

Religious Tract Society, and the London City Mission.

In regard to the appropriation of the Jubilee Fund, of the responsibility of which trust your committee are deeply sensible, they beg to announce, that they have already resolved on the following measures:—To open a correspondence with the several Presidencies in India, and with their friends in China, with a view to some more extended efforts for the benefit of those countries; to send out a deputation, consisting of one or two suitable persons, to Australia, and New Zealand, possibly to touch also at some of the other Islands of the Pacific; and further, to employ some accredited Agent of the Society to visit the Colonies of British America, and the West India Islands.

They have also adopted a scheme for a more extensive system of Colportage, throughout Great Britain, in connexion with the Year of Jubilee.

Thus auspiciously has the Jubilee commenced. Your committee feel encouraged to hope, from the intelligence which has reached them from our Colonies and Dependencies, and other distant parts of the world, as well as from our numerous Auxiliaries and friends at home, that as the year advances, the feeling which has been awakened will increase and spread, more especially by the observance of the 12th of October as a day of Jubilee celebration; and that the next Anniversary of the Society will show an amount of good accomplished, as well as of sacred pleasure enjoyed, that shall render this year of the Society's Jubilee truly and delightfully memorable.

CONCLUSION.

Are not the circumstances under which we are this day assembled, such as to call forth and justify the abundant utterance of joy and praise? The review of the year just closed affords much cause for thankfulness; the retrospect of the past half century, with its changes, and conflicts, and triumphs, viewed in connexion with the position which the Society now occupies, is adapted to fill our cup with gladness even to overflowing. What an amount of goodness and mercy does the history of our Institution present! "The Lord hath done great things for us, whereof we are glad,"—he hath done for us exceeding abundantly above all that we could have asked or thought. "O come, let us magnify the Lord, let us exalt His name together".

Let our joy, however, on this occasion be a chastened joy;—hastened by the remembrance of the many infirmities which have intermingled with, and often marred the work of our hands,—chastened by an overwhelming sense of the incompleteness of our labours, which have fallen so far short of what the spiritual necessities of our fellow-men, of what the wants of the world demand,—chastened

by the sad spectacle of many adversaries—adversaries not so much of us, as of the truth, for whom it becomes us to pray. "Father forgive them, for they know not what they do".

But though tempored, and softened, and interrupted, it may be, for a moment, even by sighs and tears, still let the voice of grateful praise be heard;—let it be heard in the assembly and in the secret chamber; let it be heard throughout our own borders, and in distant lands; let it be lifted up even from the ends of the earth,—wherever the blessings of the Bible have been spread abroad.

And while we thus "give unto the Lord the glory due unto his name", let us not omit to "bring an offering" too; gifts and offerings are the natural tribute of the grateful heart; the appropriate accompaniment of joy and praise: the Jubilee Fund has already received a gratifying amount of gifts and offerings;—let them be greatly multiplied.

At the same time, we must also prepare ourselves for further efforts. Our Jubilee, let us be reminded, finds us in the midst of an unfinished work; with a vast amount of labour still before us;—for that which has been accomplished is small indeed, compared with what remains to be done;—it calls upon us, and encourages us to attempt great things for the future, as well as to erect a memorial of the past. It is already proposed, as you have heard, to send forth the British Colporteur, to scatter more widely the good seed of the kingdom at home; it is also proposed, to explore our more distant fields of operation; to visit and strengthen our outposts, and thus to lay the basis for enlarged and more vigorous action abroad.

Other practical measures wait to be matured; and all this in addition to the ordinary operations of the Society, which even now embrace no inconsiderable portion of the globe, and grow in interest and magnitude from day to day.

Who among us is willing this day to consecrate himself afresh to this great work? rather, we would ask, who can refrain? It is the Bible,—an open Bible—the Bible for the world,—for which we plead, and for which alone we strive. In meekness and forbearance, in brotherly kindness and charity, let us join hands with all who are willing to unite with us in our one simple and glorious object.—And then, putting our trust in Him, in whom is "everlasting strength", and humbly invoking His aid,—let us move forward, a peaceful yet determined band; resting not, fainting not,—until the voice of the Lord, speaking through His written word, be heard in every land,—until the records of redeeming love be read in every tongue,—and until each member of the fallen family have in his own possession that which is his rightful heritage,—

the precious volume of his heavenly Father's grace!

Then shall go up in louder, sweeter strains, A SOUVENIR OF JUBILEE!

Through it the whole of the British Colonies, too, the celebration of the Jubilee of the Parent Institute is calling forth the noblest enthusiasm, and the highest efforts are made on behalf of the circulation of the Scriptures of eternal truth.—We rejoice to be able to state that the British North American Colonies are not lacking in this matter. The Lower Provinces are evidently all astir on the subject, and so are the Canadas. A large and triumphant meeting was held at Toronto in the beginning of May last. Amongst the other able and eloquent orations delivered on the occasion was one by Dr. McCaul, President of the Toronto University—which was evidently one of the best efforts made by that accomplished scholar. We cannot withhold from our readers a few extracts:—

Dr. McCaul, in moving the above resolution, spoke in the following effect:—"Were he to consult his own wishes, instead of rising to address the audience, he would have continued occupying the position, which he had hitherto held, that of a gratified listener to proceedings, from which he had derived so much pleasure and profit. But the present was an occasion of more than ordinary importance—of unusual interest—the celebration of the fiftieth birthday of the British and Foreign Bible Society—one of those noble institutions, which do so much honor to England, and which will ever be regarded as one of the most glorious characteristics of their glorious fatherland—the day of commemoration of those devoted men, who originated and promoted this great and holy work,—of Charles, and Owen, and Hughes, and Steinkopf, and Teignmouth, and their worthy successors, from 1801 up to the present time, when England sent to the anniversary of the Society fitting representatives of her aristocracy, her wealth, her learning and her piety,—when Earls pleaded her cause on the platform, and the first subject of the British realm, the Primate of all England, advocated its claims from the pulpit,—a day of thanksgiving too—of thanksgiving for the blessing of God, which had been so bountifully vouchsafed, and under which the Society had achieved such wonderful results,—the day of jubilee of Christendom. On such an occasion, it seemed to him, that it was proper that all those, who felt an interest in the dissemination of the Sacred Volume, should manifest that interest, and it was this consideration, which induced him to overcome his own preference for silence, and to come forward to testify his interest in the cause, which had called them together this evening. And what a cause was this? The cause of the Bible, the cause of God, and the cause of man, combining the promotion of the glory of their great Creator, and the advancement of the temporal and eternal interests of their fellow-creatures. Nor let any one feel astonished,