

moral improvement of mankind is surely a work worthy of greatest effort and noblest self-denial. To make men better men we ought to forget our differences and remember alone our affinities in Christ. We ought to do our best for the restoration of complete human unity in the Man, Christ Jesus. The Earl rightly says that "the acceptance of this Catholic and charitable view need not check our earnest advocacy of what we believe to be the will of Christ in His ordinary workings, though it will enlarge our hearts to all who show the fruits of the Spirit." Practically, however, how is this union to be promoted? He asks "whether a council could not be formed in every town or district, and, at some future time, a central council, to meet in London, of wise, sound, large-hearted men, chosen by each denomination as their representatives. These should meet regularly in friendly conference, studying earnestly, in the light of the revealed will of God, the intricate problems of society; exploring the accessible, but often remote and concealed, sources of human evil; and then guiding and systematising the various institutions for good, so that they could more effectually forward the common work in a co-ordinate way, and without any jealous interferences with each other, and then bring the full power of united Christian effort and example to deal more effectually with our many social evils." Beyond all controversy, the suggestion is worthy of all praise, but it is to be feared that, as yet, there are many difficulties in the way; too much of churchiness in the churches, and too little of Christ, in all the incomparable grandeur of His work and words. The bright era has however dawned, the light is breaking, missions of mercy are extending on all sides. Christians are responding nobly to the appeals of suffering humanity, and the work will yet be done, but by Christianity alone. We heartily echo the words of Huxley on this subject, "But that the incongruous mixture of bad science with eviscerated Papistry, out of which Comte manufactured the Positivist religion, will be the heir of the Christian Ages, I have too much respect for the humanity of the future to believe."

JAMES MACCANN.