

durability in its world-wide renown—of contrasts of scenery more striking than any other in the old world or new—with loftier mountains with icy peaks and arctic climes, hanging over deeper vallies of torrid heat and perpetual verdure—of cataracts to which, in their height, in comparison, Niagara becomes almost insignificant—of hidden Golcondas of barbaric gold, and virgin gems, to which California is but like a golden field of toil compared with the cabinet of a continent's riches—of gorgeous temple and jewelled shrine surpassing the most fabulous creations of poetry and architectural skill combined—of cities crowded with untold millions—of forests whose depths of solitude and richness of foliage and flowers are unequalled in either hemisphere—of fields unfolding to the rudest culture the richest response of yield—where, alternately, desert and glen and fertile plain, and jungle and forest, present every variety of animated existence that natural history can boast—where all these combine in a profusion never yet sung in all its variations by poet's lyre, or predicated by prophetic impulse, or told in plain historic tracings; this is a country, apart from other associations, which claims our attention; but when to all this is added the present interest surrounding it as a battle-field, where rebellion in its worst features is meeting in the shock of martial struggle with legitimate authority, and where the narrative of the atrocities of the former is associated with the tenderest feelings in the desolated hearths and lacerated hearts of our fellow countrymen, as Englishmen, and as Christians, we need no stronger claim to make us lead to our country's welfare, and one-hearted in our sympathies with her sons, in this our latest effort for legitimate supremacy and power. Nor can it be supposed for a moment that any Lecture Room, presided over by the genius of genuine philanthropy and deep Christian feeling, like that which marks the associated gatherings of its members in their usual winter session, as affiliated branches of those Young