

imperatively for reply: Are we true to our trust? Are the men of to-day meeting the duties of to-day as the fathers met theirs forty years ago? Is the old spirit gone?

It is of course perilous to institute comparisons, but in view of the facts before us, we make the following suggestions:

1. The aim and spirit of the fathers have not departed. The great and good men and women who have prayed and struggled here, have left a legacy which their children are not going to cast away. Circumstances, forms, methods must of course change with the progress of years. It is well they should. But the old purpose and principles remain; and even a casual observer would not fail still to detect here, great energy of spiritual life. The rock on which we are planted is the "Rock of ages." What has been said of the college, may be said with equal truth of this church. "There have been changes, but none such as to separate the present from the past in identity of character."

2. We shall do well to remember that we cannot live upon the virtues and heroisms of the past. Circumstances here are now so different that the lives of the founders, if minutely reproduced would not meet the demands of to-day. We are bound to transmit christian character and institutions. But after all, it is not those of the fathers, but our own, that will most directly concern posterity. As individuals, we too, shall soon have passed away. If we have any noble aims, any high aspirations from the past, we are to speak them out, put them on record, and send them down the fields of time that the gleaners of the next generation may find something that the reapers of this have left. But our supreme duty to the future is to enable our children to begin not where our fathers, or where we began, but where we left off. We owe it to them to leave behind us, in spirit,