

intent student, "Search me and try me, with all thy might!" It will lift its bars of fiery warning across the path of the self-indulgent. It will stand open by the bedside of the dying, reflecting a glory from worlds unseen. It will show forth the Lord to the multiplying peoples which must be always in peril and in pain until they find him.

We may not subtract anything from it. It would be plucking the pen from the hand of Inspiration. We have neither desire nor need to add to it; since when God touches a subject for us he naturally exhausts it, and to supplement revelation with more or fewer of our conjectures would be like trying to build a lath-and-plaster annex to the sun, or trying to enhance the splendour of his beams by igniting beneath them fugitive fireworks. That this word of the infinite mind and heart is to be our guide and law forever, as it is our comfort and inspiration, we do not doubt. On its truth we rest, and in its security against destructive attacks we are as confident as that God is not dead.

ON THE CIRCULATION AND THE USE OF THE BIBLE.

BY THE ARCHBISHOP OF YORK.

It is a matter of very great satisfaction to me that my first appearance in this, the largest town in my diocese, should be on an occasion of such paramount importance as this, when we are met together to further the circulation of the Holy Scriptures. But it is also a satisfaction to me that on this occasion I have the pleasure of coming in contact not only with my brother clergy, but with many of those who do not belong to the Church of England, and are among the most earnest and hearty supporters of this admirable Society.

When we consider the vast and far-reaching work which has been taken in hand by this Society—whether we regard it in its aspect at home or abroad—one is almost amazed at its infinite importance, especially when one considers the results which, by the mercy of God, may issue from it, in making known the word of salvation throughout the whole world. You will hear, no doubt, from those who have come here to represent the Society, a full account—or at least a very interesting account—of what the Society is doing, especially within the last year, in both these departments of its work. To myself the foreign work of the Society is especially interesting, because it happened that for two or three years of my life I lived among populations of Hindoos, Mohammedans, and Chinese. I am, therefore, always deeply interested in the accounts which I find in the singularly instructive reports of the Society of the work that is being done in the mission fields, and, so far as God permits us to see them, of the results which have been attained. As regards the work of the Society abroad, it is perfectly true that the conversion of the world was not intended by our Lord to be accomplished by the circulation of a book, but by the living voice of the messengers of peace. Yet we know how often in the absence of the living voice God has wonderfully blessed the written word as it is treasured up for us in the Holy Scriptures. We cannot but admire the thoughtful love of God and care for His creatures in this, that where the means, so far as we are entrusted with the providing of them, show any shortcomings on our part, he comes in by himself and by the free exercise of his mercy and love opens the dark eyes and enlightens the understanding, and above all, as St. Paul beautifully calls it, "the eyes of the heart," that the soul may be turned to long after God, the living God, and find its satisfaction in the messages of comfort, and of truth, and of peace, that are stored up in the word of God. But although we gather from Christ's parting words to his disciples that his purpose was that the conversion of the world should be accomplished mostly by living teachers, yet we know that the living teacher himself, as he goes forth to proclaim the glad tidings of salvation to the distant ends of the earth, makes his way to the