

This is the weakness of the City of Light. As soon as it declares war on the other city, there are those who are neither hot nor cold, who seek to temporize, palliate, and conceal the dark things. Another weakness lies in the citizens who much prefer to dwell in the City of Light but they have never thought of joining in the fight. They are so concerned with food and raiment that they seem not to realize the existence of the City of Darkness. They have never placed themselves under the banner of the Captain. But the City Underground labors under no such handicap. All its workers are active workers, diabolical in energy, skill and vigilance. They have their sentinels, like vultures, at every railway station and wharf. They are alert for the enquiring stranger and the lonely traveller. They are the Devil's Own Army, and he is a hard taskmaster but a poor paymaster. If, in the City of Light, we could have the feverish energy and desperate ingenuity which vitalizes the other city, we could

put an end to this civil war in less than a year.

Grand motives are the ones which ought to inspire the City of Light, Truth, Righteousness, Purity for all men. The Spirit of the Eternal is its spirit, the spirit of Love. The City Underground has for its motives only the dregs of human passion, greed, selfishness and all the sickening list of human lusts. For rewards the City of Light has Life Eternal in the City of God; the City Underground has death and darkness.

"God made the country, man made the city." There are some who give up the fight to cleanse the city. But the city is a necessity of the economic and social development of modern life. We cannot abandon it to the Devil. Let us combine forces and work hard to make it the stronghold of God. The ramparts of the City of Light must beat back the City of Darkness. We can do this only when every member of Christ openly and aggressively fights for the King.

CHURCH UNION

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CHURCH Union is something that cannot be forced, but it can be helped. Undoubtedly what will help most to bring about Church Union is more of the Spirit of Christ in the hearts of all church members, but in addition to this there must be the creation of a right public opinion upon the subject. The present situation is that among church leaders there is a strong tendency towards Church Union, but what is holding back the movement is the denominational pride and the unreasonable prejudice of many among the rank and file of church members. It requires careful teaching to remove this hindering prejudice, and wider vision to overcome this isolating pride.

It may help on the great cause to briefly state the position now occupied by a large number of church leaders.

CO-ORDINATION NEEDED.

It is now more widely recognized than formerly that mere unity of spirit is not enough. This unity of spirit which is invisible must manifest itself in some visible organic form. There may be many different parts, each part with a different function, but the body, however complex, must be one. Co-operation alone is not enough, there must be co-ordination of different parts under one comprehensive plan.

It is now almost universally conceded that by Church Union is not meant any such thing as the absorption of one church by another church. The result of bringing the various denominations into organic union will not be the aggrandizement of any one of the existing churches, but the creation of a great comprehensive church such as will gladden the heart of Christ.

VALUABLE CONTRIBUTION.

It is now clearly understood that the leading characteristics of the various denominations are not to be obliterated, but they are to form the valuable contribution which each church is to make to the great comprehensive body. All the leading Protestant churches hold the same great essentials of Faith, but they differ in minor particulars. In the olden days these minor particulars were considered important enough to vigorously maintain even to the

point of separating from the existing body and forming a new organization, but in the course of centuries the value of these peculiar views have in most cases been recognized by the others so that the need for the separate sect has ceased to exist. Barriers are now crumbling which once were considered insurmountable.

As an illustration of what is meant we have on the one hand the Presbyterian Church and the Methodist Church taking more kindly to the occasional use of liturgical forms, and on the other hand we have the House of Bishops of the Anglican Church in Canada sanctioning under certain limitations the use in church of extempore prayer.

The Anglican Church has long made provision for both adult and infant baptism, and also for baptism by immersion as well as by effusion.

BRIDGE THE GULF.

The most recent development among church leaders in England has been the discovery that even in the matter of Church Order which has been the great difficulty in the way of Church Union between the Anglican Church and other Protestant Churches there is the possibility of bridging the gulf by the candid recognition of two great facts without going into any explanation of these facts. The first is the fact of the Episcopate in the greater part of Christendom as the recognized organ of the continuity of the Church "which members of the Episcopal Churches ought not to be expected to abandon." The second is the fact that "there are a number of Christian Churches not accepting the Episcopal order which have been used by the Holy Spirit in His work of enlightening the world, converting sinners, and perfecting saints."

PAYING THE PRICE.

If we could only get the rank and file of our various churches to follow their leaders, laying aside their prejudice and their pride, and endeavoring to "get together" it would not be long before the spirit of unity which is undoubtedly growing amongst us would manifest itself in some outward form of Church Union.

As it has been well said an unbelieving world is the price we are paying for a divided Christianity.

REV. W. G. Walton, of Fort George, St. James' Bay, has done a notable service for the Eskimo of his field, as will be seen in the "Spectator's" column. Through his insistent appeals the Government has embarked on a scheme to which all will wish success because it has the essential object of improving the life of the Eskimo. The heroic work and self-sacrificing service of Mr. Walton has been referred to in these columns on previous occasions. Pity is that the hardships which he and his family, and others of our missionaries in the North have endured, have not moved the Church to bestir herself for the relief of her worthy servants. For missionaries to endure hardships which can be prevented is an honour to the missionary but a disgrace to the Church. We have no right to take such things for granted.

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THE power of the printed page in Christian Mission work is illustrated by the statement of a student in Nanking University, "I have come to believe in Jesus largely through the study of a book by Prof. Jenks, of Cornell University, 'The Social Principles of Jesus Christ.'" Another testimony comes from Chungju, Chosen, Korea, from a woman who had been a beer-seller, notorious for her vile language: "Someone handed me a leaflet one day as I sat here selling beer. I said I could not read it. After my son read it he said: 'Mother, we must become Christians.' We talked it over and a few Sabbaths later I went to church. Now my son and his wife and I all believe. We have stopped the beer business and expect to move away and farm for a living."

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A HYMN OF VICTORY.

(Written for use in the thanksgiving service in St. James' Cathedral on Nov. 12.)

Now praise the Lord of Glory,
Ye people sing his praise!
Whose arm has wrought salvation,
To Him your anthems raise.
When in distress we sought Him,
A present help we found,
He pardoned our transgressions,
And faith with Victory crowned.

Now praise Him for the valor
Of that undaunted host
Who answered duty's summons,
Nor stayed to count the cost.
Enrolled beneath His banner
They conquered in the strife,
For His sake losing all things,
They found a nobler life.

Praise for the cheerful courage
That smiled on death and pain;
Praise for the strong endurance
Of hand and heart and brain.
For selfless service rendered
Unmarked by human eyes,
For Love to Duty offering
Her silent sacrifice.

If e'er our hearts forgetful
Wax fearful in the fight,
If evil seem victorious
And right o'erwhelmed by Might,
Then shall remembrance nerve us—
Why should we faint or flee?
Whose eyes have seen the triumph
Of Truth and Liberty.

Then praise the Lord of Glory!
Ye people sing His praise.
His government is righteous
And just are all His ways.
The Wonderful, the Counsellor,
His Kingdom shall increase
Till all the nations own Him
And hail Him Prince of Peace.

ADELAIDE M. PLUMPTRE.