

followers less surely to conquest, because he asked God's blessing before every battle, and gave God thanks after every victory? If not, then here we may let this question rest. Here we might be almost content to have it rest. We would fain indeed pursue this method of proof, or of illustration, a little further. But though it cannot be denied that patience is one important element of Manliness, we cannot but remember that forbearance is another, and we must not tax the patience of this audience too severely.

What then is the conclusion of the whole matter? That between religion and Manliness there is no controversy? Nay; rather that of all true Manliness *religion is the foundation!* Throughout this discussion we have not occupied the highest ground that we might have occupied legitimately. We have contented ourselves very much, perhaps too much, with a position of defence. Our argument might well have been more aggressive. Yet the conclusion is not the less certain and positive. In all the walks of life,—whether in the mansions of the great or in the cottage of the poor; whether dwelling in gladsome bowers or clothed in the shroud of sorrow; whether rising on the highest wave, or sinking in the trough of misfortune; whether successes attend our enterprises, or failure follow our efforts—especially in all the great crises of action or of suffering, whether amongst mightiest Generals marshalling whole hosts for the conflict or amongst lowliest foot-soldiers fighting undistinguished in the crowd, in all trial, and hardship, and privation, and danger, they are the truest men, whom the Great Captain above has made sons of God. “The saint *is* greater” than either sage or warrior, and “discipleship to Jesus” is the truest nobleness,—

“The Christian is the highest style of man.”

To the young members of this Association, then, (fain to think myself also yet young) I would say, **BE MEN.** And be