

Ireland? Were this accomplished the most gigantic of our social evils would assume proportions that need excite no alarm, and would wear an aspect that would encourage the hope of their speedy and entire removal. Surely such an object is worthy of the deepest consideration and most earnest efforts of every educated man.

5. Last, but not least, TO PROMOTE CHRISTIAN EDUCATION OF THE HIGHEST CHARACTER TO THE WIDEST POSSIBLE EXTENT.

There may be education highly intellectual, but not Christian. There may be education that is Christian, as far as it goes, but which does not involve mental culture of a very high order. What society most needs is, the presence and preponderating influence of a large class of men and women, whose mental training habituates them to a wide and elevated range of thought, and who combine with it the true spirit of Christian philanthropy. While thankfully acknowledging that we have some such, let us labor that we may have more. What we have are the salt of the earth;—what we hope to have shall be as the dew of heaven to our moral deserts, the lights of the world to guide it on its path of progress. If our institutions of learning are not adapted to produce such characters, then let us not abandon them, but give ourselves no rest till they are rendered competent to the work. But if this is the kind of education they impart, then they are worthy of our most enthusiastic support, for they are conferring not only upon us and the whole community, but upon generations unborn, the most valuable of social blessings.

And now, in conclusion, let me say my purpose to-night has been to appeal to those patriotic feelings which should animate every intelligent Christian man. Patriotism is a Christian virtue taught by our Saviour, when he wept over Jerusalem, and by the Great Apostle when he so pathetically lamented his cast-off race. It is to me a matter of equal doubt whether one can be a true Christian and not be a patriot, or a true patriot and not be a Christian. The love of country is as real a duty as the love of father or mother, wife or child. But what is our country? "Not," says Coleridge, "the land in which we were born, or in which we may live, but that to which we are united and be-