

"If Christians have any work to do on earth, it is surely to carry the Gospel to the nations. There is no lack of the power of Christian faith in the church of to-day. Your bright faces prove it. 'Give me three hundred men,' said Wesley, 'who fear nothing but God, who hate nothing but sin, and who love nothing but Jesus Christ and Him crucified, and I'll set the world on fire.' Wesley didn't get even that number, but with a few did a great work.

"There is many a young man craving the opportunity to make some sacrifice for Him who suffered so much for him. And do you ask what is the reward? I answer, 'Victory,' for:—

Jesus shall reign where'er the sun
Doth his successive journeys run;
His kingdom spread from shore to shore,
Till moons shall wax and wane no more.

"In your conferences here may you get a spark of fire from Heaven that shall be of much greater use to yourselves and the world than was the fire Prometheus gained from the gods in the olden times."

The meeting was closed by the singing of the Doxology. The benediction was pronounced by Rev. F. M. North.

SATURDAY MORNING.

The Conference was called to order at 9:30 o'clock by Secretary J. R. Mott.

After singing and prayer, D. R. Todd of the Intercollegiate Association of Boston took charge of the conversation on "Bible Study in New England Colleges." After speaking of the advances which have been made in this branch of Association work, and the great field as yet untouched, he called on representatives of various colleges to tell what had been done in this line.

Mr. Thurber of Yale reported as follows: "We have just entered upon a new era in Bible study. In the college curriculum there are no required studies bearing directly on this subject, though there is an elective course. We have just commenced to take up Bible study in the same logical way as secular studies. Professor Harper offered to take a class in Bible study if 100 members were guaranteed, and 150 were easily found among the two lower classes. Committees canvassed the college for more. At first they were divided into two groups, those who were ready to promise a certain time of study, and those who merely pledged attendance. The first pledge has now been given up

and instruction is given wholly by lectures. As now arranged there are two classes. The first consists of men from the two lower classes, and is under the charge of Professor Harper. This class, numbering 150, is studying the Old Testament; this year the book of Samuel. The second class consists of juniors and seniors, and is under the direction of Mr. Goodspeed. This numbers one hundred members and confines its work to the New Testament, taking up the gospel of Luke this year. These classes follow the methods of ordinary secular studies. So far the numbers have kept up very well, and the enthusiasm is widespread in the college. The course is intended to run till Easter. The classes meet once a week, Sunday noon, at a time formerly used for a prayer meeting. It was feared that these classes would interfere with the Wednesday evening prayer meetings, but the attendance at these has been doubled."

In reply to questions, Mr. Thurber said that about 350 men were engaged in these classes. Also that the classes were following somewhat closely the outlines published by Professor Harper. Next year they will take up the Psalms.

S. Van Rensselaer of Harvard then said in part: "A class in Bible study was started about two years ago, meeting in two sections, one Sunday afternoon and the other Monday evening. We follow the outline by Professor Harper in the *Intercollegian*. A leader is appointed who assigns different topics to the men. Each is then expected to give a brief discussion of his topic and to be prepared to answer any questions concerning it. Twenty-five or thirty men are gathered in these classes, and, although few in number, all are very earnest in their work. There is no Bible study in the curriculum with the exception of a course connected with the work in English Literature, which comes only once in three years and takes up the Bible from a purely literary standpoint. The work in the classes is wholly under the management of the undergraduates, who lead in rotation, each for two meetings."

Mr. Ewing of Amherst next addressed the Conference as follows: "Our work is of two kinds, devotional and literary. In the last two years the devotional work has for the first time been taken up. Various classes have been taking up the gospel of Mark, the Acts, and the prophecy of Amos. The classes are open to all, but in no way compulsory. Aside from this devotional study, a line of literary study has been found very helpful. This