

tions around us. But this, beloved brethren, instead of being a disadvantage, is, in fact, the indispensable condition of success in our gospel enterprise. It is not by tacit agreement with hoary yet false creeds, nor is it by being embraced in the fellowship of time-honoured communities, that we shall succeed. We have a testimony to bear against a regnant theology which is false, and ruinously false concerning fundamental verities. We must therefore take up our cross and follow Christ, and follow truth at all hazards, and at whatever sacrifice.

We rejoice to see you a noble band of brothers doing this, by unfurling, on American soil, the Banner of the Evangelical Union—a Banner more glorious than the “stars and stripes” of the American Union, for it is a Banner which displays the triple universalities of Triune love to every man. Having raised this Banner bear it aloft bravely, rally round it, and spend your latest breath in its defence and its onward triumphs. We are sure that you are not “three months’ men,” whose time of voluntary service expires when you are most needed. You will, we are sure, always find your fitting place at the post of duty, spending your energies, not in an ignoble flight from, but in a resolute fight against all the enemies of divine truth. The souls of men, the glory of him who loved all, and died for all in every land, and the fealty you owe to the God of all grace, claim this manly and loved defence of the universalities of Triune love against the limitations of divine love, and the horrible decrees of Calvinistic theology.

Union is needed in order to concentration of power and effort. We, therefore, rejoice that you have been led to form yourselves into a Branch of the Evangelical Union. Having experienced somewhat of the difficulties with which you have to grapple, we know that it is only by united heads, and hearts, and hands, that you can successfully prosecute your great work. It is therefore with fraternal sympathy and love, that we hail your union with each other and with us, and say with all our hearts, “God speed you.” In your case and in ours, may the prophetic words be speedily fulfilled, “A little one shall become a thousand; and a small one a strong nation; I the Lord will hasten it in his time.”

The Conference would gladly give you more tangible help than this expression of sympathy, and earnest desire for your prosperity, but the fields are white unto the harvest at home, and the labourers are few. There are urgent calls for likely men, and such a wide door of entrance set before us in this land, that our young men are at once invited to important spheres of usefulness. We have had the desire, but have