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Welsh Revival

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A GREAT MISSION.

EVANGELISTS AT THE ALBERT HALL.

THE NEW MOODY AND SANKEY.

There can be no doubt that at the present time men's thoughts are turning towards religion in a way unprecedented in the last decade. Accordingly, it is a fitting moment for the initiation in London of the most important mission of modern times—the mission which Dr. R. A. Torrey and Mr. C. M. Alexander will open on February 4 at the Albert Hall.

The mission resembles that of their famous predecessors, Messrs. Moody and Sankey, not only because they come from America, but because Dr. Torrey and Mr. Alexander similarly divide the work into preaching and music, the former expounding, and the latter, who is an expert conductor and a fine baritone, leading the hymns.

The choir at the Albert Hall, which will number 3,000 voices, is being actively recruited. The hall has been engaged for two months. Meetings will also be held for business men in the great hall of the Cannon-street Hotel (beginning February 20) and in Exeter Hall.

Mr. J. H. Putteril, the hon. secretary of the London Evangelical Council, is in charge of the London arrangements. He pointed out yesterday that the missionaries were more successful with men than with women. There was nothing emotional in their work, and nothing tending towards hysteria would be countenanced.

The expenses, which are being met by private subscriptions, are expected to reach £17,000. A sum of £5,000 is still required.

The great mission will be entirely undenominational in character, and support is forthcoming from all sects.

BISHOP OF LONDON'S WELCOME.

In reference to the mission the following letter has been received by Lord Kinnaird, president of the London Evangelical Council, from the Bishop of London:—

Dear Lord Kinnaird,—You will quite understand that I cannot be officially connected with any purely undenominationalist movement, but I heartily wish God-speed to any good men who will come and help us to awaken conscience and deepen spiritual life in this great city. In this sense I readily accede to your request, and hope that Dr. Torrey and Mr. Alexander may do much good in London.

It is, perhaps, a happy coincidence that I had already arranged to take an informal mission myself through some of the chief West-end churches during Lent.—Yours very sincerely,

(Signed)

A. F. LONDON.

Dr. Torrey is not a man who relies solely upon his enthusiasm. He was a personal friend of Mr. D. L. Moody, and was appointed by him as superintendent of the Moody Bible Institute at Chicago. He has studied at the University of Yale and also in Germany. He has worked with Mr. Alexander in missions in Australia, New Zealand, Japan, China, and India. During the past few months they have been very successful in the great provincial centres, such as Manchester, Bradford, Cardiff, Glasgow, Edinburgh, Dublin, and Bristol. At present they are in Liverpool.

Mr. Putteril is convinced that we are on the brink of a great religious movement. The theological discussions in many of the great newspapers, the Welsh revival, and many other signs prove, in his opinion, that at last the spiritual torpor of the last ten years is being shaken off.

BISHOP ON THE REVIVAL.

ST. PAUL'S COUNSEL AGAINST LUKEWARMNESS.

In a letter addressed to the clergy of his diocese, the Bishop of Bangor, Dr. Watkin Williams, deals with the remarkable revival among the Nonconformists of Wales. While anxious that no irregularities in worship should be countenanced by Churchmen, the Bishop calls attention to St. Paul's exhortation in I. Thessalonians v. 19: "Quench not the Spirit. Despise not prophesyings. Prove all things: hold fast that which is good."

"Learned commentators," says the Bishop, "agree that prophesyings have sufficient points of likeness with revivals to justify us in regarding the latter as within the scope of the Apostle's directions."

"It is certain that the various revivals have had blessed results. . . . One of our number who took part in a great religious revival forty-five years ago told us that of the number converted in that movement he did not think that more than a very small proportion had fallen back."

REVIVALISTS' "VISIONS."

The revival has spread to North Wales, but the results are not encouraging to the evangelists, who claim that in South Wales they have made over 20,000 converts.

At Bangor the congregations are most apathetic. At one service a young man having the appearance of a collier had to be asked not to march about beating the time of the hymns, as his behaviour excited laughter. Later the youth had an imaginary encounter with the devil in the aisle. A girl of fourteen prayed that her cousin might be prevented from reading "Tit-Bits" and "Pluck."

In another district people have grown so excited that they have been carried out unconscious. At Barmouth the seeing of "visions" is becoming quite common. A woman revivalist says that she sees in stars the faces of those who are to be converted, and another states that while washing clothes she has seen the face of the Saviour in the soap-suds.

THE PRIMATE'S PRAYER.

In his New Year's message to the clergy and laity of the diocese of Canterbury the Primate says:—

"God help us in this new year, whatever changes and chances its months may bring, to make progress mean what progress ought to mean, that our children may be taught as a living thing the reality of the faith into which they have been baptised."