

new baptism of fire—another Pentecost; and a large reinforcement of strength. At such a juncture, shall we not greet with a cordial welcome these Young Men's Christian Associations, coming as volunteers to our help, and bravely taking their position on the outspread field? I know not how this development may strike others: but to me it looks very much like a chosen *corps of reserve*, which the Captain of our salvation deemed it wise to keep in the shade till the exigencies of the struggle should demand the infusion of their youthful energies into his militant hosts. May they be valiant for the truth, and win unfading laurels!

Will the Young Men composing this Association, permit me before I sit down, to address to them two or three cautionary suggestions,—I will not call them counsels. I claim, my young Christian Brethren, no other authority for the suggestions I may offer, than that with which your own convictions may invest them; no higher consideration for the motive that prompts them than you may feel to be due to a profound sympathy with the objects of your institution:—

1. I would earnestly exhort you to maintain, with unswerving fidelity, the distinctively Christian character of your enterprise. It is such in name; and I rejoice to believe that it is so in deed and in truth. Keep it up to the mark! In its interior working,—in its aggressive efforts, and diffusive influences, let Christ be all and in all.

2. Love as brethren; brethren, I mean, in Christ. The love of Him is the bond, the soul, of Christian brotherhood. Within the precincts of your Association, let no eye be able to trace in the spirit of your intercourse the lines of