YOUNG WORKERS IN THE CHURCH, OR, THE TRAINING AND ORGANIZATION OF YOUNG PEOPLE FOR CHRISTIAN ACTIVITY

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Young workers in the church, or, The training and organization of young people for Christian activity by T. B. Neely

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T. B. NEELY

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YOUNG WORKERS

IN THE CHURCH;

OR.

The Training and Organization of Young People for Christian Activity.

BY REV. T. B. NEELY, A.M.

WITH AN INTRODUCTION
BY BISHOP MATTHEW SIMPSON, D.D., LL.D.

NEW YORK:
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WALDEN & STOWE.
1881.

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PHILLIPS & HUNT,

New York,

To my Friend, MR. CHARLES SCOTT,

OF PHILADELPHIA.

AN ACTIVE WORKER IN RELIGIOUS, EDUCATIONAL, AND BENEVOLENT MOVEMENTS,

TO WHICH HE HAS GIVEN LIBERALLY OF HIS TIME, HIS MEANS, AND HIS INFLUENCE,

THIS WORK IS

RESPECTIVLLY DEDICATED.



PREFACE.

SOMETIME ago the Ministerial Union of Philadelphia, an organization composed of the ministers of the evangelical denominations of the city, requested the writer to prepare a paper on young people's work in the Church.

The special question submitted was, "How to organize the young people of the Church for the most efficient Church work?" The paper was prepared, and, at the designated time, read before this ministerial association, and, subsequently, a part of it was read before another body, which represented a large number of Churches.

On both occasions desires were expressed for its publication, and, as frequent requests, both formal and informal, by resolution and otherwise, have come from clergy and laity, it has been concluded that this paper may partially supply an unoccupied place in this particular field of literature.

In view of these facts, the writer now consents to the publication of these pages, which have grown from the essay to which allusion has been made. Not desiring to make a large volume, he has sought to make the work practical rather than rhetorical, and suggestive rather than exhaustive, so that its size may be convenient for general circulation. The scope of the book may make it suitable for older members as well as young converts, and, as it refers specially to the young, it may find an appropriate place in the Sunday-school Library.

Hoping that the hints it contains may be helpful to pastors and other Christian workers, and trusting that it may be of service in utilizing the energy of young heads, young hands, and young hearts, it is now presented to the public.

T. B. NEELY.

PHILADELPHIA, January 25, 1881.

INTRODUCTION.

THE future of a nation depends largely on the training of its youth. Some ancient lawgivers considered the children as belonging, not to their parents, but to the State. In modern times enactments for compulsory education are based, not merely on the duty of the State to the children, but also on the conviction that educated children add to the wealth of the nation. The Germans owed their victory over the French in great part to the fact that every German young man is trained to bearing arms. He is a soldier as well as a citizen.

In the Church the training of the young is no less important. Mr. Wesley said to his preachers, "Unless we can take care of the rising generation the present revival of religion will be res unius atatis, it will last only the age of a man." The