

**STRATEGIC POINTS IN THE  
WORLD'S CONQUEST: THE  
UNIVERSITIES AND COLLEGES AS  
RELATED TO THE PROGRESS OF  
CHRISTIANITY**

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Strategic Points in the World's Conquest: The Universities and Colleges as Related to the  
Progress of Christianity by John R. Mott

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**Strategic Points in the World's  
Conquest**

## Introduction

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### Opinions Concerning the Federation of the Students of the World

**General Benjamin Harrison**

*Formerly President of the United States of America*

THE World's Student Christian Federation and the Intercollegiate Christian Association are institutions that do not need to be buttressed by certificates or propped by arguments. It is not essential that we should have statistics of achievement. The greatness, the wisdom, and the usefulness of these societies, and the appeal to the hearts of Christian men and women, are all unfolded when the names are spoken. We see the stalwart youth of our country, or of the world, beating out the armor they are to wear and forging the swords they are to wield. The armor will be tough and strong and the

## Opinions Concerning the Federation

swords bright and keen; and these eager young soldiers will readjust boundaries. Recruiting must be active. The first blow establishes a fealty that is not easily detached. Give them leaders chosen from their own ranks, and their own corps badge; and out of this cadet corps will come the great captains who will fight it out on the lines of truth until the world's rebellion against God has been put down and the vanquished are given an unstinted share in the heritage of the victors. The churches have long realized the importance of religious instruction in the schools, as the many Christian colleges and academies attest. But now in many, perhaps in most, of the great universities and colleges the students are dependent upon volunteer agencies for such instruction in the Word of God as they receive. There is no agency so efficient, none so free in its action, as the College Christian Association. It is within—it is not an intruder; it unites all, of every name. The work and observations of Mr. Mott are full of interest and his book ought to be very widely read.

(Signed) BENJAMIN HARRISON.  
INDIANAPOLIS, May 27, 1897.

## Of the Students of the World

### The Earl of Aberdeen

Governor-general of Canada

Accept my cordial good wishes for the success in the best and fullest sense of the word of Mr. Mott's forthcoming book, and the work and cause which it describes and will promote.

(Signed) ABERDEEN.

OTTAWA, May 27, 1897.

### The Right Honorable William Ewart Gladstone

When Mr. Gladstone was informed of the organization of the World's Student Christian Federation, and of its object and possibilities, he evinced deep interest and sent the following cablegram:

"I have received the intelligence with lively satisfaction.

" (Signed) GLADSTONE.

" EDINBURGH, May 27, 1897."



## Introduction

### Prince Oscar Bernadotte

Of Sweden

I have watched with increasing interest and gratitude to God the gradual unfolding of His purposes in connection with this remarkable tour among the students of all lands, and am persuaded that in this Federation of the students of the world we hear a call from the Spirit of God summoning the universal Church of Christ to larger sacrifices and greater faithfulness in both prayer and service. (Signed) BERNADOTTE.

STOCKHOLM, May 25, 1897.

### Count Andreas von Bernstorff

Of Germany

The recent Federation of Christian students of the Occident and Orient for the evangelization of the world marks the beginning of a new epoch in the conquest of the world for Christ. There seems to sound forth from it the first note of victory.

(Signed) BERNSTORFF.

BERLIN, May 20, 1897.

## Preface

IN the summer of 1894 I received invitations to attend the national student conferences of Great Britain, Germany, Scandinavia, and Switzerland, to be held during the summer and fall of 1895. At the same time invitations came from the leaders of Christian work among students in India requesting me to conduct a campaign in the interest of Indian students in the winter of 1895-96, and from workers among students in Japan to visit the students of that country in 1896. These six invitations were given independently of each other, and were all received within a period of eight weeks. After much prayer, and after consultation with friends and

## Preface

prominent workers, it was decided to accept the invitations, and to make a somewhat extended tour to promote Christian life and organized Christian work among the students of other lands. When the missionaries of China and the Levant learned of the proposed tour they sent urgent appeals for a visit to their colleges. After my wife and I had begun our tour we were induced to include the student centers of Australasia.

We wrote back from the different countries a record of the journey, together with observations upon the work of the church among the various peoples visited, and, more particularly, upon the relation of the student class to the progress of Christianity. These letters of report were sent to a few of the leaders and friends of the three student organizations with which I am officially connected, namely, the World's Student Christian Federation, the Student Volunteer Movement, and the Intercollegiate Young Men's Christian Association. At the earnest solicitation of students, pro-