

Church History Senior S 9

weeks and it looked as if all the crops would be destroyed and they decided to have a prayer meeting and invited Finney to lead it and the time came for the prayer meeting and the church was filled and the preacher was not yet there and then just a minute or two after the time for the prayer meeting to start they looked and they saw Finney coming with an umbrella. Nobody else had an umbrella. There hadn't been a cloud in the sky for weeks and everybody laughed when they saw Finney with an umbrella but he said, "You're here praying for rain, to the Lord who has all power. Don't you have faith that the Lord is going to answer your prayer? Why aren't you prepared?" and they had a prayer meeting and by the end of the meeting the rain was pouring down and Finney was the only man there who had an umbrella with which to get home in dry condition. He was a man of real faith in God and a man who did a tremendous work in Oberlin and Oberlin for many years was a great center of the Word of God but it was not founded on a very solid theological basis and in Oberlin in recent years there has come a very sweeping change and the, I think four or five years ago there was hardly a person who would admit to believing in salvation through a divine Saviour, through a supernatural Lord. There are a few students there now who are making a witness and doing a good work at Oberlin but it is another of the American colleges founded to stand for the Word of God which the enemy/has seized control of and used to tear down people's faith rather than to build it up.

Now we should say a word about Dwight L. Moody and I would like to recommend to you the book by Richard Elsworth Day called "Bush Aglow". There again you cannot necessarily accept every statement in the book; there are some places at which I wonder whether it is Moody's view of Day's view which is presented but there is a picture given here which will thrill anyone who reads it, a picture of a man who with far less education than Finney had, who with what would seem to be far less preparation for service to the Lord gave an absolute determination to put God first and who was used by the Lord in such a way as has been perhaps no other individual in the past