

have held great masses of the world's population together, are being broken, and passions without principles are being let loose, and are striving to assert their dangerous independence. For men in their fallen condition are averse to all restraint, especially to that of God, and will be more inclined to infidelity than to religion. And this is more to be apprehended where error had arrogated to itself the name, and assumed exclusively the authority of truth, but whose real character is now being openly revealed. There the Bible, if read and studied, however it may be disliked at first, will be seen to contain the grand desideratum—the great secret of individual and social happiness. It lays bare the foundation of all human misery, and so propounds the effectual and only remedy, as to commend itself to every man's conscience in the sight of God. It proposes restraints and laws, not by the authority of man, nor based on the arbitrary will of a fallible creature, but on the infinite perfections of the great Creator—the immutable and irrevocable foundations of right and truth. On such principles it courts and rewards, though it far transcends, the investigation of man. It claims and secures his obedience, yet, by an exhibition of the Divine character and goodness, sets him free, subdues his enmity, engages his affections, and secures to him the happiness adapted to his condition and being—present, perfect and eternal.

To make known and send forth to all mankind, this only remedy for all the evils of our fallen humanity—this only real perfect and everlasting good—so much needed in our world and our times—undiluted by human weaknesses, and unmixed with human errors,—is the glorious object and work of the British and Foreign Bible Society. By the means and facilities which it possesses for carrying out this Godlike design—so efficient and extensive in its labours—so approved and supported by the wisest and best of men—so owned and blessed of God,—it presents altogether, to the judgment and consciences of Christian men, such claims as can hardly be exceeded—and only require to be known and appreciated, to be acknowledged and responded to.

Much then will depend, under God, upon increasing and keeping alive the attention of the christian public in these Provinces, to this great subject, by using all the means which the advocates and friends of the cause can exert:—by holding periodical meetings—by making personal applications and appeals as extensively as circumstances will allow and prudence dictate—by regular correspondence with the office-bearers of the Branches—by frequent publication in all the religious periodicals throughout the country, of interesting facts, &c., connected with the doings, successes and prospects of the Society and its numerous Auxiliaries and Branches—and, with fervent prayer for the divine blessing, by relying on the Omnipotent arm as the foundation of hope for success.

I remain, Gentlemen,

Your most obedient servant,

ISAAC SMITH,

Travelling Agent.

HALIFAX, 21st March, 1849.

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