

not yet find its culminating point of honourable distinction in contributing to the advancement of the divine kingdom. Even now, were their hearts but right with God, were they but sufficiently strong in faith and love, the spiritual Israel might go in and take possession of the whole land. With God there is no variableness nor shadow of turning—His rule of government is subject to no change; and, therefore, were there but the requisite preparation on the part of His own people, the days of His right hand would be no less manifested in these latter times than they were in the beginning of the Gospel, when it was preached by those who had received it from the lips of the Redeemer himself. How devoutly were such a consummation to be desired! The true prosperity and blessedness of a community, all of whose members should be cultivated as becomes their rational and responsible nature, would be such, indeed, as the world has never yet but very partially seen, and as no power of language can adequately describe. "Happy is that people that is in such a case; yea, happy is that people whose God is the Lord!" What exalted dignity might we then attain to as a nation—to what height of solid and enduring prosperity might we not rise—and what incalculable influence for advancing the kingdom of God among men—the kingdom of truth, and peace, and righteousness—might there not, with the divine blessing, be exerted by us throughout the whole world, were our citizens but universally cultivated and trained in accordance with the full requirements and responsibilities of our Christian profession! In such a case, it were not too much to say, even in a temporal point of view—whether regard were had to the extent and character of our industry and trade, to the amount of profits to be reaped by us, or to our husbanding and improvement of those profits—that our true national greatness were, in fact, but just to begin.

Notwithstanding, then, the discouraging inferences often drawn from an experience which, were it properly understood, would be seen to supply no ground for them, your Committee continue to cherish the conviction, that the work in which they are engaged is a perfectly practicable one; nay, that it must and shall be accomplished whensoever the divinely-appointed means shall be faithfully applied to it. Of such means a main part is unquestionably to be found in the diligent administration of the offices of the Christian ministry. In the judgment of your Committee, however, it is essential to the due fulfillment of these offices that all take part in them who profess to be led by the Spirit of Christ,—each labouring diligently and cheerfully for the edification of the whole body, according to the measure and the quality of the gifts which have been bestowed upon him. It was justly observed by that distinguished Christian teacher and minister, the late Dr. Arnold, that there is no individual to be found, be his gifts and diligence ever so great, that can adequately supply, by his own unassisted labours, the spiritual wants of

even the least populous of our parishes. To suppose the contrary, were sanction of Scripture itself—to suppose that the human body could be maintained in a condition of health and strength although the functions of only some one of its members were to be efficiently discharged. The Christian Church is an organized whole; and so, though confessedly in a much less measure of completeness, is each Christian congregation. What, then, we ask, is the fundamental law of organized being? It is simply this, that each part exists for the whole as well as for itself, and that the whole exists again, not more for itself than for the several parts. And the reciprocal action between the whole and its parts—the ministry of each to each—if essential to existence, is, if possible, yet more essential to development and growth. To edify and make increase of itself in love, therefore, it is indispensable, on the part of each Christian congregation, that it be pervaded by such a spirit as shall make every man his brother's keeper—as shall make every man, in the obedience to the royal law of Christian liberty, love his neighbour even as he loves himself, and love him, therefore, with that self-sacrificing love which rejoices to spend and to be spent to promote his welfare. Never, it is our decided conviction, will the power of divine truth be made manifest in our parishes as it ought to be manifested, till every member of the Christian congregation of each parish feel it to be at once a duty incumbent upon him, and a privilege to be eagerly coveted, and fervently cherished by him, to co-operate heartily with his parish clergyman, as God shall give him ability and opportunity, in ministering to the Christian well-being of all to whom his good offices can be made to extend.

### Jewish Mission.

(Appeal from the Convener)

In making announcement of the Annual Collection, the Committee deem it their duty, in the discharge of the trust with which they have been honoured by the General Assembly, to call the earnest attention of their brethren throughout the Church to the special claims of the Jewish Mission, and the peculiar obligations laid upon the Gentile Christian communities to seek, in the use of all appointed means, the salvation of the Jewish people.

It is a painful reflection that, during a lengthened period, these claims and obligations were so wholly disregarded by all the Churches of the Gentiles, and that the feeling of interest in the welfare of the house of Israel has been awakened in the minds of Gentile Christians only as it were yesterday. Such a fact may well be regarded as matter of deep humiliation; for surely, if the promises of God concerning Israel, and His purposes in regard to the Gentiles, which shall be fulfilled in the restoration of the Jewish people, were duly considered, we should see zeal and prayerful earnestness in

this cause everywhere prevailing among the members of the Christian community. It is truly cause of fervent gratitude to God that He hath permitted the Church of our fathers to occupy, in these latter days, a field of service in this high and holy cause; and although she hath yet accomplished only a very small part of the work which hath been graciously put into her hand, we may trust, nevertheless, that He who despiseth not the day of small things will grant to her enlarged opportunities of usefulness, and will command upon her, in abundant measure, the blessing promised to all who seek the welfare of the house of Israel.

In regard to the operations and present state of the Jewish Mission, the Committee beg to refer to the periodical accounts published in the *Home and Foreign Missionary Record*. Since the date of their last Report to the General Assembly, the Committee have been enabled to provide, from among the licentiates of the Church, a fellow-labourer to their missionary at Cochin, whose services, they trust, may be rendered, by the divine blessing, subservient to the furtherance of the Gospel. Their missionaries in Germany are all engaged in the zealous prosecution of their important labours; and the Committee trust to be enabled, ere long to announce the opening of a mission in the city of Paris, in accordance with the instructions given by the General Assembly.

With this brief notice of the operations the Committee now cast the interests of the Jewish Mission on the sympathies, the prayers, and the liberal offerings of their Christian brethren in the Church of Scotland, not doubting that their appeal will receive a willing response on the part of all her pastors and of all her people; and trusting assuredly that the Lord will put it into the hearts of His servants to shew the charities of the Gospel unto the scattered sheep of Israel.

In name and by appointment of the Committee,

ADAM D. TAIT,

Convener.

The following short extract from a letter written by the Rev. Mr. Drennan, one of the Church of Scotland's missionaries to the army in the East, to the Rev. Mr. Buchanan, one of the ministers of Leith, will, we are sure, be read with great interest. Oh that our prayers were more frequent and fervent on behalf of our afflicted countrymen lying in the hospitals at Scutari, on the bed of suffering and disease:—

SCUTARI, 18th January 1855.

"MY DEAR SIR,—I fear, &c. &c.  
"Ever since I came here, I have been so unwell that, after getting through my hospital duty, I have felt quite unfit for any further exertion, even that of writing a few letters. What with the long continued sea-sickness, from which I suffered so much in our protracted voyage, and the shock which I got on the morning when I had such a miraculous escape from shipwreck, I was far from well when I landed; and, as you may imagine, the scenes which one has to witness here are not the best calculated in the world to make one better.