

ARRIVAL OF THE AMERICAN EVANGELISTS IN NEW YORK.

RECEPTION OF MESSRS. MOODY AND SANKEY BY THEIR FRIENDS—REVIVALS TO COMMENCE IN THIS COUNTRY THIS FALL.

The American evangelists, Messrs. Moody and Sankey, arrived in New York by the steamer Spain on Saturday morning last. The news of the arrival of that steamer in the lower bay was telegraphed to that city at 6:30 a. m., and those who had made preparations to receive the great revivalists at once started to meet them. In that city were Robert McBurnie, Secretary of the Young Men's Christian Association of New York; L. P. Rowland, Secretary of the Young Men's Christian Association of Philadelphia; D. W. McWilliams, Superintendent of the Rev. Dr. Cuyler's Sunday School; the Rev. G. C. Needham, Geo. H. Stewart, of Philadelphia, and Joseph Hillman; President of the Round Lake Camp-Meeting. The party received was composed of Mr. Moody, his wife and daughter, and two young children; Mr. and Mrs. Sankey, with their three children; J. Sabine Knight, an English revivalist; John M. Denton, of London, Canada, and Messrs. E. Elroyde and J. Witherley, of London, England.

As the barge carrying the welcoming party approached the steamer, greetings were exchanged between the evangelists and their friends. As soon as the deck was reached and hand-shakings were over, "Praise God, from Whom all Blessings Flow," was sung, Mr. Sankey leading. The Rev. Mr. Needham then offered a prayer, giving thanks to God for the safe return of the evangelists after their great and successful work abroad. The party was landed by a Government boat, which had been engaged for the purpose. Messrs. Moody and Sankey were detained for some time at Pier No. 42, North River, in selecting their baggage, they having several trunks to take care of. Some of these trunks, Mr. Moody said, were full of sermons which well-meaning persons had sent to the evangelists, thinking that they might have occasion to use them. Mr. Moody was dressed in a grey suit and beaver hat. He is somewhat under the average height, stout in build, and wears full black whiskers. Mr. Sankey, who is much taller and heavier, wore a black coat, and was more quiet in his demeanor.

Mr. Moody proceeded at once to the Grand Union Hotel, where he took dinner, and then, to the disappointment of many of his friends, took the 3 o'clock train for his home in Northfield, Mass. He said, in reference to his future plans, that he and Mr. Sankey would hold revival meetings in this country similar to those held in England some time next Fall. The details had not yet been arranged. He wanted first to visit his new Church in Chicago. In England they had been treated with great kindness, and had done a great work, which he hoped would have permanent effect. Mr. Sankey and himself needed rest for a few weeks, as they had taken no holiday while abroad for two years. Mr. Knight, who accompanied Messrs. Moody and Sankey from London, intends to go among the freedmen of the South to spread the Gospel there. During the voyage from England a spirit of religious fervor sprung up on board the Spain. Mr. Sankey sang at the request of the passengers, and prayer-meetings, at which addresses were made by Mr. Moody, were held on the quarter-deck.

Mr. Sankey was found on Saturday evening by a reporter of the New York Tribune at the house of an old friend of his in Brooklyn. He was at first averse to speaking about the work of Mr. Moody and himself in England, pleading his weariness after so long a voyage as a reason for not talking, but finally, in a courteous and enthusiastic manner, he gave some interesting facts about the great religious revivals in which he had played so prominent a part. In person Mr. Sankey is tall and somewhat inclined to obesity, but straight and erect, with a broad, full chest. He has a rich, full voice, very melodious and pleasing. His face is square, and somewhat massive, his eyes dark and bright, and shaded with heavy brows, and his hair and burnside whiskers nearly black and closely cut. He has a slight British accent, and when interested, speaks fluently, with some strong gestures, while a good-natured smile flits continually over his face.

MR. SANKEY'S STORY OF THE WORK. "Mr. Moody and myself," said he,

"do not wish to appear in public, through interviewers, as speaking much about our work. It is our desire not to thrust ourselves forward as if we attached any personal merit to what we have done. Our work has been greatly successful, but we do not ascribe it to ourselves, as though we have done anything peculiarly praiseworthy. We know and recognize that it is the Lord's work, and not ours, in which we have engaged. We have merely gone right on and preached Christ to the people—that is all. These two hymns in my collection, which my friend will give you, tell better than I could do in hours of talking what our objects, our work, and our experience have been:

Rescue the perishing, care for the dying,  
Snatch them in pity from sin and the grave;  
Weep o'er the erring one, lift up the fallen,  
Tell them of Jesus, the mighty to save.

