

shalt not steal, thou shalt not bear false witness, thou shalt not covet.—And if there be any other Commandment, it is briefly comprehended in this saying, namely, thou shalt love thy neighbor, as thyself.

Such then being the importance of this virtue, such its transcendent excellence, that without it all other virtues lose the character of christian graces ; that without it, it is an absurdity to suppose that faith and hope can exist, that without it all other pretensions to religion are vain and illusory, let us pray to be possessed of so inestimable a virtue, and with our prayers do our utmost to exhibit its characteristic features.—More especially, since we are assembled this day for the furtherance of our charitable views in regard to our poorer fellow-countrymen, as well as in honor of the anniversary of England's Patron Saint, who in his time gave us a glorious example in this respect, as in many other of the duties of good christians and loyal subjects, let us contribute on this occasion out of our substance according as God hath dealt with us, remembering that (1) "God loveth a cheerful giver," and (2) that it is more blessed to give than to receive."—What is said by England's own bard of the divine attribute of mercy, may with equal truth be said of riches, when properly applied.—They are twice blessed.—They bless him that takes, and him that gives.—(3) "How hardly shall they that have riches enter into the kingdom of God," is said in reference to the snares and temptations, which accompany the possession of them in this world, their tendency to call off the minds of men from the honor and service of the Almighty, and to fix them on vanity, and the perishable enjoyments of this life.—(4) "Go, sell all that thou hast, and give to the poor, and come and follow me," shew the blessed and happy purposes to which they may be applied ; shew that they who, according to their means " (5) provide for the

(1) 2 Cor. 9, 7. ; (2) Acts 20, 34. ; (3) Mark 10, 23. ; (4) Matt. 19, 21.
(5) Psalm 72, 12.