

YALE IN FOREIGN MISSIONS.

The Student Volunteer Movement and What it is Doing.

In the early part of the century, a few men at Williams College met for prayer with the purpose of arousing in this country an interest in Foreign Missions. This missionary enthusiasm was carried to Andover Theological Seminary and then spread through the country, at last culminating in the formation of the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions. It was not until the Summer of 1886, at Mr. Moody's home at Northfield, Mass., that the missionary spirit began to take deep hold on the lives of college men. At that time 251 college students met with Mr. Moody for Bible study, and through the prayer of a few consecrated students the thought of the conference centered upon the last command of Christ,—“Go ye into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature.”

At the beginning of this series of meetings, 21 young men were found who had thought seriously of giving their lives to missionary work; at the close of the meetings an even 100 had responded to the call for volunteers to enter the foreign mission field. The subsequent history of this student movement has been no less remarkable than its inception, and the hand of a guiding Providence can be seen, as the movement has faced its dangers and ridden in safety through many storms. In 1886, the prayer of one of its leaders had been that 1,000 students in the United States and Great Britain should be willing to enter this work. Already 1,173 students, as a result of this movement, have sailed to foreign lands from this country alone. At first the organization was dangerously weak, but in the year '88-'89 this weakness was remedied by the appointment of an executive and advisory committee. The separate mission bands in the colleges were organized and united by traveling secretaries. During '94-'95 three of the five traveling secretaries were Yale graduates—G. S. Eddy, '91 S.; H. W. Luce, '92, and H. T. Pitkin, '92,—and in '95-'96 Mr. Luce was again traveling as a secretary of the movement. Mr. Eddy is now in the student work in India, and Mr. Luce and Mr. Pitkin are located in China. One of the secretaries in New York, H. P. Beach, '78, for some years a missionary in China, has charge of the educational department. In 1892, Mr. Robert P. Wilder of Princeton

carried the missionary uprising to Great Britain and Scandinavia, and since then a volunteer movement, closely modeled after the organization in this country, has been planted in Germany, French-speaking Europe, Australasia, South Africa, China, India and Ceylon.

A PROPHECY SEVEN YEARS AGO.

Seven years ago the prophecy was ventured—“If the students of the Protestant world are linked together by the power of the spirit in this movement, it will greatly strengthen the establishment of Christ's Kingdom throughout the world.” That prophecy has been fulfilled, and the gathering of 2,200 students at Cleveland, Ohio, from February 23-27 was an indication of what tremendous power the missionary spirit is exerting in the colleges of this country and the world. Following is the report which the chairman of the executive committee, Mr. John R. Mott, read at the Cleveland meeting:

“Through the World's Student Christian Federation, the Christian students of the lands of Protestant Christendom have been united by the spirit of Almighty God. Still more, and a most significant fact in the judgment of missionary leaders, the students of mission lands have joined hands with those of Christian lands in a determined effort ‘to make Jesus King’ among all races of mankind. In the history of the Church there has been nothing like this Federation which has made one in Christ the tens of thousands of Christian students scattered throughout five continents.” As coming from one outside the movement, Governor Beaver's testimony at the convention will carry more weight than Mr. Mott's. Said the former: “No movement since Paul's time—not even the Reformation—has had a tithe of the promise in it that this movement has.”

YALE SPEAKERS.

Among the speakers at the convention were the following Yale men: David J. Burrell, '67; H. P. Beach, '78; W. B. Boomer, '80; E. C. Lobenstine, '95; C. V. Vickery, P.G.; A. B. Williams, Jr., '98. The University sent the following representatives: Prof. Sanders; C. L. Storrs, T.S.; H. M. Lawson, T.S.; C. V. Vickery, P.G. '98—D. B. Eddy, D. L. Eddy, F. M. Gilbert, C. B. Gage, E. F. Bell, L. G. Billings, H. Bingham, Jr., C. M. Warren, A. B. Williams, Jr., L. Thurston, R. E. Hume. '99—W. D. Cutter, C. H. Walker, C. H. Welles, Jr. 1900—H. C. Heinz, T. W. Swan, L. C. Kingman, B. Johnson, J. M. Hopkins. 1901—A. H. Richardson, R. H. Edwards, S. W. Gardner, B. P. Twichell. 1900 S.—O. H. Schell, C. D. Wood, J. F. Symes. Out of these thirty Yale men, thirteen are “volunteers” who have signed the declaration of the movement—“It is my purpose, if God permit, to become a foreign missionary.” The remaining seventeen Yale delegates, who are interested in the progress of missions but do not purpose to enter the work, are like many other students whom this movement has attracted.

DR. HALL AT YALE.

On Sunday, March 13th, the meetings at Dwight Hall and the meeting at the Sheff. Department of the Association were given up to the reports from the convention. The class meetings were addressed by the undergraduates, and at the University meeting in the evening Dr. Charles Cuthbert Hall of New York, who was a speaker at the recent student gathering, spoke on “Some Aspects of the Cleveland Convention as bearing upon the Student Movement.”

Dr. Hall's remarks were somewhat as follows: His recent experience at Cleveland had been the most exalting for years, because it had brought him so near the reality of the forces which are making for the movement of missions. At the heart of the leaders of the movement there is absolute personal consecration. They are working for the glory of God and are filled with the apostolic message to evangelize the world. There is criticism of the movement, but it is due largely to lack of

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The Outlook for 1898.

All over the country, Yale men are now following with interest the reports of the development of the teams which are this year to represent Yale in athletic contests. The decision that assures us of another triangular race adds a greater interest than ever to the work of the crew. The present promise of a strong Mott Haven team, and the growing hope of ultimate success on the diamond, keep the alumni of Yale in closer touch with their Alma Mater. In all of these directions the outlook is decidedly encouraging, and if the material in the hands of our trainers will develop itself as well as it will be developed, Yale will close the season with flying colors.

The foregoing sentence may sound absurd to some and platitudinous to others, but it none the less is so true that too much attention cannot be paid to it. Success means more than able teaching, more than good personal training; it means constant and conscientious care on the part of our representatives themselves. That, with such advice and instruction as no Yale team has ever yet lacked, can only bring results creditable to all concerned.

This habit of self-training is in itself of such very real value that to acquire it to oneself permanently is to become possessed of a business capital worth many thousands of dollars. Athletic contests, debating, work for “high stand,” or anything else which can aid one towards this end, is to be highly commended.

There is one aid in such direction as this which lies in the power of almost all, and that is the acquiring and maintaining of sound life insurance. The self-schooling by which the man who is insured meets his premiums as they fall due is of even greater gain to his character and habits than is the mere acquiring of a considerable savings fund, while the content which such an one feels in the assured safety of those he loves is in itself of the greatest worth. It enables him to meet the work-a-day world with a spirit that largely contributes to final success.

All this good can be won only by “training,” and by just such constant care and sacrifice of lesser ends, as ensures the victories of Yale's teams. If that training is drawn out for a longer season than the training of the athlete, it must also be remembered that the game to be won is infinitely more worth the winning.

If you are not now in such training you cannot too soon follow the good example of the thousands already “taken to the table.” But remember one thing—choose the right trainer. Don't follow the advice of the man whose teams are never victorious. The Mutual Life Insurance Co. of New York has been longest in the field, and never yet has it met defeat. It stands ready to-day to give you just such help as has already won the game for so many who have lived up to its practical requirements, and found success and safety under its colors.

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