Though they are slighting Him, still He is waiting,  
Waiting the penitent child to receive;  
Plead with them earnestly, plead with them gently—  
He will forgive if they only believe.

Down in the human heart, crushed by the tempter,  
Feelings lie buried that grace can restore;  
Touched by a loving heart, wakened by kindness,  
Chords that were broken will vibrate once more.

Rescue the perishing—duty demands it;  
Strength for thy labor the Lord will provide;  
Back to the narrow way patiently win them:  
Tell the poor wanderer a Savior has died.

There were ninety and nine that safely lay  
In the shelter of the fold;  
But one was out on the hills away  
Far off from the gates of gold.  
Away on the mountains wild and bare,  
Away from the tender Shepherd's care.

"Lord, Thou hast here Thy ninety and nine;  
Are they not enough for thee?"  
But the Shepherd made answer, "This of mine  
Has wandered away from me;  
And although the road be rough and steep,  
I go to the desert to find my sheep."

But none of the ransomed ever knew  
How deep were the waters crossed;  
Nor how dark was the night that the Lord  
Passed through,  
'Ere he found His sheep that was lost.  
Out in the desert He heard his cry,  
Sick and helpless, and ready to die.

"Lord, whence are those blood drops all the way  
That mark out the mountain's track?"  
"They were shed for one who had gone astray  
'Ere the Shepherd could bring him back."  
"Lord, whence are Thy hands so rent and torn?"

And all thro' the mountains, thunder riven,  
And up from the rocky steep,  
There rose a cry to the gate of heaven,  
'Rejoice! I have found my sheep!"  
And the angels echoed around the throne,  
'Rejoice! for the Lord brings back His own!"

Mr. Sankey then stated that he thought the public would be more interested in what Mr. Moody and himself proposed to do in this country than in the details of what they had done abroad, which had already been fully reported in the newspapers. "We have had," he continued, "a great many applications from various towns and cities in the United States to hold meetings and to begin at once; but we have made no arrangements yet. We need rest, and intend to take vacations of from six weeks to two months before beginning our work again. Mr. Moody has already gone home to his family in Northfield, Mass., and I shall go Tuesday to visit my parents in Newcastle, Penn. After our vacation we shall go to our Church in Chicago, which we are anxious to visit, and we shall have some work to do there. In the Fall, I can't tell exactly when we will begin our work, on the same general plan which we pursued in England. We have not determined where to begin, but it will probably be in one of the great Eastern cities—New York, Brooklyn, or Boston."

The press in Great Britain treated us with marked respect. We uniformly declined to be interviewed while there, but were treated with great fairness and consideration, and we have not had to complain of much misrepresentation. The great leading English paper, *The London Times*, especially spoke of our work in a manner and spirit eminently fair and just. Of course, as public men, we are subject to criticism, and we cannot fear that, for our only object has been to preach Christ. Still we do not like to have our work misrepresented.

The character of our meetings is perhaps misunderstood. There is one fact that I should like to have the public hear, and that is that in our meetings there was no excitement. We distinctly discountenanced any hysterical excitement, confusion or noise. In all our meetings there was not a single case of hysterics. Some people have a wrong idea about this.

Those who have never attended the meetings may think that we attempted to stir up religious excitement. On the contrary the exercises were characterized by the best possible order. Mr. Moody would not go on without it. No church services were ever conducted more quietly and solemnly than our great meetings in the chief cities of Great Britain and Ireland. Our audiences frequently numbered many thousands, but they came, listened, and went away with surprising good order. Once in London we held a meeting for men, from which women were excluded. There were 10,000 men present. Just think what a scene if that vast assemblage had once risen! But they sat and heard us as quietly as a church congregation. There was never any outside disturbance of the meetings. The crowds outside were as orderly as those within. They were respectful and quiet, and never greeted us with mockery or jeers. There was no sign of it in the meetings. When we held them in Dublin and elsewhere in Ireland we expected to be disturbed by the Roman Catholics, but we were not. The large meetings of Irishmen which we addressed were as orderly as any I ever saw. The reason was because we sought to excite no opposition from the Roman Catholics. We avoided offending them.

We left controverted questions alone, and merely preached Christ, and that could give offense to nobody. Our business was not to discuss ecclesiastical questions, but to preach the Savior to those who needed Him. In Scotland we had the same success. Our great meetings in Glasgow were wonderfully orderly and effective. The people showed the utmost seriousness, and were solemn and attentive in their demeanor.

