

casual applications to particular individuals. For, without attributing to these a special hardness of character, or harshness of demeanour, the multiplicity and variety, of requests confuses them :—Their knowledge of the limits of their capacity to assist, together with their inability to determine whether the giving of their money here would not be the withholding of it from unquestionable claims to come upon them elsewhere, perplexes them : the possibility of imposture daunts them. And, in the pressure of all this, they fall back, for the exercise of their benevolence, upon cases where the facts are familiar, or easily ascertained.

And the stranger, in real distress perhaps, meets with refusal, unmerited, it may be, but not wholly inexcusable. So much for accessibility. And for

.. Discrimination

This investigation, and discrimination, which private men, for various reasons, cannot make, or will not make, the charitable society undertakes. To the private man, for the passing over the claims of a stranger, it is reason sufficient, or at least efficient, that he is a stranger. For the charitable society that is just the reason why he should not be passed over. It is organized for the very purpose of inquiring into such cases.

The advantages then of a society like ours are,

1. That those in distress know where to go for help, and 2. That the benevolent, in that part of their benevolence which they entrust to it for distribution, are protected against imposture. This work of a charitable organization will always need to be done.

The St George Society has always done the work zealously, and well, and you will, I trust, supply it with means to continue in time to come the valuable services it has rendered to the community in time past.

That is all that I shall say to-night about the charitable side of the St. George's society. But there are a few words that I should like now to say upon the other aspect of the society, its

ii. NATIONALITY.

We know that God has made "of one blood all nations, for to dwell together upon the face of the earth," But none the less deeply rooted in our nature