

Dr. Simpson's Educational Ideals.

DR. W. M. TURNBULL.

Even in the earliest days of Dr. Simpson's intense evangelistic ministry to the unchurched masses of New York City, the greater need of the heathen world was constantly remembered. A Missionary Prayer Union was organized which comprised many young people who were eager to go as missionaries, but lacked the necessary Biblical training. Others who felt an equally positive call to carry the message of an all-sufficient Christ to heart-hungry people in the homeland came to him for advice and instruction. Thus, in the year 1882, in order to equip these few earnest but untaught workers who had already caught the vision of sacrificial service, the Missionary Institute, which has since become so widely known, had its modest beginning. Although there were similar schools in Europe, this was the pioneer institution of its kind in America. The first class of students, zealous and open-hearted, yet little dreaming of the future developments, gathered on the stage of an old theatre, using wooden benches and crude tables. Much prayer and unwavering faith were necessary to launch the enterprise and they have been required ever since for its continuance and enlargement.

For eight years the school was repeatedly moved about New York City until finally, in 1890, it was located at 690 Eighth Avenue, in the building adjoining the Gospel Tabernacle. By 1897 the student body had outgrown the available accommodations, and for this reason, as well as to secure a location free from the distractions of the city, the beautiful site was purchased at Nyack, and the present Institute building was erected.

It is a remarkable feature of the educational work of the Alliance that the original vision and methods of Dr. Simpson have needed no important modification through succeeding years. God gave to him a pattern, which has been consistently followed, not only in the parent Institute, but in Toccoa Falls Institute, the Alliance Training Home in St. Paul, and in the training schools for native workers which have been organized in the principal mission fields of the Alliance. The results achieved under the abiding blessing of God have been sufficient proofs that the founder was guided by the Spirit in his original plans. Although the curriculum has grown with the expansion of the work, yet the essentials are the same as the first. The acid test of years has proven its worth in fitting men for usefulness and service as ambassadors of Christ, both at home and over seas.

Dr. Simpson was a scholar of profound and varied learning, who could countenance no mental shallowness or inadequate standards in teaching. He believed that the minister of God should be not only spiritually equipped, but also as fully developed intellectually as opportunity would permit. He was deeply concerned about the world's need, and yearned for a host of earnest, capable young people to carry to the ends of the earth the only message that can meet every need. He was optimistically eager to see usefulness and promise in the most unlikely material. His faith in God's ability to quicken the mind and to thoroughly equip those who would not be considered qualified according to ordinary educational standards has

been amply justified by the achievements of many seemingly unpromising youths who were trained in this school. His students have not only faced physical hardships in difficult and dangerous missionary fields, but they have mastered unwritten tongues, have become linguists of merit among the scholars of India and China, have successfully carried difficult burdens of administration, and have built up churches and schools in all corners of the world.

In 1884 the first Commencement was held, and in the same year a party of five graduates sailed as the first Alliance missionaries for Africa. Thus the strongest current in the school has ever been that which dominated Dr. Simpson's whole life—an intense but very practical missionary fervor. Although the student body has been largely composed of those who have needed to struggle hard to earn their expenses, their missionary offerings have been almost beyond credence. Genuine sacrifice on the part of the founder, teachers, and students has marked every step of the way. He constantly fanned the missionary flame, and has kept an ever increasing stream of recruits flowing towards the regions beyond. So far as is known, this institution has sent forth to the foreign field more graduates than any other school, and thus Dr. Simpson's passion for the evangelization of the world has been multiplied in hundreds of lives.

Visitors to the missionary Institute have often remarked that the very building seems to be a hallowed place where the sense of God's presence lingers like the aroma of sweet incense, not only in chapel, but in class-room, dining-hall, and dormitory. This comes largely as a heritage from the prayers and holy ambitions of this man of God, who lived in the very presence of the Holy One, and saw His loving hand in every detail of life.

To Dr. Simpson study and mental training were sacred duties, and to him the Institute meant pre-eminently a school of prayer, a school of divine experience, a school of Christ. There is also very manifest in the institutional life a wholesome, refreshing attitude that lifts the mind out of morbidness or fanaticism into sane and normal relations to God and man. Dr. Simpson had a sweet and gladsome nature that was like the very sunshine of Heaven. He breathed a spirit of happy confidence that was simply contagious. The spiritual vigor and zest for divine adventure, which he imparted, were powerful elements in the development and molding of young men and women for the highest usefulness.

