

APPENDIX.

AMERICAN TRACT SOCIETY.

As the conduct of this society respecting Slavery has been much before the public, and very generally condemned by Christians everywhere, it will be interesting to learn what action has been taken in the matter by the Society at its late meeting in New York. This will be seen by the following resolutions, which shadow forth its future operations, and which were agreed to by all parties :—

Resolved,—That in the judgment of your Committee, the political aspects of Slavery lie entirely without the proper sphere of this Society, and cannot be discussed in its publications ; but that those moral duties which grow out of the existence of Slavery, as well as those moral evils and vices which it is known to promote, and which are condemned in Scripture, and so much deplored by evangelical Christians, undoubtedly do fall within the Province of this Society, and can and ought to be discussed in a fraternal and Christian spirit.

Resolved,—That whatever considerations in the past may have seemed to recommend to the Publishing Committee the course pursued in its revision of certain works, yet, in the future publication of books and tracts, no alteration or omission of the sentiments of any author should be made ; but works not adapted to the design of the Society in their original form, or by a regular impartial abridgment, should be wholly omitted."

The following comment on these resolutions is from the New York *Tribune* and are certainly very justly merited. The Society virtually acknowledges, by its action, that, whereas, in the past, it has been acting dishonestly, it means to do so no more. That *when* it appropriates other people's books, it will deal fairly with them, not mutilating them, but accepting of them either entire or not at all. Says the *Tribune*:—

We understand that this result, though accepted by both parties, is especially regarded as a triumph by the Anti-Slavery men connected with the Tract organization. If so, we must think them thankful for small favours. To what does it amount? That the Society will cease to print works as Dick's, or Chalmers', or Wesley's, or James's, which have ceased to be truly such, through their deliberate mutilation by the Society's own agents, is very proper, like any act of reformation which implies repentance ; for the Society had no right to make an author say what he did not mean by omitting a very important part of what he actually said. Apologists for Bondage habit-

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