

CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR PRINCIPLES AND RESULTS.

THIS age is undoubtedly one of invention and progress. The Arts and Sciences are advancing with such gigantic strides that the ordinary reader is in danger of being left far behind. We live in an Electrical age, an age when "Knowledge is being increased." The question may well be asked, If such advancement is being made along all the various lines of activity, why should there not be development in Theology? Why should there not also be discoveries in methods of Christian work? Doubtless the objection will be raised that no advance can be made, no dawning of new light in the faith *once* delivered to the saints. True, we can expect no new revelation, but may we not confidently look for fuller explanations and clearer interpretations of the old revelation? Should there not be new adaptations of Eternal Truth to the needs of each age? The old methods of work suited the days in which they were adopted and employed, but new environment, changed customs and different people demand new methods of working if we are to be successful in the propagation of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. The Sunday-school was a discovery, and has now come to be looked upon as one of the essentials of the Church. The Y. M. C. A. was a discovery that has been wonderfully blessed of God in the development of Christianity in the highest and best forms among young men.

Notwithstanding the adoption of these various lines of work, the wants of all classes were not fully met. There was a hiatus between the Sunday-school and the Church which had never been filled, during which period many young people wandered far from the paths of rectitude. About fifteen years ago Dr. Clark, then of Portland, Maine, guided by the Spirit of God, made another discovery which has gone far to meet this long felt want, when he organized the first Christian Endeavor Society.

The growth of that organization has been phenomenal. During the past fourteen years truly "The little one has become a thousand," or rather, has become a million. The membership of this Society has risen to the almost inconceivable number of 2,600,000. It has belted the Globe. Every nation in the world, with but five exceptions, is represented in this gigantic brotherhood. Such wonderful success is never attained by any movement unless it supplies a long felt need. This is undoubtedly the secret of the remarkable growth of this society. As has been the case with all such organizations, misunderstandings as to its nature and aims have frequently arisen, and it is due to the keen foresight, judicious management, and won-