

derful tact of its President and Founder, Dr. Clark, that it has not been shorn of its locks long ere this.

These days are not gone, still we find people who either wilfully or ignorantly injure the society by giving to the public wrong impressions of its principles and methods. It seems necessary, therefore, to iterate and reiterate certain great principles of Christian Endeavor, in order that its nature and design may be properly understood.

I. The first statement I wish to make in this connection is, *That the Christian Endeavor Society is essentially a part of the Church.* It seems necessary to re-affirm this principle, because of statements that are continually being made to the contrary in magazines and other publications. Article 9 of the Model Constitution of the Young People's Society of Christian Endeavor, reads as follows:—"The Society being a part of the Church, the pastors, deacons, elders, Sunday-school superintendents, shall be ex-officio honorary members. Any difficult question may be laid before them for advice." A Christian Endeavor Society cannot come into existence in any Presbyterian Church without the consent of Session. Apart from the Church it has no existence. If any Society should violate this fundamental article, it is not in accord with true Christian Endeavor principles, and should not be considered as worthy of the name. This organization, by its very constitution, is more closely identified with the aims, interests and work of the Church than any other body. It is more closely allied to the Church and under its supervision than is the Sunday-school or the Ladies' Aid Society, or the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society. It is pledged by its constitution to further in every possible way the interests of the Church, and to be entirely subordinate to her mandates.

An erroneous idea upon the principle already enunciated has given rise to much writing and talking upon Christian Endeavor, which is entirely uncalled for and unfair to the Society. An article appeared some time ago in a leading religious journal upon this subject that may be taken as a fair sample of such misconceptions. These have arisen from the error of supposing that the Christian Endeavor Society is a semi-independent organization. The writer, while saying many good things about the movement, falls into some egregious errors because he has failed to recognize the principle already laid down. He says:—"Still there is no disguising the fact that the Endeavor Societies are moving farther from the churches and nearer to the stand of absolute independence." It has been my privilege to attend many Christian Endeavor conventions, local, provincial and international, and without exception, the greatest emphasis has always been laid upon the necessity of the society being loyal to the individual church of which it is a part. I have had a wide experience with Societies and their