

Our University and Colleges have had a year of very satisfactory prosperity. In the past they have been fruitful agencies in leading many to Christ. A revival at College, and the conversion of the students in successive years, have been the history from the beginning. They are safe homes for your sons and daughters, and justly appeal for every possible encouragement and help in our effort to "spread scriptural holiness over these lands." They are, to say, the centres of missionary zeal and earnest cause—creation to the cause of Christ. To the best of your ability, aid in increasing their efficiency, and still further justify the wisdom and honor the sacrifice of our fathers in thus providing for the youth under our care.

This is emphatically the day of missionary enterprise. "The world for Christ," is the watchword of the hour. The heroism, devotion, and spirit of sacrifice are equal to anything recorded in the apostolic age. "The fields are white unto the harvest." The world is waiting for the Gospel as never before. Heathenism presents an open door everywhere, and the "isles are waiting for the law." The signs are indicative of the speedy and universal reign of Christ. The supply of laborers is limited only by the inability to provide for their support. Much as has been done, there is room for yet larger sympathy, greater liberality, and more hearty co-operation. In carrying the Gospel to others we also kindle anew the divine life in our own souls. An unaggressive church is either dead or dying. Let the spirit of your liberality abound more and more, so shall ye be fruitful in every good word and work.

No more fruitful agency for permanent and satisfactory results can be found than the Sabbath-school. It is the nursery of the Church. From its ranks comes the largest percentage of conversions, especially on the fields of labor longest under our influence. To the Sabbath-school we must look more and more for candidates for the ministry. A life early secured for the service of God will accomplish far more than one converted at a more advanced age, with scriptural truth and doctrine yet to learn. A special qualification of Timothy was "that from a child he had known the Scriptures." Save the children, and train them for Christ, and not only the present but future generations will thereby be richly blessed. A more vigorous, more aggressive and better equipped Church will be the result because of the scriptural instruction and early piety thus secured.

Suffer, dear brethren, a word of exhortation. In these times of general unrest manifested in social and political life, as also in ecclesiastical organizations, cultivate a spirit of patience and Christian forbearance. Any grievance, real or supposed, is most easily and most satisfactorily rectified by constitutional methods, rather than by undue antagonisms and party strife. Difference in judgment must be expected, but where all have the mind of Christ such difference may be speedily and happily adjusted. Devotion to the Master and loyalty to our Church polity should characterize us, firstly as Christians, and secondly as Methodists. Bound thus by a two-fold cord, we ask that you receive, as the ambassadors of Christ, those sent to labor among you, that the Word of God may have full course and be glorified. In the same spirit, do not try to "mend our rules" or our legislation, but "keep them," and thus give to every agency and enterprise, duly authorized and appointed, the best opportunity for development and consummation.