HOW THE MEETINGS WERE CONDUCTED.

Our plan was sometimes to hold five or six meetings at once. In Liverpool, for instance, we could not meet in one place all who wanted to worship with us, and so we divided them up and met in different places. Mr. Moody has preached four or five times in one evening, and I have sung as many as seven times. I would begin by singing an opening hymn at the meeting where Mr. Moody was, and then drive rapidly in a carriage to another meeting, singing at several places. I did not feel great exhaustion after such labor. I could sing with perfect ease in Agricultural Hall in London, the largest hall in England, which will hold 20,000 people, and has seats for 15,000, I sang so that my voice filled the building without getting tired. It was very easy for me to do it. I never saw a better place to sing in.

We were disturbed only once in London, and I will tell you how that happened. It was in Camberwell Hall. That was a large building of corrugated iron, put up especially for our meetings. It would hold 10,000 people, and under the high galleries which ran around the inner walls of the building, there was a separate place where we held prayer-meetings with converts after the great meeting was over. All around the building a high fence was put up to keep out the crowd after it was full. It happened that when we met in this hall the building was filled at an early hour. The floor was sprinkled with sawdust, and chairs were placed upon it as close together as they could stand, and the people coming in walked as noiselessly as on a carpet. That night a large delegation from the country had come in on the evening trains, and of course they were anxious, having come from a distance of 10 or 20 or even 40 miles, not to miss the meeting. When they arrived, however, the hall was already full and the doors were closed. Mr. Moody, learning of the arrival of these country people, many of whom were poor and had bought return tickets in order to go all the way home after the meeting, made a speech to the audience representing how matters stood, and asking them to crowd up a little closer, and get three instead of two on a chair in order to allow the country people to come in. They cheerfully complied. The Committee then went out to open the gate; but when this was done, along with the country people, the crowd from the city outside began to rush in. The meeting had just been opened, I had sung, and Mr. Moody was beginning to speak. Sitting on the platform I could hear the roar outside sounding like the rolling in of the ocean on the shore. There was no sound of shouting, but only a heavy roar of the rushing multitude. Finding that they

could not all get into the hall, they got from the outside into the prayer room under the gallery. There were no lights in this place, and, being able to hear or see nothing, these people began a noise of stumbling and chattering as they crowded in, which interrupted the meeting. Mr. Moody said we would not go on unless they retired. There was something in his decided manner which convinced them that he was in earnest, and when he gave out a hymn, which we sang, during which he said they should go out, the interlopers quietly retired, and left the meeting to go on without disturbance. Had they not done so, we would certainly have gone away—that would have been our next step. The papers next day misrepresented this and made a great stir about it, as if it had been a riot, whereas when the matter was once explained to the people there was no disturbance at all, and no attempt at disorder.

Mr. Moody's preaching was short and to the point. He wasted no words. It was just the kind of preaching that business men liked. It also commended itself to young men, and they liked it. Business men and young people made up a large portion of our audiences. Mr. Moody has a very decided manner of speaking, and people know that he means what he says. He never hesitates about making up his mind and acting on his decision. He would never endure any interruption of the meetings.

In reference to the results of the Evangelists' labors in Great Britain, Mr. Sankey said that one thing was certain, that the interest stirred up had been universal and genuine, and had pervaded all classes of people. It was a serious interest, and not mere curiosity. The Duchess of Sutherland, and other persons of social rank, regularly attended their meetings in London. Invitations to hold meetings came to them from all quarters of England. Even the little villages were anxious to have them come. Three hundred Oxford students sent them a written invitation to come to that university, but they could not go. They went by invitation to Eton, another great seat of learning, and their meeting there was one of the most impressive that they held. Members of parliament attended the meetings in the House of Commons. Not only this, but the poorer classes of people were stirred up, and they attended in great numbers, and evidently with an honest purpose of learning about Christ. All of their success Mr. Sankey uniformly ascribed to the Lord, who, he believed, directed, guided and sustained them in their labors, keeping them strong and untouched by disease. He also thought the effects of the work done would not soon be lost. It had been left in charge of local committees, who would continue to push it.

Mr. Sankey said he did not intend to take part in any public exercises until himself and Mr. Moody opened their work, which would probably be in October.

THE POWER OF THE PRESS.

There are but few people of any degree of intelligence who still cling to the antiquated idea that journalism has no claim to rank with the learned professions; that it is merely the resort of those whose inert dispositions and sedentary habits unfit them for the bustling arena of more active business pursuits. This is an exploded idea.

