

men under thirty years of age. We should all try to come up to that position where we can say, 'Where He leads, I will follow.' I speak for the Middletown Association, that we heartily welcome you, not only in words, but in acts and in hospitality. So many of Middletown's best people are represented in our Young Men's Christian Association that I may say the whole city welcomes you. We have prayed for you and spoken about you much. We are glad to have you here with us, and we long to see this town and state moved by your meetings in our midst. May God bless you in your work here."

Then was sung the hymn, "Soldiers of Christ, Arise!" after which President Raymond said: "The New York man, in meeting a stranger, asks the question, 'How much are you worth?'; the Chicago man asks, 'What can you do?'; while the Boston man asks, 'What do you know?' We are glad to have with us to-night a man who has not been unduly influenced by any one of these three cities, but who is well known in all three. He has lately come from Chicago, where he was showing the people there what to do, and is now located in Boston, learning what they know. I am glad he has chosen the subject, 'Enthusiasm in Christian Work,' and I take especial pleasure in introducing Rev. Dr. Arthur Little."

Dr. Little said: "Of course it was somewhat presumptuous in me to bring a manuscript to a Methodist church, and now I am not surprised to find no place for it. From the formidable appearance of my notes you will doubtless think that I have been in Boston a long time. But the notes are not so formidable as they look, and I shall refer to them merely for a few facts.

"I am very glad to be here to look into the faces of so many young men. It is true that, some years ago, I went West in order to be abreast of the current of young men which I thought was setting away from the East. But, now that I have returned once more, I find that not all the young men are in the West. This much as far as quantity is concerned; but when you come to speak of quality, the young men of the eastern colleges and universities have in them the promise of a career which is unequalled in grandeur by the prospects of any other body of students in America—or, I may say, in the world.

"My subject, 'Religious Enthusiasm,' sometimes suggests to the mind an irrational fanaticism. There may be an enthusiasm in a religion not Christian.

So it was with the Athenians in the time of St. Paul. They had an abundance of enthusiasm; but it was ill directed. Enthusiasm, in a statesman, in an orator, in a soldier, means that they shall sacrifice their own personal aims and lend all their energies to the achievement of the end desired. Every insult must be patiently endured and every peril cheerfully encountered. During the times of slavery it used to be called fanaticism to advocate abolition. And, nowadays, how many there are who regard Mr. Moody as a misguided fanatic, when the fact is that he is simply at white heat in his work for God.

"This kind of enthusiasm does not advertise itself. It is as noiseless as the force that makes the oak grow. It is only seen by its works. It does not lose sight of the main issues at stake through the clamor of common talk; and it does not allow itself to be intimidated by those who declare Christianity to be a failure. The man who has this enthusiasm is simply very anxious and willing to do his duty, though single-handed and alone in the world. This is what made Livingstone's work stir up the whole of the Christian world.

"The science that can postulate anything except a rational Creator of the universe, and the philosophy that enthrones law without a law-giver, can kindle no high aims, can cause no burst of Christian enthusiasm. The votaries of such teachings are sure to end life in the dark. You remember what John Stuart Mill said in regard to his own condition (in the words of Coleridge): 'I was thus left stranded at the commencement of my voyage, with a well-equipped ship, but with no rudder and no sails. I felt as if I were scientifically proved to be the victim of antecedent circumstances.'

"From the philosophic calm of learning comes the prevalent custom in some institutions—*nil admirari*, that of admiring nothing. Don't admire anything on earth, nor wonder at anything in heaven. Let the most startling event be received with dignified calm, and especially all matters of religion. It is a pity to see a young man leave college with enthusiasm for everything in the world but Christianity.

"We may do well to consider some of the sources of Christian enthusiasm. First and foremost we put faith—faith in God and faith in man. This is the prime condition of a holy enthusiasm. One must have also faith in the undertaking in hand. The epoch-making men have always, from Enoch