

fore which has come these questions. Have we decided what side of the question we will take? I am persuaded that there are these inseparable elements of a righteous prosperity for the individual and the nation. All scientific questions, and those which contribute to the welfare of a people, and to the progress of the world, reflect the wisdom and power of Him who is the author of all moral and true religious essence, and as to the political relation we need but point to the nations both of the past and present, where an intelligent religious element has had its influence, and we see *that* nation prosperous and *that* people happy, while on the other hand nations have fallen and failed to progress for lack of Christian force. But perhaps this is not the time nor place to discuss the political phase of the situation, but more appropriate to speak of the religious element, yet always bearing in mind the value and place of the other two. It is the work of the church; it is the work of the First-day School to emphasize the moral and religious force of life, and what a glorious work this is! Can we measure the value of a wise effort, or conceive of the worth of a prudent man or woman engaged in the promulgation of Purity of Life? Oh, what an increased power would Christianity be in the world; how much greater influence it might shed were all its advocates united in that holy bond of union and love; but a lamentable fact exists that we are divided. Can we hope the time will ever come when churches will be more united; when we can dispel from our hearts all prejudice and ill-feeling; when the Baptist can baptize in water a little more shallow; when the Episcopalian can do with a little less formality; the Presbyterian and Methodist with a little less ceremony; when the Quaker will not be so formal with his informality? Will the time ever come when the roads we travel will be so close together that we may greet each other on the way? I do not mean that we

must surrender our faith, nor one principle of our doctrine, but that we may tear down the iron fences between us and mark the diverging lines with little beds of roses. Then sin must fall; then wickedness must succumb to the mighty sway of Christian weal, for while we are so disunited we give so much room for the atheistic critic. My young Friends I appeal to you, and to myself, that we mould our lives in such a manner that we shall love purity, that we shall love unity, and that we may dispel from our lives all things that would defile us, and make us unfit for our proper station in life. Our parents and grandparents have done a noble work. They have built up great institutions, and we enjoy them and they afford us glorious privileges. We should remember them with reverence and love, and while they are with us do all in our power to make them happy. A minister once said in his sermon, "Young men, you are the hope of our country; young women, you are the beauty of our land." This I accept as true, yes, more than true. For our young women have a large share in being the hope of our country. For the influence of women, I dare say, is chief factor in the civilizing and Christianizing of the world. The world admires that being whose tenderness is sufficient to soften the hardest heart, and whose influence is felt in every good undertaking, and who is a kin to everything that is lovely, to everything that is noble, to everything that is pure, to everything that is good, to everything that is glorious, and who is only personified in that creature, *the true woman*, she who is gentle as a May morning, and as firm as the everlasting hills, for her very gentleness is a barrier against the temptations of sin and vice, and to her belong the trophies of our temperance crusade, and by her must come the victory. I ween it must be by her influence that there must be moved from within our Capitol walls the *bar* where men—our law-makers—replenish their