

A SUCCESSFUL EVANGELIST

Rev. W. A. Dunnett, a Man Whose Good Work Is Widely Known—He Relates Events in His Career of General Interest.

Throughout Canada, from the Smith's Falls, Ontario, to the Atlantic Ocean, there is no name more widely known in temperance and evangelistic work than that of Rev. W. A. Dunnett. Mr. Dunnett has been the Grand Vice-Councillor of Ontario and Quebec in the Royal Templars, and so popular is he among the members of the order that in Montreal there is a Royal Templars council named "Dunnett Council" in his honor. For more than ten years Mr. Dunnett has been going from place to place pursuing his good purpose meetings independently, but always laboring for the good of his fellow men. While in Smith's Falls a few months ago in connection with his work he dropped into the Record office for a little visit with the editor. During the conversation the Record ventured to remark that his duties assumed an enormous amount of hard work. To this Mr. Dunnett assented, but added that in his present physical condition he was equal to any amount of hard work. But it was not always so, he said, and then he gave the writer the following little personal history, with permission to make it public. He said that for the past thirteen years he had been greatly troubled with pain in the region of his heart, from which he was unable to get any relief. At times it was a dull, heavy pain, at others sharp and severe. Oftentimes it rendered him unfit for his engagements, and at all times it made it difficult to move. His trouble was always visible to the public and frequently when conducting service he would give out and the doctors had to be sent for to attend to him. This occurred to him in the Young Street Church, Toronto; the Baptist Church, Woodstock, N. Y.; the Methodist Church, Carleton Place, Ont. On another occasion while preaching to an audience of 2,500

people in the Franklin Street Congregational Church, at Manchester, N. H. Five doctors had arrived and were in attendance before he resigned consciousness. In all these little and towns the newspapers freely mentioned his affliction at the time. Mr. Dunnett said he had consulted many physicians, but he said, to be entirely fair, he had never been any great length of time under treatment by any one doctor. In some of his happiest moments of life, in the early part of the summer of 1906, while in Brockville waiting the passage of the Wall Street Methodist Church in evangelistic services, he was speaking of his illness to a friend who urged him to try Dr. Williams' Pink Pills, and he presented him with a dozen boxes. "I took the pills," said Mr. Dunnett, "and I declare to you I am a well man today. I used to worry a great deal over the pain about my heart, but that is all gone now, and I feel like a new man." All this the reverend gentleman told in a simple conversational way, and when it was suggested that he let it be known, he rather demurred, because, as he put it, "I am almost afraid to say I am cured, and yet there is no man enjoying better health to-day than I do." At that time, at Mr. Dunnett's request, his statement was only published locally, but now writing under the date of Jan. 21st, from Florence, Mass., where he has been conducting a very successful series of evangelistic meetings, he says: "I had had so long from writing in regard to my health, not only because I had forgotten about it, but because I cannot say whether it will ever return, but I can certainly say it has not troubled me for months, and I am in better health than I have been for years. I would gain in flesh, hence in weight. I would prefer not to say anything about my health, like the poor, it is ever with me. Yes, I attribute my good health to Dr. Williams' Pink Pills, and you have my consent to use the fact."

JODIE FASH, M. M.

Wrote Difficult Compositions Before He Could Play.

MT. ANGLE'S MUSICAL PRODIGY

Appreciative Sketch by Rev. Dominick in the College "Banner."

A year ago a young man of only twenty years was buried in the graveyard of the neighboring town of Woodburn, whose memory will be ever dear to his numerous friends and acquaintances. Teachers and students alike called him familiarly only Jodie, and Jodie he remained, even after he had received the degree of master of music at the early age of sixteen. What this young man accomplished in the musical art as composer and as performer on the piano, in the short space of a few years, was simply phenomenal.

"I'll never forget, how he impressed me the first time I met him. He was then a thin, delicately built boy of 12 years, exceedingly lovable, almost girlish. His only ambition was to be received as a student in the musical department of Mount Angel College. His burning desire was realized, when in the following autumn he entered the college. So far he had had very little opportunity to learn any music, but the progress he made now in a 3 years' course in the different musical branches, and this, too, in spite of continual sickness, was actually wonderful.

