

that there may go forth from this pavilion consecrated talent, hereafter to be spent in the service of God.

My closing words to you are those of Larry Logan, the Irishman, whose preacher was going off from the circuit. Larry was very sorry to have the preacher go. He came out to where the preacher rode by on his horse. He looked up into his face, as he stopped him, and said, "Farewell, ye man. Many are the grains of sand on the shore of the blue sea, yonder: many the drops of dew on the blades of grass on this green earth; many are the stars that glitter in the heavens above ye; may blessings more than they all be on you and yours. And that is the prayer of Larry Logan."

The song, "Jesus paid it all," was here sung by Mr. Phillips, the assembly joining in the chorus. Then followed an

ADDRESS BY MR. D. L. MOODY.

Mr. Moody said: It was my privilege, some years ago, to attend a convention similar to this. It was at the close of the war, in the City of Cleveland. It was a National Convention. Christian people had come together to decide, or discuss, what we could do to save the men who were coming back from the army; and after we had been three days together, we met in a meeting similar to this one to-night. Dr. Kirk, of Boston, came forward to make the closing address, and he went on to describe Heaven in all its beauty and glory. He spoke of the golden streets, and all its loveliness, as I cannot do it; and as I was sitting in a pew in front, I thought it was grand. All at once he stopped and said: "Why, my friends, that is not what we have come here to talk about. We have come here to decide what we shall do before we get there." Well, that went like an arrow down into my soul, and it has been there ever since. These gatherings are very sweet, very pleasant; I think they are a sort of foretaste of Heaven, of what that place up yonder is going to be when we get home. We have been here a few days, and have forgotten all about our different denominations, our hearts flowing together like drops of water. Perhaps we feel we would like to live in an atmosphere like this all the time.

But we must remember we have a work to do at home. The time has nearly come when we must go. Let us go remembering that we represent the King of Heaven. Let us go remembering that we ought to be holy men and women, if God is going to use us and work through us. In one of our mission schools, there was a mother brought in her little girl only about two years old. The little child could just talk. The mother said, pointing to the Superintendent whom she knew and loved very much, "Fannie, who is that?" The little girl turned and looked, and said, "That is God's man." I wish that might be the impression of all Sunday School scholars. That is their first impression; I would that they could keep it, that we are God's men and women, that we are working for God.

I wish to say to the teachers, and to the young men especially—for I feel as if I could say a word to them—study the Word of God.

There is power in this blessed Bible. Let us study it more. A young man, some time ago, came to our city, and he wanted to preach in our church. He did not look as if he was more than twenty years old, and I did not think he could preach, but still I thought I would let him do it. The first night he took for a text the sixteenth verse of the third chapter of John. "For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life." Well, it was a good sermon. The next night we went to hear him again, and he said, "My friends, you will find my text in the third chapter of John, sixteenth verse;" and the third night we went to hear him, and he took the same text, the fourth night he took the same text, the fifth night and the sixth and the seventh, and he gave us a new sermon every night; and the audience kept increasing all the while. He said, "My friends, for seven nights I have been trying to tell you how much God loves you, but I can't do it. If I could borrow Jacob's ladder, and climb up into Heaven, and ask Gabriel, who stands in the presence of God, if he could tell how much love He had for you, all he could say would be, 'God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life.'" Why, I found that I had got an angel; and I said to "Harry," for he wanted me to call him Harry, "How is it you know so much about the Bible?" I could not mention a chapter but he could tell me what was in it. I said, "Were you ever in a seminary, or in a college?" "No." "Where did you learn all this?" He said, "I learned it by studying the Bible." "What help did you have?" "The Holy Spirit was my help." I learned from that boy. I just sat at his feet, and he taught me more about God and the Bible than any other man on earth. Who is he? Eight years ago he was a poor drunken convict in England, a gambler. It may be there is some one in the house God is using like him. When he preached in a city some time ago people went away unable to hear him. There were four thousand in the hall, and I think perhaps two thousand went away who could not hear him. You know something about him. He preached here a week—Harry Moorehouse. Where did the young man get the power? Studying the Bible. Do you want it? God has put the Bible into your hand. Study it. Go home, making up your mind, God helping you, and giving you wisdom and opening your understanding, that you will do it, until you are able to go into this dark world and preach Christ and Him crucified. That is what we want, and we want every son and daughter of God living out the principles of this book in daily life, so that we can teach in our daily walk and conversation.