Journalism, as it is now understood and conducted by those who have a legitimate claim to the title "Journalist," is something more than a mere vehicle of gossipy news, the mouth-piece of individuals, cliques or parties. It has a far wider field and much nobler calling.

If true to its duty its mission is to enlighten the masses as to current events, and instruct them in the manner of the discharge of their duties as good citizens. In the inculcation of healthy political sentiments, and exposure and proper denunciation of crime, it is the greatest conservator of law and order possible. It seeks to expose error and guide public opinion into proper channels. It is also a powerful coadjutor of the pulpit, for in its encouragement of thrift and enterprise, and efforts to enforce law, it educates men up to that standard of morality which makes it easy to bring them under the influence and teachings of the Gospel.

And again: To what influence more than journalism can the wonderful growth and material prosperity

of almost all sections of our country be attributed? It is the first to herald and describe the discoveries in the field of science that contribute to the comfort or convenience of man. Its columns teem with useful information to all classes and callings—the miner, mechanic, farmer, etc. In a word, the benefits bestowed upon the public by a properly conducted journal are too numerous to be enumerated within the space of this article. True, there are some papers that fall short of this standard. They prostitute their high calling to vicious personal ends. They deal in slander and vituperation, appealing to the worse passions and prejudices of human nature, thereby perpetuating error, all for the sake of gaining a personal end or achieving a transitory party triumph.

This is not pure and proper journalism.

The profession of the law has its dishonest practitioners and slysters, should the whole profession be rated low for this? Among the medical profession are empirics, should all for this reason be classed as quacks. So it is with journalism, the unworthy should not leave the whole.

The power of the press cannot be overestimated. As an instructor of men it is always a leader. It both shapes and directs popular opinion. From its columns the masses get all their knowledge of the political economy of their government. While the lowly are educated, the high in position both respect and fear its power. At its suggestion cities, factories, railroads and canals spring into existence where but a short time since the bare prairie or thick forest were.

As an engine for good or evil it is all powerful and happy, it can be said, it is most frequently exercised for the former.

This is no fancy sketch, though written so discursively. Every assertion made is susceptible of proof. At another time it is proposed to say something of the necessary personal qualifications to become a worthy and reputable editor.

PERSONAL NOTES.

Hon. L. Q. C. Lamar, of Mississippi, is traveling in Kentucky.

The health of Hon. A. H. Stephens, Georgia, is reported as good.

Gen. Crook has set out in earnest to expel intruders from the Black Hills region.

Hon. M. W. Ransom, U. S. Senator of this State, and family, are at Buffalo Springs, Va.

Ex-Gov. Holden, of this city, has just returned from a visit to the mountains of North Carolina.

The Superintendent of Public Instruction, Col. S. D. Pool, is canvassing in the West in the cause of education.

The bust of Beethoven, by Vidal, has been purchased by the Administrators of Fine Arts for the new Opera House in Paris.

The estate of the late ex-President Johnson amounts to \$175,000. The report of the heavy amount of insurance appears to be untrue.

The *Buffalo Courier* and *Syracuse Courier* (N. Y.) support Hon. S. S. Cox for the Speakership of the next House of Representatives.

The *Burlington* (Iowa) *Gazette* don't want S. G. Randall to be Speaker of the next House of Representatives at no price.

It is thought that Hon. Jefferson Davis will cancel his engagement to deliver the annual address at the Fair of Winnebago county, Ill.

Garibaldi was recently entertained at a public banquet by the Chamber of Commerce and the leading citizens of Civita Vecchia.

Hon. A. G. Brown, ex-Governor of Mississippi, and a U. S. Senator before the war, is urged for the Congressional nomination in the Jackson District.

F. W. Seward is spoken of as the Republican nominee for Secretary of State in New York, and Hon. Chas. O'Connor as the Democratic nominee for Attorney General.

The *Louisville Courier-Journal* suggests a list of names to Gov. Porter, of Tennessee, from which to select a successor to the late Andrew Johnson in the U. S. Senate, and amongst them is that of Jefferson Davis.

Rev. Dr. Pritchard, Pastor of the First Baptist Church of this city, and family, are still at the Catawba White Sulphur Springs. We are glad to learn that he is recovering from his recent severe attack of illness.

The Alumni of the University of Michigan have raised a fund of \$25,000 for the support of Prof. George P. Williams, who has been connected with the institution since its origin, 31 years ago. After his death it is to go to the endowment of another chair.