"I remember, how a boy of thirteen or fourteen years in short pants, he wrote his first composition, 'March to the Dining Hall,' describing how the college boys marched

daily to the dining hall to the beat of one or two snare drums. He had not learned to write decent notes, but there at his desk he wrote and wrote notes like hopsticks without the help of a piano either. The result was a really beautiful and extremely bright and catching march, which would take the premium in any competition, and which, if printed, will doubtless prove a universal favorite. Like young Mozart he could not play the work of his own pen, (written as it is in five flats, the trio even in six flats, and full of swift runs). A music firm offered to publish the march if he would transpose it half a tone higher, and thus rob it of all its flats, but Jodie, with the tenacity of a genuine genius, would rather not see the composition published than change a title in deference, "to a lot of academy girls to whom the publisher wants to sell the piece," and to tease whom, he would fain have written half a dozen more flats, if he could. At the end of three years spent in the college, he passed, through the examination for a degree of Bachelor of Music with such brilliant success, as has not been and will hardly be rivaled in the history of the college. The requirements for graduation in music at Mt. Angel college are very hard, in fact too hard, for harder than those of the conservatory at Boston and even in Leipzig.

First, he went through a strict examination in harmony and thorough base, counterpoint and composition. Next, he had to play at first sight any piece of the Fourth grade placed before him. Then he had to render by heart four classical compositions of the Fifth, Sixth and Seventh grades and one to show his proficiency in phrasing. Then he had to play tolerably well on two other instruments besides the piano. But it was the last requirement, i. e., to compose and analyze an entire sonata of at least eight pages, which called forth his whole ability and which he fulfilled with the greatest credit. I challenge any young musician, no matter to what part of the globe, to compose a sonata, which bears more the stamp of classical talent and classical style than Jodie's sonata in C minor, which he dedicated to his two teachers, Rev. F. Placidus, O. S. B., and the writer of these lines. This piece alone would be sufficient to establish his name as a first class composer. Even the most experienced musical critic would at first hearing attribute the composition to Beethoven in his earlier period. Especially the middle part, the Adagio, is Beethoven through out.

A whole volume of other piano compositions became unfortunately a prey to the flames, which destroyed a whole business block in Woodburn, and together with it Jodie's home, some time after he left the college. Although I never heard himsing, he was at his best in vocal compositions. What a fondness of lullaby, coupled with profound awe pulsates in his Ave Maria for tenor solo and organ! Strangely as though he was not a professed Catholic, he always cherished the Virgin Mother of God with the deepest affection, just as he did the non-Catholic poets, Longfellow and Hein and so many others, and he delighted in saying the beads every day, especially towards the close of his earthly career.

And what shall I say of that gem of an Christmas anthem: "Hodie Natu Est," for organ and vocal duet and the grand All Souls' Liturgy (composed for

the choir of the Sister's Convent at Mt. Angel)? I do candidly believe this latter composition to be his best. It bears the character of a genuine Christmas carol and the unfeigned simplicity of a Christmas pastoral without becoming foolish or common place, as the bulk of Christmas music is. I found also amongst the scraps in Jodie's music an unfinished "Cradle Song" (for piano and Mezzo soprano), extremely tender and sweet, as sweet as can be and yet not common, child-like and yet far from being childish.

After Jodie's premature death, Mrs. Cowles, a sister of Jodie and the picture of him—had the kindness to send me, as a souvenir of our lamented young friend, his last composition: "A Farewell to the World."—A composition equal in merit to Weber's Last Thought and Wollenhaupt's Last Smile. To call this last song touching, is not the proper word, it makes me actually homesick for Jodie, when I only remember it. He sings himself out so sweetly and calls upon, and hearkens to, the angels coming to take him to a better world. He must have had a presentiment of his approaching death which occurred on the 2nd of May, 1897, after he had long lingered in wasting consumption.

