

of the destroying fires they kindled; but the Word which they sought vainly to destroy, endureth still and shall endure forever. And not only has it survived the shocks of time and change, of tyranny and anarchy, of rapine and war, (which can be said of other old books, though of none so old, and none so hated as the Bible); but it has come down to us, (to use the words of Isaac Taylor, which he substantiates in his "History of the Transmission of Ancient Books to Modern Times,") "with an evidence of its genuineness and integrity, tenfold more various, copious and conclusive than can be adduced in support of any other ancient writing." Thus has God owned and honoured His own Word, and safely transmitted it to us as a heritage forever, and as a sacred trust to publish it abroad and send it to the ends of the earth.

Think also of the abiding freshness of the Word of God. Who can say the Bible is out of date? Well there are some that do say it, and we ask them: wherein is it out of date? Is it out of date as a book of religion? Is it out of date as a book of Theology, of Human nature, of Ethics, of Salvation? All other books that have been attempted on these subjects, except those which have drawn their inspiration directly or indirectly from the Scriptures, were either out of date when they were first produced, or became outdated in a very few years. What has become of the ethical and religious productions of those that have pursued their investigations, and recorded the results of them without the aid of revelation? Where for example are the moralists and phil-