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## Poetry.

### WHILST STOPPING AT AN INN.

From much loved friends whene'er I part  
A pensive sadness fills my heart,  
Past scenes my fancy wanders o'er  
And sighs to think they are no more.

Along the road I musing go  
O'er many a deep and wily slough,  
The clouded moon withdraws her light  
And leaves me to the shades of night.

An Inn receives me; where unknown;  
I solitary sit me down.  
Many I hear and some I see,  
I laugh to them, they laugh to me.

Thus in the region of the dead  
A pilgrim's wandering life I lead;  
And still at every step declare  
I've no abiding city here:

For very far from here I dwell,  
And therefore bid the world farewell;  
Finding of all the joys I seek  
A sad remembrance only lives.

Rough stumbling stones my steps o'erthrow  
And lay a wandering sinner low,  
Yet still my course to Heaven I steer  
Though neither moon nor star appear.

The world is like an Inn, for there  
Men eat and drink and storm and swear,  
While undisturbed a Christian waits  
And reads and writes and meditates.

Though in the dark of time I stray,  
The Hand shall light me on my way,  
And to the City of the Sun  
Conduct me when my journey's done.

There by these eyes shall he be seen  
Who sojourned for me in an Inn;  
On Zion's hill I those shall hail  
From whom I parted in the vale.

Why am I heavy then and sad  
When thoughts like these should make me glad?  
Muse then, my soul, no more on things below,  
Arise, my soul, and let us go.

—Bishop Horne.

## Religious.

### THE REVIVAL SERVICES IN LONDON.

We last week gave an account of the first meeting held by Messrs. Moody and Sankey in the city of London. The *Baptist* of the 19th inst., gives further accounts of the immense gatherings held in different parts of the metropolis. We learn that there was a decided falling off in the attendance the second night of the Agricultural Hall gatherings, and that the numbers subsequently fluctuated very appreciably when the attempt was made to introduce the system of admission by tickets; but these variations were easily accounted for. With two meetings daily, each capable of accommodating 20,000 people, the difficulty of so distributing the tickets that the hall shall have a fair chance of being filled, without risking offence by having to turn holders of the pass away, coupled with that of preventing the abuse of their advantages by policemen, shopkeepers, and others to whom the tickets have to be given in bulk for circulation, is so great as to be all but insuperable. It is of course quite unnecessary to attempt to report Mr. Moody's addresses in full; they will scarcely bear that strain, nor were they intended to. Their special form of appeal is less adapted than almost any other for the printed page, and it would be unfair to submit them to any such severe test. Their mark is the hearts of those present; they are not meant, and, in the main, clearly not calculated, to instruct those already on the road Zionward, but to arrest attention, arouse the conscience, and point to Him who pleads through the Holy Spirit, "Come unto Me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest." By the stirring address, the telling anecdotes, the graphic illustrations, all directed to this one mark, we have been made increasingly to feel the necessity for such services being rightly estimated, as forming a fitting supplement, but not by any means a substitute, for the ordinary means of grace—the "building up" processes that form, and always must form, so large and important a part of

the ministrations of the faithful pastor who is able at once to grasp and exemplify the full meaning of his Divine commission. This week, Baptists have been amongst those taking a leading part in the services, Messrs. James Spurgeon and A. G. Brown being specially prominent. On Monday evening Mr. Spurgeon preached in the great building, while Mr. Moody held simultaneously an inquiry meeting at St. Mary's Hall.

The meeting on Monday was specially inspiring, the hall being crowded in every part. On the platform were the Earl of Cavan, Lord Radstock, the Right Hon. W. Cowper-Temple, M. P., the Rev. R. W. Dale (Birmingham), the Rev. M. Chapman, the Rev. Maraduke Miller, the Rev. E. H. Hopkins, etc. The service was opened by the singing of the 46th hymn, the refrain of which runs, "Oh, think of the home over there, over there," which was joined in by the audience with good time and tune. Mr. Moody then announced that the time would be occupied in hearing reports of the work being done from various friends. The requests for prayer were now read, and included petitions from Christian parents for prayer for their children, children for their parents, a clergyman in affliction and difficulty, anxious souls, for some at the point of death, wives for their husbands, brothers for their sisters, for backsliders, for aged, for drunkards, for young men and young Christians; an infidel asked prayer for himself as being unable to believe; for a lady of rank in London who was deeply anxious about her soul; a telegram from one who prayed that God might forgive his past inconsistencies, and lead him back to a full measure of the peace which he had lost, etc. Silent prayer having been offered, the 38th hymn, "Wondrous love," was sung. Mr. Moody then spoke from the 12th chapter of Isaiah, "Declare His doings among the people," and expressed his conviction that the best way to carry on the work was just to let the news of what had been done be known among the people of the land. The night before (he stated) he was very much encouraged at the Agricultural Hall by a father coming into the inquiry-room with his son, for whom he had often prayed, and who was then under conviction of sin. Before five minutes had elapsed a mother came in with her five daughters, so that they might see that God was really working in their midst. He had good news to tell them from Liverpool, for the work there was apparently only just commenced, and had been going on better since they had left. No less than 1300 young men met there every night to carry on the work, and they had reason to believe that at least 1000 young men had been converted, and the work was extending to other towns. They might be glad to know that by a letter he had received from Glasgow the noonday meeting, there was to be devoted that day to prayer for London. Nobody could say that it was not a work from God. He believed there would be a general awakening in London, and there were hundreds and thousands now just waiting for some one to go and tell them what they must do to be saved." It is thus the work goes on, with cumulative power. Nearly every day some fresh announcement is made that calls for the devout gratitude of every Christian present.

