

"to us. Let him compare them with the most celebrated productions of the heathen world—if he does not feel, that more than any other writings, they are beautiful, simple and original, I do not hesitate to pronounce him as destitute of judgment as of faith." The Scriptures cannot be read without producing the most blessed results, and God in due season will send forth labourers into his vineyard. In the mean time, it is our duty to disseminate the Scriptures as a preparation for the lips of flesh and blood to convey peace, life, holiness and happiness.

"I cannot close this report in a manner more agreeable to this Society, than by reading the speech of Lord Teignmouth, the venerable President of the British and Foreign Bible Society, on receiving a vote of thanks at the annual meeting last May. This pious Nobleman having had the satisfaction of hearing the report state that two millions five hundred thousand Bibles and New Testaments had been distributed by the Society, and beholding two converts from the efficacy of the Scriptures standing before him, spoke as follows—

"Gentlemen,

‡ Whatever anticipations we may have formed, of the progress of the great cause in which we are engaged, we have hitherto had the satisfaction to find them realized; and the facts which have this day been laid before us, have added to the numerous proofs of the happy effects of that impulse which has been imparted to the Christian world by the British and Foreign Bible Society. "Never has the benign spirit of our holy religion appeared with a brighter or a more attractive lustre, since the Apostolic times, than in the zeal and efforts displayed, during the last sixteen years, for disseminating the records of divine truth and knowledge. The benefit of these exertions has already extended to millions, and while we contemplate the vast machinery now in action for the unlimited diffusion of the Holy Scriptures, the energy which impels its movements, and the accession of power which it is constantly receiving, we cannot but indulge the exhilarating hope, that the Angel, having the everlasting Gospel to preach to them that are upon the earth, has commenced his auspicious career. Even now, the light of divine revelation has dawned in the horizon of regions which it never before illuminated, and is again becoming visible in others in which it had suffered a disastrous eclipse.