

ened those already in existence between the others. From this epoch date several of those Christian friendships which are some of the greatest joys of life, and which are not destroyed by death.

However, the discussions, thus suddenly entered on, sometimes strayed away, and it was then perceived, somewhat too late, that the speakers, with the exception of the lecturer, who had studied his subject, were not sufficiently prepared to sustain, for or against. Struck with this inconvenience, and desirous of remedying it in the interest of the cause they were advocating, and for the honor of the faith that was dear to them, Ozanam and his friends conceived the idea of establishing amongst them, in the interests of the meetings of the History Conference, preparatory meetings where each person should make himself acquainted with the subject which his colleagues proposed to discuss. They could thus study them beforehand, and thus have more chance of *éclat* and success. A committee, consisting of Ozanam, Lamache and Lallier, was charged with examining this project, and the means of accomplishing it. This committee met almost immediately at the house of Lamache, Hotel Corneille, Rue Corneille. The first meeting passed in conversation, and brought about no practical result.

The next day, one of the members of the committee had occasion to chat about it with Le Taillandier, a law student of the same year, and also a member of the History Conference. Le Taillandier was living with his parents, Rue des Fleurs, near the Luxemburg. Of a calm disposition, not at all argumentative, he assiduously attended the meetings simply as a listener, without taking any part in the discussions. Whilst chatting with Lallier about the projected preparatory meetings, Le Taillandier said suddenly: "I would much prefer another kind of meeting, whence contention and controversy would be banished, and which would be composed only of Christian young men, engaged together, and solely about good works." Lallier received this project without enthusiasm. On the following day, however, he communicated it to his two