On the Friday Mr. Moody took for his text the words from Isaiah, "Seek ye the Lord while He may be found; call upon Him while He is near." He made an earnest appeal for prompt decision, and called on his hearers to carry out at once the invitation contained in the text. In doing so he rose to greater earnestness and eloquence than on any former occasion; in fact, what may be designated as the first burst of religious excitement occurred that night. The speaker, addressing the vast audience with all the power of voice, called out, "I call on you to come to God to-night." Turning to the large array of ministers on

the platform, he said, "I ask you ministers of religion whether God may not be found here to-night." The whole body on the platform, as with one voice, replied "Yes." The force of sound took the audience by surprise, and seemed much to impress them. Then the speaker, turning to the large multitude before him, said, "I appeal to some of you whether you have not found Him here"—to which there were responses from the audience of "Yes, yes." Continuing, he added, "Oh may thousands in London find Him!"—to which many in the congregation responded "Amen." The inquiry meeting was held afterwards in St. Mary's Hall, and was largely attended. Another prayer-meeting was also held in the large hall, to which many remained.

On Sunday, Moody and Sankey conducted three services in the hall—the first at eight o'clock in the morning for Christian worshippers, the second at three o'clock for women only, and the third at seven o'clock in the evening for men. The area, at the early service, which largely partook of the character of a prayer-meeting, was covered, but there were many vacant seats in the gallery. In the afternoon the hall, though not crowded was fairly filled. In the evening the vast building was crowded and on the platform were Lord Cairns, Mr. Kinaird, M. P., Captain the Hon. R. Moreton, Mr. T. B. Smithies, etc. At the close, upon the request of Mr. Moody that any who were anxious to have peace with God would go with them, some 700 men responded and accompanied the two evangelists to the inquiry-room.

Never before, perhaps, did any evangelist have so able a staff of helpers as has Mr. Moody in his work. The whole burden of the arrangements is borne by a committee, embracing some of the best business-men in the metropolis—lawyers, architects, merchants, at least two successful publishers, with a host of willing subordinates. Hence no doubt, the precision, regularity, and order, with which the multifarious details of such monster meetings are being carried out. The services of the great army of workers, stewards, and so forth, are purely honorary, but the hired buildings have to be paid for, and perhaps all that this implies is not generally realised. Her Majesty's Theatre is not to be had for nothing, as most people appear to think. £1000 has to be paid in the way of rental; and, as there have been all sorts of troublesome conditions imposed, and the building will, at the best, scarcely seat more than 5000 persons, the committee were almost driven at one time to abandon it. Then there are the South and East of London meetings. In the former district it has been finally decided to erect a temporary building in preference to using a tent, as there would be great difficulties connected with the employment of a canvas pavilion large enough to seat 5000 or 6000, not the least being in regard to efficient ventilation and acoustics. In East London, a building of wood and galvanized iron, to seat 5000 persons, and to cost £3500, is already in process of erection.

We learn by telegraph much later intelligence of this grand movement. Yet as they consist of but a line or two and perhaps given by persons who have but little sympathy with the work they give but a very imperfect idea of what is the real state of things.

The following excerpt from a London correspondent of the *Pertshire Advertiser* gives a couple of pictures showing how the work is operating on the people outside of religious society: "I heard rather a good thing said by a swell street boy on the occasion of Her Majesty's levee. Two distinguished ecclesiastics (a bishop and an archbishop) were walking side by side in full canonicals, looking for their carriages. Said one boy to another, 'Who's them two coves, Bill?' Said the other, 'Them two coves, Bill?' Said the boy number two to boy number one, with great scorn, 'What an ignorant chap you are, Jack! Why, them's Moody and Sankey!'"

*Apropos* the two American revivalists are attracting some attention in London. Not very much but still a little. The general notion is that they are well-meaning but uncouth persons. They are now in the Agricultural Hall, and so long as they remain there they are not likely to attract a very large number of the fashionable world. People living in Belgravia will not be "revived" in Islington. If the Prince would take them up something might come of it, but his Royal Highness is scarcely of a serious turn. I am going to see them this week. A man I know met me yesterday and asked me to dine with him. As he knows what a dinner is I accepted very willingly. "Where are you going afterwards?" I asked, expecting to hear him say some theatre, at which opera bouffe formed the *piece de resistance*. To my surprise he replied, "Well, I have got a couple of fellows from the 7th and a man who was in the Blues coming, and I want to make up a party to go and hear those Americans at Islington." So we are all going together after dinner, and I sincerely trust the service will do us good! Phasantry apart, I believe Moody and Sankey to be really earnest men, and men calculated to do a world of good. They have made themselves respected. The other day I walked into the Moore and Burgess Minstrels (the successors of the Christys), and in the course of the entertainment the "bones" of the company cut a joke at the expense of the "revivalists." The gallery would not tolerate it and began to hiss. The "bones" rather imprudently tried to carry off his first joke by making a second. It would not do, the audience did not like it, and the coloured comedian had to subside. This is the sign of the times, and shows that there is a great deal of earnestness in Londoners after all. I have got a copy of the hymns sung at the meetings of Moody and Sankey, they are certainly pretty.

