

rafter in many of our distant settlements. I do most sincerely congratulate your Lordship upon the result of this day; I think it is the beginning of a better feeling in the City of London,—of a higher sense of the great duty which devolves upon the inhabitants in consequence of their prosperity and of their wealth. It has been within my knowledge, that a very small proportion of the funds of the Society have hitherto been contributed by the merchants and manufacturers of Great Britain. I impute it not to them as a fault or a crime; it has, I verily hope, been occasioned by their not being sufficiently acquainted with the Society; for I cannot for a moment believe, that those who are now deriving wealth from our Colonies, and enjoying all the comforts and blessings of England, could be unmindful of their obligation, if they knew where they could, in an effectual manner, apply a small portion of their wealth towards the happiness, the welfare,—the eternal welfare of their fellow-creatures. And now, my Lord, let me say, that I would recommend all those who are engaged in trade to act upon the sound apostolic principle, and to lay up—as God may have prospered them—some portion of their wealth towards such objects as we have in view in the Meeting in this Hall,—the great object of the spiritual welfare of our fellow-men. It is a great mistake, to suppose that charity should be the occasional impulse of the feelings, and not a systematic principle. It is a great mistake, to suppose that any man will do his duty in contributing to the wants of his fellow-men, unless he does it systematically; and there is no system so sound, nothing which would tend to sanctify his wealth, and bring down upon him the blessing of Providence, as acting upon that apostolic principle to which I have alluded,—as God has prospered him, laying by a portion of his gains towards the support of such Institutions as tend to diffuse the blessings of Christianity to his fellow men.

My Lord Mayor, having said thus much, I feel that I ought to make some apology for having trespassed so long upon your attention; but it is my anxiety, that the effect of this Meeting may not be lost;—that it may be the foundation upon which we may rear the prosperity of this Society;—that it may be the commencement of effectual assistance;—that it may relieve me, and those who are engaged with me, in looking into the funds of the Society, from the distressing feeling, that there are thousands, and tens of thousands, who are calling out for missionary assistance, and that the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel has not the means of affording it.

It has been well observed at this Meeting, that there is a great responsibility upon this country. Our extensive empire was not given us for our own advantage, or for our own gratification. It was, I firmly believe, given us for that great object which ought to be nearest the heart of every Christian, the extension of Christ's kingdom through the world,—that the knowledge of God may “cover the earth as the waters cover the sea.” The Resolution, which I will read, is:—“That the cordial thanks of this Meeting be given to the Right Honourable the Lord Mayor, for the interest which he has evinced in the objects of the