

less, to supply the destitution. To those who lived in the present century the duty was comparatively easy of discharge. We had not now to organize new Societies; we were not called on to go ourselves, or find agents for the work; this was done to our hands by the British and Foreign Bible Society—long and fully tried, and not found wanting. It was now the sixtieth year since the Society was first formed; its income and its issues were continually increasing; last year, over two million copies had been distributed.

The Society had had to encounter and overcome great and many prejudices; and objections were put forward, often with much sincerity and honesty, by good and wise men, who found it difficult to relinquish their long cherished sentiments; but still every year these were melting away under the light of truth and experience; and great as were the blessings derived from the great and primary object of the Association, we may find a subject of satisfaction and rejoicing in what he might consider a secondary one, but which it was feared at first would have been unattainable, namely, the union and harmony with which the members of different Christian Churches met and consulted together.

There are many points on which men could never all think alike, and one of these was the right form of church government; but so long as we are all agreed that the Bible is to be the rule of faith; that the only English version to be distributed was the authorized version; and that all translations must be made without any sectarian bias, and to conform to the spirit as well as the letter of the text as nearly as possible when transposed to foreign tongues, we find we may retain our attachment to our several denominations, and yet act harmoniously and energetically co-operate in the great work of Bible distribution. He more and more valued the privilege and appreciated the benefit of such an assemblage as the platform and body of the hall at the present time exhibited, and he hoped the time was not very distant when every member of a Protestant Church would unite himself to the Bible Society, as was but recently done by one of the best and cleverest men of the day, the late Archbishop of Dublin, Dr. Whately, who only the year before his death openly professed his approval of the Society, from which he had long kept apart, and closed his life in the list of its Vice-Presidents. May his example not be without its effect!

An abstract of the Report was next read by the Secretary, after which the following Resolutions were passed:

Moved by the Rev. JOHN ARMSTRONG, seconded by the Rev. JOHN M'CURDY; and

Resolved, That the Report, an abstract of which has been just read, be received, printed, and circulated under the direction of the Committee, and that the following gentlemen do compose the Committee for the ensuing year:—L. B. Botsford, M. D., John Wishart, Nathan S. DeMill, George A. Lockhart, W. J. Starr, Edward Sears, D. J. McLaughlin, Hon. A. McL. Seely, John Armstrong, William Girvan, B. J. Underhill, W. K. Reynolds, T. B. Barker, John Fisher, James Logan, James Smith, T. W. Daniel, Robert Sheraton, John Fraser, H. W. Frith, John Boyd, John M. Robinson, and J. V. Troop. *Portland*—John Duncan, Esq., James Flewelling, Moses Tuck, and Robert Ewing.

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