

Churches of Christendom it has originated, as Prof. Goldwin Smith has remarked, not in strife and controversy, but in a religious revival. Let the maxim of Wesley be ours: "The friends of all, the enemies of none." Let us seek to inherit the beatitude pronounced by the Author of love and concord, on those who follow after the things which make for peace.

The best way, it seems to us, to promote Christian union is, to seek more and more, in all the Churches, the baptism of the Spirit of love, of brotherhood, of Christianity. Let every Christian be in communion with every other Christian, and be ready to accept and acknowledge all others who stand in the Apostles' fellowship and doctrine.

Much may be done by Christian intercourse and courtesy. We have before us the address to their brethren in Christ of all the Churches, of the Christian Unity Society, formed for this purpose. Bishop Coxé urges the formation of a Christian Alliance of all the Churches—something possessing more dynamic energy than the Evangelical Alliance, with its occasional handshaking and "agreeing to differ." "It is time," he says, "to speak out and to see what can be hoped for in behalf of united Christian efforts to preserve and to augment the Christian forces on which American civilization must depend. Let anybody reflect on the monstrous social evils which are everywhere at work to destroy and overthrow where our forefathers have built wisely and well, and I think he must feel that the scattering of Christian energies, where every duty calls us to combine, is madness. Evil masses its forces against us; but millions who are practically one as

to fundamental principles of Christian society are impotent to make their mighty energies felt in national morals and in behalf of social order, because a persistent individualism resolves them into a rope of sand."

"After so many ages of controversy," says Dr. Strong, of the Methodist Episcopal Church, "Christians are at last coming to understand better not only their own faith and its relations, but also one another's views of it; and thus what may be styled an *'anti-polemical'* spirit is springing up, which augurs well for the dawn of the millennial day of the Prince of the Peace."

Let this spirit be cultivated more and more, and in the near future Christians of the different Churches will discover, with a glad surprise, as they drink more deeply of the spirit of the Master, how near together and how much alike they are. Let all who name the name of Christ, join with heart and hand in a solemn league and covenant, first of Christian concord and friendship, and then of united effort to promote the glory of God in the highest, peace on earth and good-will to men.

God is too near above, the grave beneath,
And all our moments breathe
Too quick in mysteries of life and death

for us to spend a moment of time or a spark of energy in unchristian strife and antagonism.

As we stand a-nigh His cross,
And behold His grief and shame,
Trifling differences as dross,
Live but in their trifling name,
Hate and spite and party fall
Dead, when CHRIST is all in all.

THE dear Lord's best interpreters
Are humble human souls;
The Gospel of a life like hers
Is more than books or scrolls.

—Whittier.