

We have also cheerfully to notice, before closing, the liberality of an old friend to the Society. Dr. Mair, although removed to a distance, has not forgotten those Institutions which, when in Kingston he so generously supported, we have to acknowledge the receipt of £4 for the use of the Kingston Bible Society, which he and his family have contributed; and when it is known that the sum contributed by his children is the result of voluntarily imposed self denial, the gift will be all the more highly prized.

Another year has thus closed. With gratitude we recognise the divine favour which has rested on so feeble efforts to extend the circulation of the Word of God. The Bible on the lowest calculation, is now in the possession of many who, but for your Society would have been without it. Faith assures us of something more. It will not return void it will accomplish its hallowed mission.

The past year in our history may be characterised as one of preparation. We are now ready for work. May the power of weighty motives be felt. May the Love of Christ constrain. There is no time for slumber. As Patriots, as Philanthropists, as Christians, we are under obligations the most solemn, to send with unsparing liberality, to the destitute in our land, this Manual of our world's liberty, this Catholicon of human wo, this Charter of Man's Salvation. Infidelity and superstition will have their emissaries. They are already abroad. Let them grow rampant; then farewell to social happiness and national prosperity—that which alone can exalt will be wanting—and our liberties, civil and religious, violated, if not ignominiously lost. But we should look still higher than to our sublunary interests, precious as these are. If the Bible should be driven from our homes, or supplanted by fiction and fable, or the crude productions of an infidel philosophy; the life and immortality brought to life by the gospel, will again descend into the dark region of speculation—the doctrine of the Cross be expunged from our creed, and the hope of a “crown of life” perish from our faith. But our trust is in God. “He will redeem our soul from deceit and violence.” There is “a handful of corn in the earth upon the top of the mountains, the fruit thereof shall shake like Lebanon, and they of the city shall flourish like grass of the earth.”