Power of expression was always recognized by this master teacher as being vitally important for ministers of the Gospel. He encouraged the acquirement of Good English and unaffected oratory. His delight in the budding eloquence of each group of graduates was unbounded. He used to say that the human voice was the rarest of instruments at God's disposal when once its powers were fully realized and yielded to the Master. He also insisted upon a prominent place being given to consecrated music. He encouraged each individual who had a glimmering of talent to cultivate it thoroughly. Under his fostering care the chorus singing of the School has been developed into its present uplifting and inspiring ministry.



Postgraduates and Four Members of Faculty—Spring of 1919.
Seven of These Students Are Now on Foreign Mission Fields.

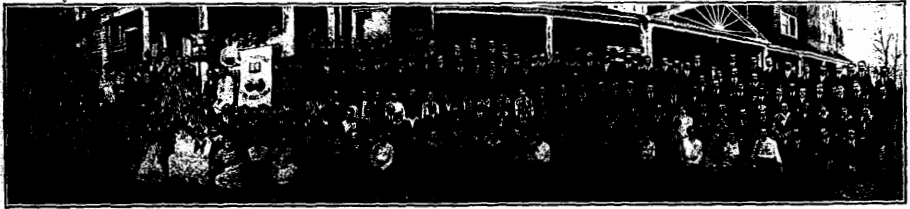
Perhaps the best summary of his ideals for his beloved students is found in the beautiful hymn which he wrote for one of the graduating classes:

We are going forth from the school of Jesus
 We have sat at His blessed feet,
 We have drunk from truth's celestial fountain,
 We have tasted its honey sweet,
 We are witnesses for our blessed Master
 In a world where friends are few;
 And He sends us forth with the watchword holy,
 Whatso'er it costs, Be true.

We are going forth from the upper chamber,
 From the days of our pentecost;
 We have given ourselves in a full surrender,
 And been filled with the Holy Ghost.
 We are going forth as epistles holy,
 And to live as Christ would do;
 Let us always represent our Master,
 Let our life be always true.

We are going forth with a trust so sacred,
 And a truth so divine and deep,
 With a message clear and a work so glorious,
 And a charge, such a charge to keep,
 Let it be our greatest joy, my brother,
 That the Lord can depend on you,
 And if all besides should fail and falter,
 To your trust be always true.

We are going forth with a glorious mission,
 As ambassadors for God,
 We are sent with heaven's last word of mercy
 Over all the world abroad.
 We are sent to save from the blight of sorrow,
 And the curse of sin undo,
 With a work so grand and a trust so holy,
 Oh, what heart would not be true!



Faculty and Students of the Missionary Training Institute, Nyack, N. Y., Taken in the Spring of 1919.

The enrollment in the fall of 1919 included 205 young women and 121 young men, making a total of 326.

Thirty-four additional students are enrolled in the School of Training, New York City. From the 360 students many will go to foreign fields to witness for Christ as messengers

of the Gospel; and others will enter service in the work in the homeland to proclaim the glorious Gospel of Christ Jesus in His all-sufficiency for the whole man.

May God hold them and all the Alliance true to the trust imparted to us, as so vividly portrayed by Dr. Simpson's poem,

My Trust.

Lord, Thou hast giv'n me a trust,
 A high and holy dispensation,
 To tell the world, and tell I must,
 The story of Thy great salvation;
 Thou might'st have sent from heaven above
 Angelic hosts to tell the story,
 But in Thy condescending love,
 On men Thou hast conferred the glory.
 Thou hast commanded us to go,
 O never let our hearts betray Thee;
 And Thou hast left an awful woe,
 On all who lightly disobey Thee;

O let us feel and fear that woe,
 As we would guard our own salvation,
 And let us answer to that "go,"
 As witnesses in every nation.

We are all debtors to our race;
 God holds us bound to one another;
 The gifts and blessings of His grace
 Were given thee to give thy brother;
 We owe to ev'ry child of sin
 One chance at least, for hope of heaven,
 O by the love that brought us in,
 Let help and hope to them be given.

"Study to show
 thyself approved
 unto God, a work-
 man that needeth
 not to be ashamed,
 rightly dividing the
 word of truth."

II Timothy 2:15.



The Missionary Training Institute, Nyack, N. Y.

In this building hundreds of young men and women have received instruction in the Word of God, and learned to know Christ Jesus in intimate fellowship, and have gone out from the School to do effective service for God in the harvest fields of

the world. And still the cry from every field is urgent for consecrated, godly men. "Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that He will send forth laborers into His harvest."

The Whole Bible to the Whole World.

"And he said un-
 to them, Go ye into
 all the world and
 preach the gospel
 to every creature."

Mark 16:15.