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THE APPROACHING UNION MEETING.

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In about four weeks we anticipate another of those delightful reunions, which, however laborious to many of the brethren, are to all seasons of refreshing and renewal. The whole work of the denomination is then brought under review. Let us come together as under the gracious eye of "Him who walketh in the midst of the seven golden candlesticks," who knows our works, and faith, and patience; who, while commending every faithful servant, searches the divided heart, the lukewarm, and the barren. What, above all, we need, is "a baptism of the Holy Ghost and of fire." The routine work of these meetings needs the all-pervading spirit of life and love to render the whole preeminently spiritual. This fervent spirit should no less quicken our deliberations and discussions, than our devotional services. Nothing should savour of self, or sect, or secularity; but Christ should be all, and in all. Could we not attain to a higher measure of Christian love, and power, by uniting every morning in special prayer, from this day until we meet, that the Lord would grant us a gracious reviving? Let every member of the churches join in this secret concert of prayer, and doubtless, when we come together, "He who heareth in secret will reward us openly." We who by our public acts of devotion give the key-note to the whole household of faith may greatly promote such a blessed revival, by our ministrations; but little can we accomplish in this matter, without breaking up the fallow-ground of our own hearts, by heart-searchings, humiliation, and renewed self-consecration in secret. "This kind goeth not out but by much prayer and fasting." There is great danger of our settling down into a self-satisfied state, over the steady mechanical movements of our Societies, especially when the summaries of statistics shew some slight excess over the averages of former years, or possibly over those of some other associations. These annual meetings should serve a vastly higher purpose than to reassure us that we are holding our own. They should retone our spirits for a noble Christian aggression. We should bear away from them, as the comets