

the Holy Spirit, by James, has described as "pure religion and undefiled before God?"

Now, it is not for me to prescribe at this time, or in this place, any systematic plan of benevolence or Christian generosity. I only advocate the principle, and I am persuaded that the maintenance and practical outworking of the principle may be safely entrusted to you. The food and clothing of many orphans may devolve on this community;—above all, the moral and spiritual training of many is entrusted by the Almighty to us. In such a work, it is hoped that this congregation will not be behind, when the proper time arrives for entering upon it. There will, no doubt, be cases of a special nature presented to you individually, and it is hoped that they will be treated as their merits demand; but as on such occasions the vigilant eye of Romanism will be peering into our hospitals and almshouses, and eagerly seeking the Protestant orphan, with the pretext of administering to his temporal relief, but with the real design of proselytism, be it the honorable, the philanthropic, the Christian duty of every follower of Christ among us to seek out for "his own," and especially those of his household of faith, every case that claims his charity, and provide for it. This is a duty which you owe to such objects on the ground of humanity, on the ground of philanthropy, on the ground of Christianity. But your charity is not to be limited to these objects, though they have a primary claim. You are commanded to do good to all, *especially* to them that are of the household of faith; hence it is that, above and beyond the special or denominational claims which may be urged, there are those of the British and continental emigrant, who, irrespective of creed or country, calls upon you, and who has a claim on your liberality and Christian charity simply because he is a fellow-creature.

In the name, therefore, of Him "who though he was rich yet for our sakes became poor, that we through his poverty might be made rich," we beseech you to hear the claim of widowhood and orphanage, the claim of poverty and wretchedness, the claim of the pilgrim and the stranger, the claim of the disconsolate and down-hearted emigrant from a far country, who, amid the sorrows of affliction, poverty, and bereavement, remind you that "he that giveth to the poor lendeth to the Lord." Amen.