

Mr. MONCURE D. CONWAY, an American now in England, respectfully informs your Committee that he is prepared to deliver, during the coming season, Two Lectures on

THE PAST, PRESENT, AND FUTURE OF NEW ENGLAND.

I. The Pilgrims of the Mayflower—the Colony at Plymouth—the planting of the Church, the State, and the School—the Manners, Customs, and Ideas of the Puritans—the Geography and Natural History of the Country—the Indians—the settlements of Six States—the First Confederation—the Quakers—the Witches—the Dawn of a New Era with the Eighteenth Century.

II. The Formation of a distinctive American Thought and Character—Franklin, and his Influence—the Colonies and England—the Chase after Regicides—the War of Independence—the Effect of Liberty—the Union—Social Formation—the present Moral, Social, and Physical Condition of New England, and its Influence on the American Continent—the Modification of the Anglo-Saxon in America—the Statesmen and Literary Men of New England—Education—American Tendencies.

A Map is used in illustrating the Geography and Settlement of New England.

These Lectures have been newly prepared from four written last year for the Philosophical Institution of Edinburgh, and given there and elsewhere, and one delivered in February last

at the Royal Institution of Great Britain,—with what success may be gathered from the subjoined extracts :

“Persons of extremely cultivated judgment, who heard your lecture at the Royal Institution, have expressed to me the pleasure they derived from this discourse. They regarded its delivery as perfectly successful.”
—*From a Note to the Lecturer written by Professor Tyndall.*

“At the Royal Institution, on Friday, the birthday of Washington, Mr. M. D. Conway delivered a lecture on ‘New England.’ He gave a very interesting account of the trans-shipment of the Pilgrim Fathers to America in 1620. . . . Mr. Conway proceeded to point out in a very interesting manner the progress of the settlers in New England, and their spread over the other States of America. . . . In the course of his lecture, Mr. Conway adverted to a curious fact, which he had mentioned a few evenings previously at the Ethnological Society,—that as the original settlers advanced into the country, they become gradually physically changed, and assume some of the pointed characteristics of the Indians among whom they are located.”—*The Morning Post.*

“The lecturer gave a glowing picture of the summer beauties and autumnal splendours of the country, and also gave some account of its natural history. . . . Mr. Conway concluded his” (second) “lecture by giving some amusing illustrations of the Puritan severity in enforcing Sabbath observance, by resorting to the stocks, and so forth. He also gave a few specimens of their earlier hymns. . . . The lecturer was listened to throughout with close attention” (third evening), “and was repeatedly applauded during the delivery of the lecture.”—*Scotsman.*

“The lecture was one of great interest, and was treated in a highly philosophical manner. . . . His account of the first settlers was peculiarly interesting. On the whole, the lecture was a remarkably able one, and evinced a thorough knowledge of the subject.”—*Carlisle Journal.*

“The style of the lecturer, or rather of his composition, was singularly elegant and neat. His observations were rather the expressions of well-matured convictions, than the loud sentiments of the orator.”—*Carlisle Chronicle.*

“Last night, a very admirable lecture, on the New-England States, was delivered in our Mechanics’ Hall, by Mr. M. D. Conway, of Virginia. . . . Their (the Pilgrims’) hard battle with adversity was graphically described. The subsequent history of the country, he neatly sketched ; and at last came to the growth of anti-slavery sentiment in New England—which he dilated upon with an eloquence which stirred his audience to frequent applause. One special feature in New-England institutions he commended to our imitation—the free-school system, which was based

upon the belief, that a man must no more be permitted to starve his child's mind than its body" (*Applause*).—*Carlisle Examiner*.

"Mr. M. D. Conway, a popular American writer, whose reputation, in common with all that is genuine, has not failed to be established on this side of the Atlantic, delivered the first of a series of lectures last night; . . . an admirable discourse."

"His lectures during the week have proved a powerful source of attraction."—*Northern Daily Express*.

"The" (first) "lecture, which was interspersed with many passages of wit and humour, was well received throughout, the lecturer being frequently applauded."

"The" (concluding) "lecture was listened to by the largest audience of the season, amidst the most earnest and sustained attention, and was repeatedly applauded."

"Mr. Conway possesses a clear, vivacious, incisive, and pictorial style. He paints a picture or demolishes a fallacy with equal ease. Circumstances have raised him above the mere conventionalities of thought. His treatment of whatever topic he touches is fearless and trenchant. But, withal, there is a deep vein of tenderness and reverence in this Virginian."

"Mr. Conway is a concrete, rather than an abstract, thinker. His ideas recall the original import of the word, being eminently pictorial. . . . Only the impact of mind on mind was felt. Such as have not yet heard him, we would recommend not to lose this opportunity of hearing one of the most distinguished men the New World has yet sent the Old."
—*The Newcastle Daily Chronicle*.

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