Fellow teachers, be sure and get in sympathy with those whom you are trying to do good. When Jesus Christ came down from Heaven He got so low He could get His arms under the lowest sinner and lift him up to God and Heaven. And if you and I are going to benefit the world we must get into sympathy with them. We must not stand on a platform higher than they, but we must go down and take men as we find them. Then we can reach them and do them good. I was taught a lesson last summer. I went home and I heard that one of

my children was dead and its mother wanted to see me. I went to the house next day, taking my own child, five years old, with me. I found that the child had had a drunken father and her mother had to wash and take care of the family. Her eldest daughter had been out gathering flood-wood, and had seen a stick in the river, reached for it too far, lost her balance and fell into the water and had got drowned. The mother was mourning. She had no money to buy a coffin or a shroud, and so she had sent for me. I had been in that Sunday School twelve years and I had seen so many cases of sorrow that this did not touch my heart. I took out my memorandum book, set down the size of the coffin and when the funeral was to be attended, and started out. Then my little girl said to me, "Papa, if mother was poor and she had to wash for a living and I had to go out and gather sticks, and I should fall into the river and get drowned, do n't you think you would feel bad?" "Well," said I, "Emma, I would"; and I looked down and I saw the tears standing in her eyes. I pressed her to my bosom. I got in sympathy with that mother then. I went back, and I not only got a coffin, and a shroud, and a hearse, and a carriage, but when the time came to bury that little Adeline, instead of letting them go into that cemetery alone I went to the burying ground and stood there by the drunkard and his wife as they laid that little form away. We bought a lot for her—a lot among the strangers. There was another funeral coming to lay another stranger among them, and the mother said, "It is hard to live among strangers, but harder to have little Adeline buried among strangers." The next Sabbath I went to the School with my heart in sympathy with that mother. I told my scholars of it, and said: "Let us buy a lot in that cemetery and pay for it, and whenever our little children die we will bury them together"; and we bought a lot to bury a hundred of our children, and but a few weeks after we buried little Adeline, and little Julia and Mary and Johnny lie slumbering in that lot waiting for the morning of the resurrection. If we want to do men good let us get in sympathy with them, and if we do that, we can reach them.

Another thing. Let us show the people by our life that we are in earnest and mean everything we say. We want to be desperately in earnest in order to reach this world. All hell is in earnest; the world is in earnest, and it is high time Christians should be in earnest if we are going to reach the people of this earnest age in which we are living. We want men whose hearts are red hot with the love of God.

George H. Stewart said that in 1866 he was in Edinburgh, when he heard Doctor Duff speak. He was brought on to make an appeal for Missionaries. He talked an hour and a half, and then fainted away. They carried him to the hall and the physicians helped him, and when he came to he said: "Where am I?—oh! yes; I know; I was making a plea for India." They told him he was. "Well," said he, "I had not finished my speech; let me finish it." The physician said to him: "You will die if you do." He replied, "I will die if I do not." Stewart said it was the grandest sight he ever saw when they brought him down the isle. Not a word was uttered, and the tears were flowing all through the audience; and he came on to the platform and with

trembling voice he said: "Fathers and mothers of Scotland, is it true you have got no more sons to go to India? For a year or two we have been sending a proclamation all over Scotland for money to go to India. We have money in the treasury but no young men to go; and there was a notice in the paper a little while ago that one or two men could get commissions in the English army in India, and more than a hundred men wanted to get those commissions and were willing to pay for them; but here the Lord Jesus Christ is calling for men to proclaim the gospel there, and Scotland has no sons to send." Then turning to the moderator he said: "If you announce here to-night that Scotland has no more sons to give to India, let me know it, and to-morrow morning I will be off. I have spent twenty years there. I have ruined my constitution and lost my health, but I will go back to the shore of the Ganges, and there will die for a witness of the Son of God. I will let those poor heathen know there is one who loves them, and if he cannot lift up his voice to warn them, he will die for them." That is the kind of Christians we want in California; men ready if need be, to die for the Son of God.

