

the Church to young men as a class. It is to be regretted that this subject should demand a separate consideration, but it cannot be claimed that either by our Sabbath Schools or by our Young People's Societies as at present constituted have young men to any great extent been reached or their sympathy enlisted. We may in a spirit of hope encourage ourselves to believe that the estrangement between young men and the Church is exaggerated, and yet the continual call of the Church to this class, as though they were not only outside, but in a position antagonistic to things religious, the ever-recurring magazine article on the subject, and the invariable topic so much in evidence at our conventions of "How to reach Young Men," all indicate an existing condition of affairs far from satisfactory.

Whether the spirit of the age which finds expression in organization should find expression here also and lead us to adopt some such form of effort as is found in the "Brotherhood of St. Andrew" in the Episcopal Church, I am not prepared to say. The mention of the matter may invite discussion and suggestion.

One thing in this connection I venture to suggest, it is that in all our work for young men the spiritual should take emphatic and absorbing precedence of everything else. To make a sort of semi-religious club of our Church and a lecture-platform of our pulpit is to perpetrate a folly the inconsistency and futility of which none will more quickly detect than young men themselves. Their very business training and competition in the world teach them the necessity of fidelity to purpose and loyalty to one's mission. They, therefore, look to the Church for spiritual guidance, encouragement and help, and if, instead of these, they find attempts at amusement, entertainment and social and political education, they are not slow to abandon the Church for places where these can be found in larger measure and in more congenial surroundings. The pulpit has tried too long to win young men by appealing to the head, let us make the trial now of appealing to their