Love the Lord.”

Address—Mr. John Blackham.

Subject: “What's That!”

Hymn—“Forward, Be Our Watchword.”

Benediction.

Hallelujah Chorus.

It will be seen that this is simply a sort of free sacred concert, with an address thrown in. The singing and organ playing are of a high order, but the devotional element is manifestly lacking. It is calculated to draw crowds, but the question is, whether such attractions do not after all displace the gospel, and cultivate a morbid appetite for a sort of artificial and æsthetic diet that is substituted for plain gospel food.

In connection with this measure a peculiar and somewhat unique plan is adopted to secure a large attendance. A card is issued, admitting the bearer to the Pleasant Sunday Afternoon Meeting, and stating time and place. At the bottom of the card is a blank space, to be filled by the name of the *person inviting*; and on the back of the card the *party accepting* and using the invitation signs a declaration: “I am over 18 years of age, and desire to be enrolled a member of the Sunday Afternoon Class,” etc. This card, delivered on entrance, serves to enroll members, and at the same time to record the number of successful invitations issued by any person who exerts himself or herself to secure attendants. Prizes are given to those who thus become instrumental in the enrollment of the largest number of permanent members. The prizes exhibited are a fine family Bible and complete works of Bunyan, etc. One man in the Midland counties was the means of enrolling 176 members.

Now, there is no doubt that in this way people may be induced both to come, and to induce others to come. But the whole movement is exciting comment not always favorable. For instance, on one of these occasions an organist, leader, and choir of forty performers were brought by railway on Sunday afternoon from a long distance; the railway stations were all ablaze with large posters advertising the Sunday Afternoon meetings, with all the attractions of the same, exactly as any ordinary concert would be advertised; and