I read once of an ancient general who came up with a handful of soldiers to attack thirty thousand men, but when the king, who commanded that large army heard of it, he sent a messenger to him, and said: "It is folly for you to attempt to fight me with five hundred men; I have thirty thousand, and if you will surrender, I will treat you kindly." The general turned to one of his soldiers, and handed him a dagger, and said: "Take that and drive it into your heart." He did it. Then he turned to another and said: "Leap into yonder chasm." And into the jaws of death he leaped. Then he told the messenger: "Tell your king I have got five hundred men like that; that had rather die than surrender." The king when he heard that got disheartened, and the men fled like chaff before the wind. The Word of God says: "One shall chase a thousand, and two shall put ten thousand to flight." Do you believe it? The man that has got God in his soul, we don't know what he may do, if he looks straight up to God; and trusts in Him to work through Him.

I heard once an incident of Garibaldi. I like the enthusiasm of that man, though I do not admire his judgment. In 1867, when he was going toward Rome, he was thrown into prison, and he wrote to his comrades: "If fifty Garibaldis are thrown into prison, let Rome be free." Friends, there it is; there is the cause rising above the man. Garibaldi was of no account. "If fifty Garibaldis are thrown into prison, let Rome be free." That should be the language of every child of God. The cause should be dearer than our life, our ease or anything else on earth; and when you and I feel that way, then it is we can reach men. The eyes of the world are upon us. While one ungodly, unconverted person reads the Bible, a hundred read you and me. They do not read the Bible, I wish they did. They can find flaws in my character, and in yours; but they cannot find a flaw in the Master's character. No skeptic can find a fault in Him, but they do not read about Him, they read you and me; and if Christ is not in us, and if we do not live godly in Christ Jesus, they say Christianity is all

a farce, a fable, and they come stumbling over us into the dark caverns of eternal death.

A few years ago a vessel was trying to make the Cleveland harbor in a dark and stormy night, and the pilot said to the captain; "Can you see the lower lights?" The captain could not. He looked over the chart. Said he: "Have you passed that light-house?" "Yes, sir." "This one?" "Yes, sir." Then, said he: "This must be the Cleveland harbor." The pilot said: "I know it is, because I see the upper lights burning." The captain saw the lights on the upper bluffs, and he said: "Yes, this is the Cleveland harbor, but the lower lights are gone out." The pilot said: "What shall we do?" The captain replied: "Make the harbor; we cannot go back on the broad lake to-night—it is too fearful." Said the pilot: "It is hard work to make it in a storm without the lower lights." The captain told him to do the best he could. He stood there, that dark night, trying to direct the course of that vessel. The boat would go on to the billows and come down into the trough, yet there stood the pilot trying to guide the vessel into the dark harbor. At last she rode up on one of those mighty waves, and came down upon the rocks and went to pieces, and many on the boat that night went to a watery grave. Why? Because the lower lights had gone out. God commands the lower lights to be kept burning. He will take care of the upper lights. They burn as brightly to-night as they did nineteen hundred years ago. He has commanded us to keep our loins girded and our lights burning, and if we let the lights go out, many men watching us to see if we are Christians and to see what we profess, if we do not live godly in Christ Jesus, they will stumble and instead of going to a watery grave, they will sink into the dark caverns of endless misery, and their blood, will God require at our hands. God help every Christian in this vast assembly to trim his lamp to-night, and let us go back to our fields of labor, to work for God as never before. Let our prayer and song ever be:

"Nearer, my God to Thee,
Nearer to Thee,
E'en though it be a cross,
That raiseth me."

And if we get close to Jesus, we will win men to Christ, we will have a power to reach them, if they see Christ in us, when they see we are living and talking with the Son of God, having communion daily with Him, and are reaching up to Heaven and for strength and for light and for wisdom. Then it is that we will have power; then it is, my friends, that we will not let months and weeks pass without seeing souls converted to Christ.

