

but small. They are in the training school ; let them get their lessons in good time. You will say, "But look at the labor that entails." So it does, but you can effect nothing without labor. What genius ever shone, that was not a *plod* as well? What pastor ever gained a purpose without hard work? What deacon was ever thought much of who did not work hard? You cannot digest a dinner without labor. You cannot eat a beefsteak without *much labor*.

Too much cannot be said in praise of the Christian Endeavor Society. It has helped in no small degree to lessen our difficulties with regard to the young people. This Society is a middle-ground for undergraduates, and a starting point for timid Christians, even if their locks be silvered.

Then there are our mission bands, and missionary needles, missionary societies and sewing societies. These may be creditable efforts on behalf of the heathen, or they may be "for the good of the order" kind—a something to pass away a pleasant hour together, take up a slim collection and devote it to the heathen in a general way, without any special thought. Now, a properly conducted mission band for the young is a most helpful institution of the church, where geography, ethnology, botany, and history are taught in easy stages ; while slowly, but surely, the heart is broadening in its sympathies, until when it reaches manhood or womanhood's estate, it has taken in the "whole world for Christ," and given "itself for the world." My impression has been strengthened of late years, that too many churches have neglected this working for the future : we have worked upon those whom we wished to gather in at once, while half the energy wisely expended in directing the young into profitable channels of working and study, would save much of the future agony and combat. Particularly so is this the case in our missionary operations. Since 1808 missions have grown and extended marvellously. Now notice how little the mass of our congregations know about missions. How account for it? By simply letting the children alone for thirty years each generation, and we are doing it still! No use to flit like that industrious household domestic pet of four letters, from country to country, and sip nectar for a brief half-hour every fortnight. But,

if like Stanley, we enter at Zanzibar and go through Africa to the mouth of the Congo, even if it take 1,000 days, we have gathered good honey. Extent of territory—size of lakes—number of people—their gross darkness and numerous gods, it will re create their minds in a dual sense. Of young ladies' missionary societies, I need say nothing. Anyone who has ever had the pleasure of being a young lady and belonging to one of their societies, needs not to be told they are always interesting. What we do need, however, is to *know more of what they are doing*, in order to interest outsiders. If you dare whisper such a thing, they are needed to amalgamate with the older societies, in order to throw life and energy and enthusiasm into them. There is danger of having too many societies—too much machinery, and a loss of power at the head centre. By such a union there would be such an increase of funds, youth, energy and devotion as to open any purse of older citizens. This does not apply, however, to the "sewing circles." They are best separate. People will graduate by natural evolution from mission needles to the willing workers, and to the older societies. A re-union of the three twice a year would be a grand help to progress.

With our church work then, we have noticed, briefly, five avenues of usefulness, viz. :

1. The Sunday school.
2. The church services.
3. The Christian Endeavor Society.
4. The missionary societies.
5. The sewing circles.

Let these also represent spokes of a larger wheel. And now a word as to the *tire* that binds the feloes and the spokes. The *hub* is surely the interests of God's cause and our own common interests. The *tire* that binds them together should be most important. Remembering our subject, "How shall we interest our young people?" here is what we propose : Show our interest in our young people, as well as in our work. Do not let the commonplace nod take the place of the warm hand-shake. Never think that because "he is only a boy" you need not notice him. "The boy is father of the man." He has a soul that can be reached easier by man (and reverently we say it, by God, too,) before he is twenty years old, than afterwards. Let us show