

Christianizing. How shall the men reach him who want to get as much as possible into him? Not the men who want to exploit him, but those who desire to acquaint him with our institutions, to give him some intelligent conception of the rights and duties of citizenship, to inspire nobler ideas of life, to acquaint him with God in Christ. If the clergy were to do all this for the immigrant, even assuming that they had nothing else to do, they would need to be miraculously multiplied like the loaves and fishes in order to come into personal contact with so great a multitude. The census of 1890 showed 640,000 persons of foreign birth in New York city and 450,000 in Chicago, while in the whole country there were 9,249,000. Evidently if there is to be a serious attempt to aid the process of assimilation, it must be on a scale commensurate with the magnitude of the task.

The clergy of the United States have means ready at their hand, quite equal to so vast an undertaking. In recent years there has been an unprecedented growth of young people's societies. The Young People's Societies of Christian Endeavor in the United States now have some 2,000,000 members. The Epworth League of the Methodist Episcopal Church, last May, had 1,250,000; of the Methodist Episcopal Church South, 150,000. The Brotherhood of St Andrew (Protestant Episcopal) has 12,000. The Young Women's Christian Association has 25,000. The Young Men's Christian Association has 244,000, of whom 117,000 are active members. Some of these are counted twice no doubt, but here are three and a half million young people, and, including the Luther League recently organized, very soon to number four million, who have avowedly enlisted for Christian service. Among these armies of young men and women there has been developed, to a remarkable degree, the new patriotism, which is civil rather than military, and which is characterized by the Christian spirit of service. Here is an instrumentality sufficiently powerful, if it can be utilized, to reach the foreign population with Christianizing and Americanizing influence. How can it be brought to bear?

The teaching of our pulpits does not reach those who most need it. If we hold meetings to educate public opinion touching any reform, that part of the public which most needs educating is not present because it is indifferent. If we write books and print papers with the same end in view, it is those already interested who buy them, while those who need them most, because indifferent, do not see them. The truth must be carried to the indifferent. They will not come for it, and they will not buy it.

Suppose the members of these various young people's societies be made the bearers of the truth. Each community could be distributed, and each district assigned to some young person; and many hands would make light work of the matter. Hundreds of thousands of letters are delivered in a few hours in a large city, because the work is systematized, and each carrier knows and serves his own route. It