And now let me say to you, my dear friends, before I close, that there may be some teachers here discouraged. I heard a man say last night, "I am going home to resign; I do not feel that I am competent; I do not feel that I am fit to act in the capacity that I am in. Well, my friends, that is a good way to feel. I wish we all felt as if we were not fit. I wish every one here felt as if they were so weak they could not do anything. God wants our weakness, not our

strength. He is strong enough. When we are willing to give our weakness and foolishness, and lay it on the altar, and let God speak through us and act through us, we become channels for God to act through, and all the powers of hell cannot prevent the work. A man becomes a mighty power when God works through him; that is all we want. The trouble is that we have been trying to do the work in our own strength.

I think it was John Wesley who said, "If he had a hundred men that feared nothing but sin, and loved nothing but God, he would set up the kingdom of God on earth and shake the gates of hell." Such men are powers in this dark world. God wants to use such men; He is ready to use them. Let us make up our minds at the close of this convention, God helping us, that Jesus Christ shall be uppermost all the time in our minds. Let Him be our song. His name our watchword, and if we labor for Him and work for Him, and the motive is pure, God will bless our efforts; He will give us souls for our hire.

In closing, the speaker said: My dear friends, I cannot tell how much I have learned to love you the few days I have been here. It is sad to think we are about to separate, and that these delegates are to go back to their homes; but it is only a little while: let us work on, toil on, and by and by our Saviour will come, and then there will be no more parting. Once a little child was dying, and she said to her father, "Father, lift me up." The father put his hand under the pillow and raised the head of his little girl, and the child said to the father, "That isn't what I want; lift me right up. The father lifted the child, for she was small, and as he lifted her in his hands, she said, "Higher." He lifted her higher, and still she whispered "Higher, higher;" and he lifted her as high as he could reach, and then the Heavenly Father lifted her in His eternal arms. And so it seems in this convention; we have been lifted higher and higher every session, and it seems as if this had been the best of all; now, as we go to our fields of labor, let us cry to God to lift us higher, higher, higher, and by and by he will lift us up into that eternal kingdom where we shall part no more. I hate to say farewell; I hate to say good-bye; as one man said, "I hate those words." I bid you good night, and we will meet in the morning. [Applause.]

After the conclusion of Mr. Moody's remarks, the Convention united with him in thanksgiving to God for all His mercies, and especially for the happy hours of Christian communion had in this Convention; and prayer for renewed zeal in the service of the Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

Mr. Phillips sang the "Rescue," and then followed

THE CLOSING REMARKS OF THE PRESIDENT.

Gen. Bidwell said: My friends, our labors here on this occasion are about to close; we have attended this Convention, and I hope with

profit. I came here myself intending only to be a humble listener, and I have endeavored to the best of my opportunity to discharge that duty to myself, that I might be the better prepared to discharge my duty when I return to my home to those around me, and to the God whom I hope to be able to serve. It must be apparent to us all that we are not to continue here forever. The longest life is but for a moment. We are all soon to pass away, and He who made us and placed us here for His own wise purposes owns all that we are, and we ought to labor for Him, and Him alone, with our minds; with our hands, and with whatever He has given us to labor with.

I feel, my Christian friends, here this evening utterly unable to add one single word to the great and glorious sentiments that have been uttered, both in song and speech. I feel unable to add one word to what has been already said. I wish now, in the name of this Convention, to thank the people of this place and all those who have corporated on this great and glorious occasion to begin this work, and to help to carry it on to the end; I say to you now, I thank you most kindly for the partiality that you have shown me in choosing me President over this Convention; and I thank you for a still deeper debt in my bosom for the assistance and the courtesy that you have extended in helping me to discharge the duties of the position I have been called upon to fill.

Thanking you again, I bid you a kind adieu for this occasion, and will say, let us meet on next year with all the aid we can get from abroad and from within our own borders, and let us make it an occasion that shall, if possible, rival the one here at this time, that the result may be a greater work in our Redeemer's vineyard. [Applause.]

The large audience then united in singing with joined hands two verses of that hymn so dear to Christian hearts, "Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Christian love."

Rev. N. B. Klink pronounced the benediction, and the Convention adjourned.


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
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