

a proper reception and study of the Bible is calculated to inspire—especially in this day of warning to the church and to the world, and of such signal visitation to the nations of the earth.

Some of those branches which I found still in existence through the Province, had suspended their operations, or diverted their funds into other channels, in consequence of statements put forth by Dr. Adam Thomson of Coldstream, respecting the proceedings of the Parent Society, until such explanations could be obtained as would remove the unfavourable impressions thus produced. And though some delays and interruptions to my progress were thereby occasioned, I have reason to believe the whole will be overruled for ultimate good. A calm investigation and candid review of the circumstances, as furnished by such correspondence on the subject as could be found accessible, and the long cherished attachment of the office-bearers and contributors, to the Parent Society, have prevailed to turn back the resources, so diverted for a time, to their wonted channels,—at least to the extent of the free contributions. I was glad to find, on reading over Dr. Thomson's pamphlets, which had been so understood by some, as to weaken their confidence in the Directors at home, the following candid advice to the friends of Bible circulation there,—and which tended, I have no doubt, by placing the design of these publications in a more correct light, to produce the favourable results above referred to:—"Your support of a free Bible press," says the Rev. Doctor, "need not interfere with your efforts to give your aid as heretofore in promoting what should now be regarded as the only legitimate efforts of the British and Foreign Bible Society. The translation of the Scriptures into foreign languages, and their distribution in foreign countries should, under existing circumstances, be its leading, if not its exclusive province: and it is obvious that its funds, if duly applied to so grand an object, can never be increased to too great an extent. Give your *shillings* to the new Societies, which, with the low price of English Bibles, will be sufficient for home purposes; but give *pounds* to the old one, the mother of them all, that she may supply the heathen abroad; nor can your liberality be too great, while she makes it her object to regenerate the world." (vide "Bible Circulation—an appeal to the christian community at large"—"by Adam Thomson, D. D.", page 15.)

On reviewing the places I have visited, and the Societies which have been thus hopefully formed, amidst such unpromising appearances, I cannot but feel thankful to God that so much power and influence has been collected and organized, to help forward such an important work. And now the question seems to suggest itself,—how can this amount of instrumentality be rendered most efficient, and most subservient to its great end? Every person who is connected with it, and all who feel interested in this blessed cause, should be impressed with the conviction, that there never was a period, perhaps since the creation, when the influence of divine truth was so much needed, or was likely to exert so vast an influence, if properly received, on the temporal, spiritual, and eternal well-being of mankind, as now. The bonds of superstition and error, which for ages