

king each other to love and good works, in the cause of missions. It would therefore ill become that Society of Christians, with whom the present revival of experimental religion commenced at the beginning of the last century, to relax its efforts, and to "lose the things which it has wrought."

ADDRESS TO THE PUBLIC.

The present age so fertile in political revolutions, has been not less strikingly marked by changes in the religious world, of a character equally energetic, but whose effects will outreach them in extent and duration, as they surpass them in beneficence. The commencement of that great revival of religion in these lands, which was instrumentally effected by men, whose names can never be erased from the eternal records of the church, is almost within the memory of some living. Yet its influence has already been felt through almost every part of the British empire; and it is still daily developing its effects upon the moral state of man both at home and abroad. The springs of that powerful engine which the first instruments of this great work directed against the ignorance and the vices of mankind are, perhaps, but now only acquiring their full play; and the system begins to move with accelerated energy and more diffused effect.

Appeals to the Bible, as the only standard of faith and practice, gave birth to Protestantism; and by appeals to the Bible, and to the scriptural formularies of Protestant churches, England, the greatest Protestant state, was roused from its slumber, the substance was given to the sign of piety, and the body to its shadow. With the reviving spirit of religion, compassion for the heathen, long neglected by Protestants, revived also; and as religious feeling gives rapid birth to action, their conversion, together with the instruction of the distant colonies of the empire, was early attempted; and this important work has been prosecuted to the present day with increasing ardour.

In efforts of this kind, the METHODISTS, in the religious Connection first established by the Rev. JOHN WESLEY, have long taken a distinct, and very zealous part; and their success has been encouraging. In 1769, two preachers were sent to *America*, and the result of this Mission has been the formation of Christian Societies on that continent, which at present include above 214,000 members. The *West-Indian* Mission was next established. In 1786, the Rev. Dr. COKE, who was proceeding to *America* with three Missionaries, of whom one only had been destined for the West Indies, the others being designed to labour in Newfoundland, was driven by stress of weather, into the island of Antigua. There the Missionaries found such opportunities of usefulness, as required their united and immediate exertions; and the Mission in that and other islands at present employs thirty-one Missionaries.

A Mission has been established on the *African Continent*; where