

warmest congratulations on the event of the formation of the American Bible Society, an event which they consider as truly auspicious and pregnant with consequences most advantageous to the promotion of the great work in which the American brethren and themselves are mutually engaged. To these congratulations the Committee have added a grant of £500 sterling, which they trust will be regarded as indications and pledges of that friendly disposition which it is their desire to cultivate and manifest towards every class and description of their transatlantic fellow-labourers.'

"My Lord, the Society which began its career under auspices so hopeful has been pursuing its course of Christian activity for seventy years. I could wish that it were possible for me to report to-day an aggregate circulation equal to your own: but, perhaps, in view of the multiplied claims made upon the benevolence of the Christian people of the United States during the first century of the nation's history, you will not regard it as altogether an unworthy service on the part of the American Bible Society to have circulated nearly forty-eight millions of copies of the Word of God, with an expenditure, in the prosecution of the work, of more than four million pounds sterling. This work has extended to all portions of the globe. The Scriptures have been translated into languages and dialects, classic and rude. Many tribes of the North American Indians have been supplied, as well as multitudes of freedmen in the southern portion of our land, while especial attention has been paid to the Sandwich Islands, and the islands of the Micronesian group. You are mindful of the fact that the American Bible Society is engaged in the Levant, in Persia, in China, in Japan, and in other parts of the East; but I must not detain you with details. In all this work our Managers have desired to co-operate most cordially with your Society in its magnificent enterprises. No terms it will be possible for me to employ could adequately convey to you, my Christian brethren—for this kindly address you are pleased to employ in your first official communication to us—the measure of profound respect and regard in which you are held by the officers and Managers of the American Bible Society. We trust that in all the years to come, in all lands where we may labour side by side, the same spirit of mutual and affectionate Christian interest may prevail.

"Permit me, further, to say that the Managers of the American Bible Society have marked with sincere sympathy the changes which have come to you of late. When we learned that your beloved Secretary, Mr. Reed, had been suddenly removed, we wept with you in your sorrow. The intelligence of the decease of Lord Shaftesbury reached America by cable on the very day of the stated meeting of our Managers, and it called forth appropriate action which was transmitted to your Committee. When, a few months ago, Judge Fancher was elected President of the American Bible Society, you kindly sent us, through your honoured Secretary, Mr. Sharp, a letter of congratulations; and a little later, we received, with sincere satisfaction, the announcement that Lord Harrowby had consented to accept the position made vacant by the decease of the Earl of Shaftesbury.

"I must not, at this late hour, trespass upon your kind attentions, but my heart is full to the overflow of good wishes for the British and Foreign Bible Society, and for this land of my fathers. I could wish that the Minister of the United States were here, as you anticipated, to assure you, from this Bible Society platform, how hearty is the love of the Christian people of the United States for dear Old England. The English Bible has done, and is doing, much to make us one. At the Jubilee Anniversary of the American Bible Society, twenty years ago, the British and Foreign Bible Society was represented by two honoured brethren, Mr. Phillips and Mr. Nolan. Mr. Phillips performed excellent service, not only upon the platform, but also in visiting our Welsh Auxiliaries. Mr. Nolan, in addressing the Jubilee meeting, made a statement which I am constrained, in substance, to repeat on this occasion. He said that at a large public meeting held some ten years