

of Evangelical Christianity. In their newspapers and their pulpits they have spoken of it with that tone of censure which indicates unmistakably their sense of the majesty of the moral influence embodied in the Conference, and the weakness of those forces which are not impelled by the principles within this alliance of Christian scholars and divines. Never did the infidelity of modern scientists appear more mean and contemptible than in the hands of the giants who tore it limb from limb in this Conference, and scattered its fragments on the floor.

The world, as represented in civil governments and private corporations, did such honor to this Conference as no other religious assembly ever before received. The Emperor of Germany sent to it his Christian salutations. The President of the United States kindly waited from an appointment to meet his Captains, to receive the Alliance at the Capital of the country. The Mayor of the City of New York presided in the Conference, and the Common Council extended to the members the hospitalities of the city. Philadelphia did the same honor to itself and the Conference. The trans-Atlantic steamship companies and railroad companies in the United States offered facilities of travel with generosity unexampled in any land or time. The Erie railroad invitation to the Conference to go to Niagara Falls and return (600 miles) *free of expense*, was a most munificent offer. The Pennsylvania Railroad Company was equally generous in its invitation. And if the Conference had remained in session thirty days instead of only ten, the whole country would have overwhelmed it with invitations and proffers of unlimited hospitalities.

The daily secular press in this city has remarkably illustrated and increased the moral power of the Conference. Its reports of the proceedings have been so full and so accurate, as to give a fair view of the Alliance, while the editorial reviews have been marked by a breadth of view, an appreciation and clear apprehension of the scope of the Conference, of its extent and limitations, and by such a kindly spirit, both in applause and criticisms, as to win the grateful recognition of the whole Conference.

And the outward manifestation of the grandeur and power of this Conference, more marked and impressive than any other sign, has been the eagerness of the people to see, hear and enjoy. Provision had been made for large assemblies, but the multitudes that thronged every temple and hall thrown open, exceeded all anticipation, and compelled sudden and swift arrangements to meet the exigency. The Conference divided itself into sections, two, three, and sometimes four, sitting at the same

time, and all commanding profound attention. The most elaborate, philosophical, theological and scientific discussions were listened to with the greatest satisfaction. These papers were *encored*, as popular songs in a concert, and their repetition actually required, at great length. One of them for the second time read, held a vast assembly packing one of the largest churches, two hours and forty minutes!! The enthusiasm of these immense audiences indicated an intellectual religious revival; a sudden awakening to the apprehension of evangelical truth, in its bearings upon the world's regeneration, and the quick appreciation of a great thought, a fine illustration, or a novel and ingenious argument, showed the audience to be in the highest range of mental and moral activity, day after day, through the most protracted and exhausting sessions. The nerve power to sustain such successive and exciting meetings was something marvellous.

Nor is it one of the least wonderful circumstances that these meetings, three, five, and sometimes seven in one day, for ten days, some of them extemporized and supplied with orators on the instant, all of them crowded to the utmost capacity of the largest houses that could be obtained, have invariably been conducted with decorum, dignity and spirit, speakers in no case failing to appear, and in no case failing to satisfy the demands of the exacting audiences. The assemblies have been manifestly under the power of that faith which recognizes a present God, whose spirit moves the hearts of his people, making his truth omnipotent.

Of the immediate and permanent influence of this Conference we will not attempt to say more than that the best possible results are confidently expected. God will make it, we fondly believe, so great a blessing to our own land and to the whole world, that all the time, toil, and money expended in preparation for it, and in its consummation, will be regarded as nothing compared with the glory that is to follow.

FISHERMEN AND THE SABBATH.

This subject was discussed at our late Synod, and much regret was expressed at the wholesale desecration of the Lord's Day by fishermen. The following article from a "*Friend*" in the *Record* of our sister Church is to the point:

The great storm of August, 1873, will long be remembered, especially in Prince Edward Island, and on the Northern and Eastern coasts of Nova Scotia and Cape Breton. It is in connection with this storm