

fusion but a concentration of Christian forces. Still there can be no disguising the fact that in some quarters the Endeavor societies are moving farther from the church's control and nearer to a stand of absolute independence. This movement is fostered in a degree by the present organization of the society. Monster conventions are being drawn together with all their accompaniment of badges and banners, partially for deliberation of plans for future usefulness, and partially, we are bound to believe for purposes of parade. The press is forced to do homage to the wonder of the day and the large cities which fail to capture a world's fair or carnival consider they have an equal attraction if they can secure to themselves the sessions of an Endeavor convention. Enthusiasts of the idea are continually reminding the church of her past remissness in caring for the children of her household. Beyond all question the Christian Endeavor Society is asserting itself in a way that is decidedly aggressive. Whether the attention thus directed to Christian assemblages is in all cases conducive to the purposes which these meetings are intended to promote, is in some cases at least doubtful. Concerning the Christian Endeavor movement we are forced to ask whither will it tend? Will it ultimately strengthen the agencies already at work by closely affiliating with them and permeating them with its spirit, or

is it drawing the young people of our church away from their denominational connection and will it seek for itself an independent path as the Salvation Army has done?

It cannot give its entire support to the church under the present circumstances. The sympathy of its members cannot now be wholly in the church's work for the societies have a federal union altogether apart from any or all of the churches, and this of necessity claims a large measure of their sympathy and support. It has its independent undenominational officers, conventions and press, and these draw to themselves a large degree of interest. In so far as these draw about them the religious life and influence of Endeavorers in so far do they draw an interest from members and adherents of already existing churches. The smaller church parliament for the transaction of dry business is overshadowed in interest by the monster muster of the societies. Last June our General Assembly met in session in London. About the same time several hundred Endeavor societies supposedly under the control of our church sent their delegates to the Boston rally. Which gathering, and it is a fair question, was considered by those societies to concern them most. To put it in plain terms do the majority of these societies contribute more to be represented in the parade of an international rally than they do for the schemes of