Poor Jodie was too good for this world,—in his character an innocent, guileless, amiable child all his life long like Mozart; though in music he was a master. I do not hesitate a moment to say, that he had the "timber" of a Mozart or Beethoven, but to be exact, rather of Beethoven than of Mozart. He was a wonder-child, like Beethoven, not so much as a performer but rather as a composer, though he was a really brilliant player. He played with his whole soul, with a great warmth or expression, drawing out the composer's hidden sentiments and interpreting the ideas which lay at the bottom of the composition.

He never composed anything trashy. On all his music you invariably find imprinted the stamp of classical beauty and refinement. The characteristic of his music is an ever ready flow of the sweetest melody, never heavily laden with harmony, and as natural as the smile on his face, and entirely free from sentimentality and affectation.

He had an exquisite taste, or rather he was incarnate good taste. He hated everything low. In his compositions he never sought cheap noisy effects of which musician are so fond in order to cover the shallowness of their ideas. With instinctive taste for Greek moderation he looked for simple beauty. In this point he resembled Chopin, whom he cherished most after Beethoven; though, (and this shows his good judgement in music), he became somewhat tired of him, after he had had his fill of him, and found him rather a mannerist.

Neither would he stoop down to play a low piece for anyone. How often did he not come to me disgusted and perfectly mortified by the bad taste of those who asked him to play something vulgar. I sometimes think, it good, that he was taken away so early from this world. For like Chopin he was fully determined to defy the whole world, and rather to starve than pander to vulgar taste and the prevailing public opinion.

Toward the end of his life his musical sensitiveness increased steadily like Beethoven. More and more he complained, that all that he heard was out of tune.

"TIS LOVE THAT MAKES THE WORLD GO ROUND."



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On the 30th of April this year the College Band, consisting of 55 pieces, marched in line to the Woodburn cemetery and there, forming a ring around Jodie's grave, they prayed for the repose of his soul and played Chopin's Funeral March, Jodie's favorite piece. The unspcakably sad and yet sweet melancholy with which the whole composition, especially the immortal trio, is saturated, drew many a tear from the eyes of those present. It seemed to me, as if these soothing notes, so familiar to Jodie's ear during life, had the power to penetrate the crust of his grave and reach his soul and lip to him a heartfelt Requiescat in pace.

Yes, may you rest in peace, dear, great boy! And may we see each other again in a better world, "where our kindred spirits stay" (Farewell song of J. Fash.)

REGON STATE NEWS. Circuit court is in session in Lane county. Junction City has decided to celebrate the Fourth of July. A regular chain gang is worked at Pendleton by the city marshal. Heavy rains all over Eastern Oregon this week insures a good crop of wheat. L. T. Harris, of Eugene, will deliver the Fourth of July oration in that city. J. Zull, of Portland, died of taking too much headache wafers Wednesday afternoon. In the tournament of fire companies at La Grande, Baker City team won the wet test prize. Grants Pass merchants have subscribed to build a wagon road from there to Galle creek. The election of the newly elected county clerk of Baker county will be contested by the defeated candidate. A Republican candidate for county clerk in Lane county who was defeated by one vote has contested for the seat. The thirty-first commencement exercises of the Albany college were closed with banquet given by the alumni. Silverson will celebrate the Fourth of July this year. The committee expect to secure Til Ford, of this city, as orator. A vote will be taken in Baker City on June 25 to bond the city for \$124,000 to provide the city with a gravity water system. Mrs. Katie Gill was married in Pendleton in June 1897 and was deserted the day after the wedding. She has sued for a divorce. The wheelmen of Oregon City met with picks and shovels and axes and did considerable work on a new bicycle path between the town and Gladstone park. The circuit court jury was discharged in Lane county without having once been called to try a case and the grand jury reported only one true bill and in that case he plead guilty. Eleven graduates were turned out at the McMinnville college this year. The graduates were: Mayne Hudson Carr, Charles W. Coover, Le Forest Sawelle, Fern F. Stout, Isabel M. Grover, Herbert L. Toopy, Pauline Rossner, Alice Curry, Jessie Elise Manning, Dotis M. Daniels and Estella Noll.

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