

scriptural account : in which the words—" the Spirit of God *moved* on the surface of the waters," strictly means, " the Spirit of God *brooded* (like a bird) on the surface of the waters")—that there soon arose a general corruption among mankind ; and then men lived a long time ;—that there was a general deluge, which swept away almost all men and animals—that some few were saved—that after that men became wicked again ; and then our ancestors came from the rising sun, a great distance.

Thus it will be seen, that the missionaries have an easy field, in as much as they will not have to root out any fundamental principles of religion ; but only give these principles a proper direction.

There are ample pecuniary resources, and active and useful agents, at the disposal of the British Missionary Societies ; independently of the means at the command of the government. These societies have, I allow, sent abroad to the remotest and most ungenial regions of the earth, their servants—who have braved all difficulties, and endured all privations, in the sacred cause of disseminating religion, humanity, good morals, and civilisation. And yet, though they have humanised, to some extent, the wild inhabitant of the forest, the mountain, and desert—though they have checked his