The *Freeman* says: The success of the meetings held in London by the American evangelists is placed beyond a doubt. The great hall at Islington, which can hold more than 20,000 people, is crowded every night, and at the noon prayer meeting held daily at Exeter Hall hundreds have been turned away from the doors on account of the place being already full to overflowing. The organization seems to be admirable, and works with great smoothness; though we are not surprised to learn that the system adopted this week of admitting people to the Agricultural Hall only by tickets is likely to be given up. It did well enough in Liverpool and other provincial towns; but we fear it cannot be made to work in the metropolis, on account of its great size. We are happy to hear that Mr. Moody and his co-workers are finding constant employment at night in the inquiry room, and that hundreds are deciding for Christ. Those who suspected that in his teaching Mr. Moody gave an undue prominence to the fear of hell find that they were mistaken. Some aspects of truth he probably does exaggerate; but thus far the characteristic note of his addresses has been that of pathetic appeal to the undecided. In particular, he makes use of the family affections to win his way to the heart; and the sincerity and tenderness of his tone have been acknowledged, in most respectful terms, even by secular journalists little inclined to favour revival work. The articles in the *Times*, *Spectator*, and other leading newspapers constitute perhaps the most remarkable of all the tributes that have thus far been paid to the movement. We are glad to see that many of our own brethren are throwing themselves into the thick of the work at the Agricultural Hall. On Monday night the Rev. James A. Spurgeon gave the address, in the room of Mr. Moody; and he spoke with power, happily succeeding in making himself heard in every part of the vast edifice. The reports from the provincial centres in which these evangelists have been continue to

be highly satisfactory. Indeed, Mr. Moody regards the recent converts as on the whole of a higher and more satisfactory type than those gathered into the church by the ordinary methods.

### BISMARCK IN DEBATE.

Bismarck is by no means a finished, not even a ready or natural, orator. The knightly appearance of the Prince, his ease of manner, and, above all, his reputation as a diplomatist and statesman would lead us to suppose him an orator—either one who would deliver a profound and well-arranged speech without hesitation or effort, or, still more, an orator of natural eloquence, whose words and figures would flow from his lips as the creations of the moment, and entrance or enkindle the hearts of his hearers. But this is not the case. Occasionally he may be seen at his desk winging his way rapidly with his quill over a narrow strip of paper, while some member is on the platform. All know what this means, and at a slight bow of his head the President announces that Prince Bismarck, Chancellor of the Empire, has the floor. As he rises there is a general demand for silence all over the House, with the exclamation, "He is speaking!" He inclines his body toward the Assembly, winds his thumbs around each other, and casts an occasional glance at the House; but he stops, hesitates, sometimes even stammers, and corrects himself; he seems to struggle with his words, which ascend unwillingly to his lips; after two or three there will be a short pause, when one can almost hear a suppressed swallow. He speaks without gesture, feeling, or emphasis, and often fails in the accentuation of final syllables, so as to weaken his thought. One wonders if this is the man with a parliamentary career behind him of more than a quarter of a century, during which period he has been in every legislative body of his country, meeting with bitterest opposition from the Liberal party in his early career, parrying their most caustic words in kind, and replying, with wonderful presence of mind, by the wittiest impromptu or the most cutting sarcasm. It is the same man, and presently he will prove it. Gradually his speech flows with more warmth, and unfolds its peculiar attraction; a series of original, fresh, gritty and significant expressions, which tell more by their power than their beauty. His speeches are collections of sentences rather than the development of a smooth and logical train of reasoning. Many of them have gone into history as proverbial, such as "Cataline existences," "Blood and iron," "Austria must move its centre of gravity toward the Orient," etc. Some months ago, after listening to diatribes about the evils of the recent wars, and the burdens which they have brought upon the people as a nation, he quietly arose and said, "After each one of the recent wars the nation has enjoyed a greater amount of parliamentary liberty than before them." This was so strikingly true that it was folly to argue that they had led to tyranny. And he closed by saying, "But, nevertheless, gentlemen, the German nation has a right to expect from us that we shall prevent the return of such a catastrophe; and I am convinced that the allied governments desire nothing so much as to effect this purpose." With this beautiful admonition, simple though dignified, and expressed with fervor, he electrified the audience as if he were the greatest orator, and then sat down amid deafening applause from all parts of the House. Thus, with apparently no oratorical power, he seldom takes the floor without confirming his nation in the belief that, take him all in all, he is a statesman such as Germany has never before enrolled in her annals, and whom the world at large may well envy her in possessing.—*Prof. Wm. Wells, in Scribner for April.*