

REPORT.

In the whole history of mankind, next to the wonderful and merciful scheme of Salvation through the meritorious sacrifice of our Blessed Redeemer, there is nothing that strikes the observation so deeply as the changeableness of human institutions, whether they be mighty Empires, or the passing projects of a day. Even in those institutions founded in *human* wisdom with a view to the glory of our Creator, the extension of His Kingdom, and the good of our fellow-mortals, we see the same principle of decay,—for although the Spiritual foundation remains, yet the *human* superstructure, sooner or later, will inevitably decline.

Knowing this, we ought to be particularly humble and particularly thankful before the Giver of all good gifts on the present occasion. Your Committee therefore rejoice in all humility and thankfulness at meeting the Society under existing circumstances. In resigning our trust into your hands at the end of the year, though rejoicing in what has been accomplished and in the prospect of the future, we nevertheless feel it a matter of sorrow that so much remains undone,—even in our own immediate vicinity ; and we feel that our circumstances call on all the friends of the Bible Society to make every exertion possible, and to unite in fervent prayer that the Lord would be pleased to direct and bless the work in which we are engaged.