

a sufficient inducement for all men of the highest intellect, and greatest wealth to help onward; the field is the world, and so vast, that it cannot be overtaken while the present generation lasts; requiring so much means, that no one nation can well afford it, should they even be willing.

Therefore your Committee bespeaks for the noble cause, this year, the hearty co-operation, by labour, or means, of every true lover of the Bible, of every generous hearted, of every benevolent minded person, and of all as God has prospered them. And from the experience of the past, they believe that the friends of Victoria Branch will do this year as well as other years, to aid the noble enterprise. In this way alone, work otherwise impossible, can both be rendered efficient and easy. And indeed, this is the 'only way every great undertaking in this world is carried on, whether secular or spiritual; for few men are able and less are willing, even for the sake of gain to furnish the money necessary, and run the risks in connection with such expensive schemes, such for instance, as ships of war and commerce, steamboats, railroads, banks, the building of Churches, the support of the Gospel, missionary and tract societies, &c. And from the fact that a number of men of small means, combining together, can engage in any of these schemes, with safety, illustrates the old adage, "Union is strength." And the Bible Society is not inferior to any of those mentioned. However it is well known, that people may engage in enterprises, the legitimacy of which may well be questioned, and the result of which may be uncertain. But there need be no fears, with regard to the word of God on these points; its morality and result are certain, for it will lead the believers to industry, prudence, and sobriety, make them civil, law-abiding, full of joy, love and peace.

Your Committee know well that the enemies of the truth will say to the contrary. And whoever will read the news of the day will see, that there never was more activity among its opponents than at the present day. Some, however, in their attacks, display their own ignorant, fierce and virulent natures, rather than endanger God's truth. But it is far different with others. Judas-like, they pretend the highest respect and veneration for it, and at the same time with all the calmness, ingenuity, learning and talent they command, are destroying it. But they will not succeed, no! no! if it were not Divine, it had been destroyed long ago. There is no doubt, however, cunning as the attacks are, that good will come out of them at the end. First, it will do good, in provoking a contrary spirit of enquiry and research into the original meaning of the Scriptures, and thereby probably, greatly, improve our translation. Secondly, it will lead Christians to lean more upon the naked word alone, and less upon the opinions of men, however eminent. And thirdly, if by their criticism, any thing shall be swept away, it will be the dusty cobweb notions which from time immemorial have been hanging about the word, until the truth itself will appear clearer and more divine than ever. And who will say that this will not do good? But no thanks to the adversaries for it.

Your Committee deem it their duty to bring before you the case of a deeply interesting, and hard-working class of people, namely, the lumber-men, who annually gather in the woods within our bounds. There is no need of an apology for calling your notice to them; for many of them are your sons, your