

**THE ADVENTURE OF LIFE:
BEING THE
(WILLIAM BELDEN NOBLE
LECTURES) FOR 1911**

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The Adventure of Life: Being the (William Belden Noble Lectures) for 1911 by Wilfred Thomason Grenfell

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WILFRED THOMASON GRENFELL

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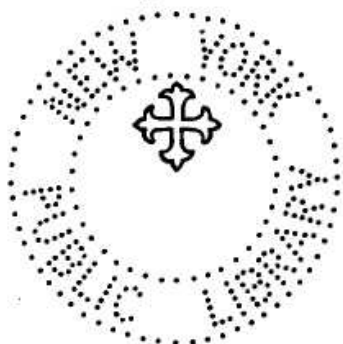
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THE ADVENTURE OF LIFE

BEING THE
(William Helden Noble Lectures)
FOR 1911

BY
WILFRED THOMASON GRENFELL
M.D. (OXON.), C.M.G.



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THE WILLIAM BELDEN NOBLE LECTURES

THIS Lectureship was constituted a perpetual foundation in Harvard University in 1896, as a memorial to the late WILLIAM BELDEN NOBLE of Washington, D. C. (Harvard, 1885). The deed of gift provides that the lectures shall be not less than six in number, that they shall be delivered annually, and, if convenient, in the Phillips Brooks House, during the season of Advent. Each lecturer shall have ample notice of his appointment, and the publication of each course of lectures is required. The purpose of the Lectureship will be further seen in the following citation from the deed of gift by which it was established :—

"The object of the founder of the Lectures is to continue the mission of William Belden Noble, whose supreme desire it was to extend the influence of Jesus as the way, the truth, and the life; to make known the meaning of the words of Jesus, 'I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly.' In accordance with the large interpretation of the Influence of Jesus by the late Phillips Brooks, with whose religious teaching he in whose memory the Lectures are established and also the founder of the Lectures were in deep sympathy, it is intended that the scope of the Lectures shall be as wide as the highest interests of humanity. With this end in view, — the perfection of the spiritual man and the consecration by the spirit of Jesus of every department of human character, thought, and activity, — the Lectures may include philosophy, literature, art, poetry, the natural sciences, political economy, sociology, ethics, history both civil and ecclesiastical, as well as theology, and the more direct interests of the religious life. Beyond a sympathy with the purpose of the Lectures, as thus defined, no restriction is placed upon the lecturer."

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TO MY WIFE

PREFACE

I SHOULD like to preface these lectures which I am about to deliver by a brief foreword concerning the man in whose memory they have been founded. William Belden Noble was unknown to me personally, while probably some of you at least had the advantage of his acquaintance. I think I can truly say, however, that I am conscious of his friendship. A life like his makes him, like Kim, a friend of all the world.

He loved the things I love: football and athletic games. He was human in social relations and a member of clubs which, had I been at Harvard, I should have wished to join. He worked and played and loved — hard. His was just a strenuous, natural human life. And in addition to all this, but not in spite of it, he had the vision of the real value of life. He ranked high at college. It cannot be said that it was lack of intellectual ability which gave him the faith, which I hold is of more value than anything else on earth.