

ADDRESS.

There is nothing uncommon in the association of young men for mutual improvement ;—efforts of this character are common in our evangelical churches, in the form of Bible classes, prayer meetings, or mutual improvement societies, while some possess small libraries of select books to which their young men may resort for religious information. But these efforts, being entirely denominational, are not only, of necessity, more limited in their action and influence than the united action of the whole in one large association ; but denominational efforts of every kind have a tendency to confirm sectarian prejudices, and to narrow down our affections to those who think, as we think,—the more Christians of every shade of opinion co-mingle, the more do they appreciate the folly of those who would fold their arms with haughtiness, as if always on guard to resist some anticipated attack on their distinctive principles. It was said of the primitive Christians, “ See how they love ;” why may it not be said again ?

The churches have, happily, passed through the age of controversy ; they are now called upon to afford to the world a practical illustration of that unity which really exists among all evangelical Protestants.

Since the establishment of an institution of this character in London, they have sprung up in most of the countries of Europe, in Asia, Africa, America, and many of the dependencies of Great Britain,—a certain proof of their adaptation to the peculiar wants of young men.

Their great object is to provide rooms fitted up with convenience and taste, supplied with the periodicals of the day