

ed to be a religious people. Amidst "abounding iniquity," throughout the land, there are still many thousands "who fear the Lord and serve him." There are still the most abundant and satisfactory evidences, that the Lord God sits enthroned amidst the reverential feelings of the Scottish heart,—and binds in the unity of holy beauty the intellectual grandeur, the moral excellence, and the religious fervour of the nation. "The Lord reigneth." "He is clothed with majesty," and the people rejoice, and are glad thereof.

It is not, my brethren, to inflate your minds with vain pride, that we have called you to survey the towers—the bulwarks and the palaces of your Fatherland. It is to fill your minds with the nobler ambition, to reflect in your personal conduct and character, the virtues that constitute the true glory of your native country. The object we have had in view in leading you to survey her intellectual, moral, and spiritual defences, is, that "you may tell it to posterity,"—that you may transmit the fame of men so illustrious—of actions so distinguished—of national institutions so admirable to succeeding generations—and in your own persons present such a picture of true glory, as will fire their spirits, with the noble ambition of giving a practical exhibition of national greatness.

This duty divides itself into two great branches, both of which demand your consideration. First, that you may tell to posterity by what means these noble structures have been raised. Second, how they have been and may still be preserved.

The primary and by far the most influential of the means employed in raising the spiritual defences of our Fatherland,—was the Bible, and the system of domestic and public instruction, founded on free access to the word of God, or in other words, the "Church in the House," and the "Church in the Land"; or that admirably devised, and faithfully executed agency—usually denominated the "Parochial System," comprising, 1st, the legal recognition of the Sabbath, not only as a Divine, but as a national institution, and essentially connect-