

position at this day as the revival of last century and its results have, up to this time, carried it beyond the position it then occupied. But in speaking thus, what do we say? Were the professors, the agents, the resources of true religion now found amongst us multiplied as greatly as those which existed just a hundred years ago have been since that time, how far should we be from the entire conversion of the United Kingdom? With this century of blessing behind us, and the arm of our Redeemer above us, who will have sufficient hardihood of unbelief to say that what hath been shall not again be.

It is probable that if the Lord is pleased to visit us with such a blessing as that which He has showered upon our sister Churches, the course of the revival will deceive all our expectations. It may set in from a quarter, and cut out for itself channels, which none of us could or would have fore-arranged. Of the many thousands in America whose frequent prayers were offered up for such days as their happy eyes have now witnessed, there probably was not one whose imagination had ever pictured the little prayer-meetings of the "Young Men's Christian Association," the mid-day gathering of merchants, the **united** supplications of Christians of all denominations, the **strange** blending of primitive freedom with solemnity and order, of lay action with ministerial joy, and fruit, and power, which form the peculiar signs whereby the present movement has been distinguished from all that preceded it. With us it is very natural to expect that when the **great** tide sets in here it will be in a similar direction, and **flow in similar** channels; but He who alone can bless **delights** to show us His sovereign power by divers operations of the same Spirit. Most probably the course and form will be something different,—may be entirely different. What, if our national pride in greater propriety and order should be rebuked by the permission of extravagances which have not occurred elsewhere? What, if once more the Lord should humble all existing instrumentalities by raising up some new and unwelcome one to do the work? These are points on which we know nothing, and for which we need not care, leaving the form, and course, and peculiarities of the revival to be dictated alone by Infinite Wisdom, and guided by Almighty power. Let us, just as we would seek bread for the hungry, or rescue for the drowning, earnestly cry for the substance of the revival, and leave all the rest unthought of. By the substance of a revival we understand an *increase of life in the members, of power in the services, and of fruit in the labours of the Church.*

As the life of Christians depends altogether upon the Holy Spirit, so does it revive or decline in proportion as they are, more or less, under His Divine influence. When He is shed down from above, those who were living but a cold and inert life soon become like men breathing a new atmosphere. A very dear friend of mine from New York, speaking of the state of things during the revival, said, Nothing struck him so much as how easy it was to preach. It seemed as if one

had or
never
as to p
Ameri

Now t
Emine
alread
no mo
names
head;
is shed
soul i
poured
perien
who b
are bo
besetn
health
busine
then "

This
of the
of the
mance
forth a
heart-s
flesh, a
out tor
and m
differe
togeth
petitio
the sel
thing
to be v
they f
been v
seemed
And a
of God
that tr
perhap
start f