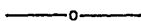


did for thousands of years ere the white man trod his banks, and as he appeared to the French navigators, whose daring vessels first ploughed his waters and as he shall be viewed centuries hence with delight and joy by a vast population, great in wealth, wisdom and piety; forming a transatlantic empire worthy of its noble stem. Along the banks in every direction within the limits of rights are to be marked an endless succession of shining villages, all of them with their lofty church spires pointing to the heaven and bidding man remember his Creator, cherish his destiny and prepare for glory. These beauties are enhanced by the surface of the shining waters, that but smile upon them for one moment and then glide away, like the happiness of earth, to return no more. Away towards the right at a considerable distance is to be seen behind an island the shifting belt of foam, that marks the place, where the famous Lachine rapid precipitates the enormous volume of water down a terrible slope. The presence of human science and genius and the material advancement of our race is brought vividly to mind in the noble bridge, that stretches on the water its long dark line, sustained by buttress so high that one cannot conceive of their thickness and capacity to stem the current, especially when it is loaded in spring with the ice of a continent's waters, in the white steamers that shoot across in every quarter, and in the long trains of cars upon different railroads proclaiming their presence across the city by land signals. At the wharves are to be seen all sizes and varieties of vessels, loading and unloading the fruits of man's labor, and towering high above the rest, one of those ocean steamers whose victories over the most powerful element formed an era in the progress of science and of man, and whose success the colonial exile views with especial interest as bringing him nearer to the home of his fathers. At his feet, down at a depth that makes him shudder, the spectator sees the busy crowds that throng the streets of the finest and most promising city in B. N. America. How small they look! They think themselves very mighty people probably, but they seem to us smaller than ants on an ant hill. And yet we are only about 200 feet above them! How small men and human things must appear to an angel of heaven looking down upon the bustling, conflicting crowds! How small they must be in the sight of him whom the heaven, yea the heaven of heavens cannot contain! Ah no! This is man's way of looking at things! His ways are not as our ways and his thoughts are not as our thoughts. His greatness is shown by caring for the sparrows of the air, the lilies of the field and the archangels that stand in ineffable glory before his throne. For those beings that I see running too and fro immersed in sublunary affairs, and their bosoms swollen about some of the thousand trifles that delude mankind, God gave no less

than his Son. To those apparently insignificant beings he addresses the most earnest and condescending entreaties that for their own sakes they would receive and love him, and if they will do this he promises to make angels their ministering spirits. These busy little beings are not unknown or small to him and he knows the heart that beats in the bosom of each one of the thousands that dwell in this city, of which so great a portion is bound with the fetters of superstition. Reader! Remember that though you sometimes feel alone in the world, feel as if no one cared for you and that you were overlooked amid the great, the bustling and the important. Christ knows you and is saying to you "My son, my daughter, give me thy heart and I will fill it with joy."



### National Bible Society of Scotland.

The first annual meeting of this society was held lately in the Merchants' Hall.

On the motion of the Lord Provost, the Earl of Aberdeen was called to the chair.

The Rev. Mr. M'Dermid having opened the meeting with prayer.

The Noble Chairman rose and said—ladies and gentlemen, I feel much honoured in being called to the chair at this important meeting. I view the occasion of the meeting as one of great importance, for I know of no scheme of the statesman or of the philanthropist which tends more directly to the benefit of the human race than the object of circulating the Sacred Scriptures. (Applause.) When I see in this hall the large and respectable audience assembled, and when I consider the rapid strides which Bible Societies have made in this country and in England, and when I consider also that this is the first meeting, if I mistake not, of a national institution, we might perhaps consider this a proper occasion for self-congratulation and exultation. But we must not forget that it ill becomes an infant society engaged in the great warfare against ignorance and darkness and sin, to boast itself by huckling on its armour like the warrior who lays his armour aside. I believe that the proper attitude of a religious society, as well as of a Christian individual, is the attitude of humility. We cannot too often recollect that in this great contest with sin and darkness man is but a feeble instrument, whether he be single or combined in associations. But although the agency of man is insignificant in this warfare, the Bible is an instrument of irresistible power. The Bible has the force of the truth; it is the Word of God, and we know that it must ultimately prevail. The irresistible force of the Bible, when brought to bear on the conscience of man, is beautifully illustrated in the early history of the chosen people of God. It is recorded for our instruction and encouragement