

of 1848 to force the surplus population from home ; for their need at all times had this effect, as their sagacity directed them how to avail themselves of the opportunities for advancing themselves, offered them by countries more favored by nature than their own. They used to find their way to France, Germany Spain and Russia hundreds of years ago ; and this fostered a spirit of enterprise, the adventurers abroad keeping up an inciting correspondence with their friends at home. Hence, the cynical remark of Dr. Johnson, when called upon to admire a piece of Scottish scenery : "The finest view a Scotchman ever sees, is the high-road to London." Galt's "Sir Andrew Wylie of that Ilk" affords an apt illustration on this point.

These are a few of the suggestive points in the history and character of the Scots that seem to me worthy of the careful consideration of other nations. What? Are the Scotch people faultless then? By no means ; and I should consider I had done you a great mischief if I allowed you to leave this House of God to-day, a place where only the truth, and the whole truth should be spoken, with the conviction that you in virtue of being Scotch are perfect, or even as nearly so as human nature will admit of it. The Scottish people have glaring faults, although I cannot dwell upon them at present. They are a trifle too combative and pertinacious for one thing. They would be none the worse of borrowing from the "Southrons" some share of the respect for authority and sympathy with the amenities of life which characterize them. And they would be vastly improved, if they would exchange something of their abruptness and brusqueness of manner. for the natural suavity and politeness of their Milesian brethren. These, however, are their smaller defects. Their serious shortcomings arise from their at too earnest devotions the shrines of Bacchus and Venus. The great fault even of their literature, notably of their poetry, is that it is too highly spiced with references to wine and love. Pardon me for uttering a frank warning to you on this subject. There can be no doubt that such tendencies are transmitted from father to child ; and let me entreat you, if you have no regard to the effect which drunkenness and the other kindred vices have upon yourselves, to think of the terrible legacy you may be entailing upon posterity by the unrestrained indulgence of gross appetites. In conclusion, let me urge you, while your patriotic emotions kindle at the thought of the dear old land to-day, not to forget the claims of those of your countrymen who have been less fortunate than yourselves, and who may be in want. Care for the poor is of the very essence of Christianity, as it is the only religion that charges itself with their maintenance. Of course, in this respect I regard Judaism and Christainity as one and the same. The Almighty, in legislating for His covenanted people, specially guarded the interests of the needy, and undertook himself to vindicate their cause. Like all other phases of religion, this duty is now enforced by no legislative enactments, but surely any one who loves