

ville School did in the United States. The following paragraphs are from the circular of the Committee:—

It is a duty evidently devolving on every denomination of professed Christians, to employ some organized instrumentality for spreading the knowledge and influence of Christianity among those multitudes of their fellow countrymen who are living in a state of practical heathenism. The number of such is stated, on good authority, to be nearly one-third of our whole population. It is generally acknowledged that the only method of successfully approaching this class, is by regular and systematic visits to their homes, and other ministrations peculiarly fitted to their condition and wants. Unitarians were among the first to recognize this truth, by the institution of "Home Missions;" but the increase of such institutions amongst us has often been delayed, and sometimes prevented, by the difficulty of meeting with the right men to carry them on. Among the men who are already laboring zealously and successfully in this field of Christian usefulness, there is scarcely one to be found who has been trained at any College for the ordinary ministry. It has been a subject of regret to such men, in some instances at least, that they had no opportunity of regular and systematic preparation, before entering on the work to which they are led by the love of it.

From these facts we may conclude:—1: That the work of the Home Missionary is one which can be engaged in successfully only by a man who has the tastes, feelings, and aptitudes it requires; therefore one to which no man can be destined in his youth, but which must be embraced by him at a comparatively mature age.

2. That it is a work which does not necessarily require a "classical training," and the various branches of a University education.

3. But that, nevertheless, a certain amount of previous training, and some branches of theological and general knowledge, will be found very useful in it.

To meet this state of things is one object for which the "Unitarian Home Missionary Board" is established. Its distinctive features are:—1. The limited course of instruction at which it aims, such as can be completed in three years. 2. The advanced age (comparatively) at which it receives its pupils. 3. The union, through their whole course, of active practical labors with daily study.

By such means it is attempted to send forth men who embrace the task of Christian Missionaries, *solely because they love it*,—who are practically acquainted with the wants of the humbler classes, and have some experience in meeting them,—who are prepared for their work, by suitable theological and general knowledge,—who are *popular* in their spirit, their style of preaching, and their general mode of operation,—and who, above all, are imbued with that deep love of God and Christ, which best displays itself in labors of love among mankind.