

We know well the steps we must take in order to a thorough acquaintance with the works of art. We must study music from the best masters; we must sit at the feet of learned men before we can become a philosopher in the sense in which we are now using this term. Must we not learn of Christ under the same laws? Knowing Him better we shall naturally become more like Him. Unlike the acquirements of the human mind, assimilation with Christ does not imply superiority of mental strength,—often those who are nearest Him open childlike hearts without fear, and trusting. It is a grand thing to be able to read the stars and to open up the hidden mysteries of the earth; to connect worlds and thereby form a general brotherhood of man; but the artist is above his work and God is immeasurably beyond any of his works. He bids us take His Word as a “lamp unto our feet and a light unto our path.”

SOON after the commencement of 1889, the throbbing of increased spiritual life was felt in every part of our church. The visit of Mr. Simpson and his fellow-workers, followed by the Misses. Dimsdale, lifted the whole church into higher spiritual life. Many young people were led to consecrate themselves to Christ, and the question arose, “How can the spiritual life be best sustained and developed.”

Our Pastor was very favorably impressed with the aim of the Y. P. S. C. E., which is to foster, nourish and develop the life of God in the soul.

After having had the matter laid before us, and looking at it from all sides, it was decided to organize. Accordingly, in May of the same year, our Society came into being. A very small membership truly at first, but we did not despise small things, and we felt it only needed time before the development of this germ. Nor have we been disappointed—from the first our Society has been strong and active. Many have found a field of work and a good deal of latent power has been developed. We can see in the faces of the members and in their faithful keeping of the pledge, an earnest purpose for the Master. There is a willingness on their part to perform whatever work is assigned them, whether it is leading the prayer-meeting, working on a Committee or testifying for Christ. There is need of exercise if we want to grow, and the Christian Endeavor Society gives direction to our efforts. We need direction in other matters, so in this. We

want every power in our whole being developed, so that “we may be perfect and entire—lacking nothing.”

When we begin to speak for Christ, it is much like the baby learning to talk. If it can only speak lispingly so that no one but the family can understand it, how much joy it creates. They know the power is there, only needing cultivation and training to bring it to perfection. So we speak and testify for him, falteringly perhaps, but trusting for the power to speak more boldly and forcibly. So we work for Him, endeavoring “to do with our might what our hands find to do,” and His helpfulness is called forth by our very weakness. There is in our natures something that responds when we are trusted by one weaker than ourselves, but in Christ how brightly this characteristic shines forth. When we think of how richly God’s blessing has crowned the efforts we have made, and how He has accepted so lovingly, ourselves and the work we have tried to do in His name, we feel assured that the future has more in store for us “than we can even ask or think.”—C.K.

Our Motto.

AN ACROSTIC.

FOR CHRIST AND THE CHURCH.—This motto we bring you.
ON God is our hope—in Him we confide.
RICH in His love, we trust in His guidance,
CLAIMING the promise. And we abide.
HELD in His gracious, omnipotent power,
REDEEMED by the blood that was shed for us all
IMBUED with the Spirit that sanctifies
SHALL we not quickly respond to the call?
TO CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR, to show forth this motto,
AND help in God’s service with heart and with will,
NOT in our own strength, but ever relying
DAILY on Him—to trust He will fill
THE hearts of His servants with faith and with
HIS cause to uphold, the Church to upraise,—
ENDEAVOR in Christ’s work to ever be ready—
CHOOSING in all things to show forth His praise
HIS promise abideth—His word faileth never,—
UNTO Him be the glory, the honor and power.
READY are we—our Motto before us—
‘CHRIST AND THE CHURCH’—His glory its honor,
HERE to endeavor, each day and each hour.—J.H.