

improving aspect, but likewise a philanthropic one. A special object which it has in view, is to bring as many young men as possible, both those already in the city, and others coming to it strangers, under the good influence of the association, and to aid in putting them into circumstances of moral safety and of favorableness to their real well-being.

"Still more, all Young Men's Christian Associations which have attained to some maturity, have directed their energies and means of acting to benevolent efforts on behalf of those within their reach who need them. For example, the large Young Men's Christian Association in London, Britain, has established Sabbath Schools in formerly neglected and degraded districts of that immense city gathering together great numbers of children, who would have grown up in the deepest ignorance and vice, to be pests to society, bringing them under religious education and training; and these schools are conducted by members of the association willing to do labors of love to immortal souls. It also employs and supports city missionaries, to go among the masses of adults imbedded in practical heathenism; to visit their strange places of abode in attics and cellars; to talk with them kindly; to offer them tracts or books, if they can read; to persuade them to attend meetings for prayer, reading the Scriptures, and instruction; and thus to seek their elevation from the low condition, physical and moral, into which they had sunk. Nor have these noble labors of the association been in vain, but have been blessed with much success in plucking many as brands from the burning.

"The last published report of the Montreal Young Men's Christian Association, which has existed more than five years, and been working actively, shows that, among their other operations, they, too, sustain a city missionary, who labors constantly in his humble but meritorious work, distributing tracts; preaching the gospel of the grace of God; going on board ships to address sailors, who seldom come within the range of a sermon or of public prayer; visiting the hospital, to speak words in season, and offer up prayer at the bedsides of the prostrate inmates; and visiting the prison, to tell those whose evil deeds have brought them there, that the blood of Jesus Christ cleanses from all sin, and that he gives a free pardon, a glorious liberty, and a complete salvation to all who come to Him by believing on Him with their hearts.

"Surely, brethren, we should devoutly wish that we may be able, ere long, to set in motion a missionary work, connected with this association, in our own city. The experience and history of other associations have proved that, according as they have been zealous in such works, they have flourished or not; for it is the Divine rule, that by watering others, in doing them good, we ourselves are also watered. Unquestionably there is sufficient necessity in our midst for all that we can do personally. And a city missionary, if we had one, would find abundance to do every day. Nor is it to be doubted, that if necessary diligence were put forth, the means of supporting such a missionary could be raised. I do not say that our young men could do it merely from their own resources; but by soliciting assistance throughout the various congregations in London, all that would be required might be easily obtained. Why, acting on Christian union, or, if you will, co-operation, that would be but a small matter to the right-hearted Christians in London, and it would do themselves incalculable benefit. I repeat, then, that we have only to set ourselves together to move the voluntary wheel within Christian breasts, in order to provide one highly important agency in our benevolent work—the labors of an individual whose sole business it would be daily to visit and teach from house to house, and from one sphere of duty to another, giving line upon line, here a little and there a little, throughout the boundaries prescribed to him; while active members of the association might spontaneously do all the good in their power, working out the principles of our constitution, according as they had time and opportunity, and were strengthened by Divine grace."

We recommend the Address to the attention of all into whose hands it may fall, and cordially wish the Association all success. We should be