

applied? Let this point be determined by a reference to the example of Great Britain, the wealthiest, and the most religious nation in the world. By adding together the incomes of the different Bible and Missionary Societies throughout the nation, we find that she expends about £350,000 annually in endeavouring to extend religion; and a late Committee of the House of Commons ascertained, that the same nation expends about £50,000,000 annually on the single article of intoxicating drinks! Although, to give a just view of all that the British nation expends in the cause of religion, we should add to the former sum the money which she devotes to the support of religion within her own bounds, and likewise to the support of her numerous charities, not excluding even the Poor Rates, yet it will not amount to a fifth part of the opposite sum. And it will sink into utter insignificance if we add to the latter, as we ought to do, the other items of extravagance by which her wealth is absorbed.

This fact may be considered a sufficient answer to the objection; yet, as the objection is laid against an important member of the proposition which we have just submitted, it may be useful to follow it farther. Let us descend, therefore, from national examples to individual cases. Let the objector again cast his eye upon society, and inquire how many of his neighbours or contemporaries devote their wealth to selfish and sensual gratifications, and how many of them consecrate it to nobler ends. He will doubtless find some who "make to themselves friends of the Mammon of unrighteousness," and, blessed be God, the number of such is on the increase; yet he will find that men, in general, use it in the manner already stated. There