

exacting responsibilities, and were not intimidated by its unforeseen and unprecedented growth.

No antiquated bones, no "dry-as-dust" conservatism such as has dwarfed so many laudable undertakings, were permitted here, for these men knew when to move as well as when to pause, when to boldly strike out and forward as well as when to retrench.

Seeking effective inspiration, shall we not turn to their words replete with the resolute manliness that encouraged their ennobling thought? What stirring declaration is this of the late President of The Mutual Life, the honored Frederick S. Winston: "We have had this simple watchword for our guide—Equity; no man, woman or child can truthfully charge this company with voluntarily withholding that which was his or her due, or with striving to avoid its just obligations." And where may be found more earnestness of speech than in the selected utterance of that fearless man, who, from a modest clerkship rose to the presidency of the company which unconsciously he founded as his own imperishable monument? I have in mind the lamented Henry B. Hyde, founder of the Equitable Life Assurance Society of the United States, and his never to be forgotten words addressed to me in person, when Mr. Hyde was in the fullness and vigor of his splendid manhood: "I want those who will enlist in the service of this company to feel with me, that we are going to make the Equitable the greatest life insurance company on the face of the earth. As its president, I will not forget to reward the workers who help me to make it so." The history of his company shows how well Henry B. Hyde kept this pledge.

Living words—teeming with the same ceaseless energy and righteous resolve that have given rare character to his public life, were those of acceptance offered by Richard A. McCurdy to the board of trustees of the Mutual Life of New York, when, sixteen years ago, they so conspicuously honored that company and this man by placing him in highest authority over the honorable destinies of that institution. I quote: "Gentlemen, I approach the assumption of the burden which you have laid upon me with considerable hesitancy, with no over-weening self-confidence, and with the full realization of a consecration of mind and body and heart to the service of the company which it involves; I bear in mind that my late predecessor bore mightily aloft the banner of this company, and that it behooves his follower that it shall never be sullied or trampled in the dust,"—and strikingly prophetic of the mighty work that was to follow, as witnessed by the achievement of this man, who, in the last ten years of the fifty-eight, marking the life time of this company,

increased its assets from 158 millions to 325 millions!—An increase of 106 per centum—an unparalleled record compelling the admiration of the life insurance world.

Where is that right-minded young man who may not find lasting inspiration in the crystalized thought of this intrepid trinity, to whose language respectful reference has been made? Surely, fortified by so lofty a sentiment, the business of life insurance should be as eagerly sought by our worthy sons as does this important department of world-wide industry impatiently await their approach, for here may be found, not alone a means of acquiring an honorable competency, but every opportunity leading up to a successful career—an eminent name; and firm am I in the belief that there shall not be found in all the history of manly effort anything larger than the growth of life insurance as a business of universal significance, unless it shall be found in the very characters of them who to this business have given a life's devotion; that if there shall ever be any trade, business or profession, any walk in the commercial life of a people, affording greater opportunity for honorable accomplishment, the same must be in relation to some department of activity not yet by man conceived, some plan of manly action that shall have directly to do with the further uplifting of our race and our institutions.

Chicago, Ills., August 1, 1901.

JENKIN LLOYD JONES.

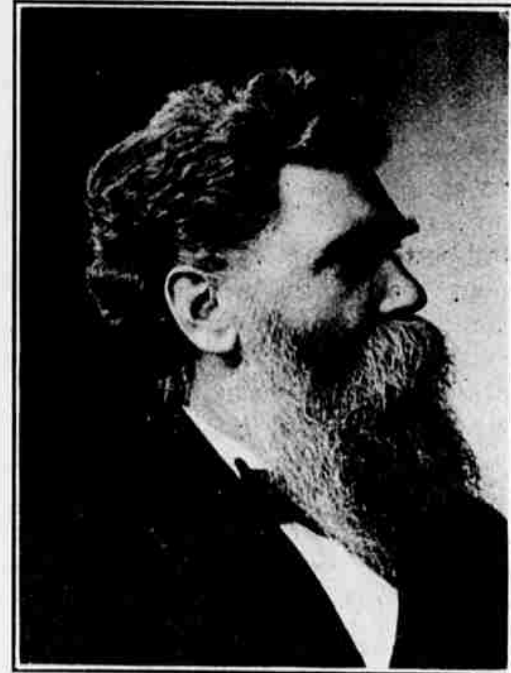
General Secretary, The Congress of Religion.

Two classes of young men will find an open door into the ministry today:

The "good young man" without much originality of mind or independence of spirit. The young man with a clean character, who can accept the conventional interpretations of creeds and texts, the man represented by the Rev. Mr. Gascoigne in George Eliot's story of "Daniel Deronda," a man of "moderate views, upon whose shoulders rested lightly the honors of easy authorship," He who, previous to his ordination, was simply "Captain Gaskin" but, after taking orders, added a diphthong to the orthography of his name. The young man who will take "polish," represent the conventional "respectabilities" and be able to preach the "gospel of the proper and the becoming," without touching the hot questions in civics or in theology will find many a "city pulpit" with a good, living salary awaiting him, and he will find the opportunity of doing much good on the well-prescribed lines of the conventional church and the conventional pastor. But he will fail to receive the support of the strong men and women in the community and will miss the inspiration of the clearest

thinking and the highest leadership of the day.

The second class of young men for which there is an opportunity in the ministry today, is the men who dare do their own thinking, who, believing in the eternal realities of religion and the pressing demands of morals, will set themselves to the high task of squaring theology with the latest developments in science, art and literature, men who will not only believe in the continuous revelation of the eternal, but will try to interpret the same, regardless of bishops, synods and councils. The young man who will dare bring the revelations of his study into the pulpit, and will brook no interval between his thinking and his public speech, is the young man that many a community is looking for. Such a minister may encounter heresy trials, may find no place in any of the established churches, but the people are waiting for him and in proportion as he



JENKIN LLOYD JONES.

is able, consecrated and vigorous in body and mind, will he find his opportunity.

To the young man or young woman possessing these qualities there are no openings in society today more tempting and more sure to bring the rewards dear to the scholar, the philanthropist and earnest friend of truth and righteousness, than the progressive ministry; there is no position today so independent, so free from intimidations and entanglements as that of the independent man in the pulpit, the man who thinks what he says, and who dares say what he thinks. There are thousands of communities in the United States, the better intellectual life and the civic conscience of which are untouched by the churches waiting for such a minister as I have indicated.

I repeat, then, only the "good young man," who is willing to subordinate the intellectual life to his emotional and religious nature, and the strong young man who is determined to combine these two, to demonstrate the possibility of uniting vigorous thinking with reverent service, need look to the ministry today with any hope of finding an open door.

Spring Green, Wis., July 30, 1901.