

read, with brightened eye, and swelling heart, and highest hope, the announcement of the new and glorious age that is to be ushered in. Nature, through all its amplitude, is not for ever to sigh in manacles, nor its primitive powers to remain paralysed in the coil of the betrayer, nor its Creator to remain unglorified in the work which at first he beheld, and pronounced to be very good. Nature has lost its paradisaical perfections, but it shall not be always so: "for in the wilderness shall waters break out, and streams in the desert," and there shall be the music of rivulets in the thirsty land; the wastes are to become fertile; and where now the warlike nomad knows no boundaries, and acknowledges no proprietor, the husbandman shall have his undisturbed possession, and rejoice in the plenty of a remunerative toil; and the arid saharras of Africa, and the gloomy deserts of Asia, which are now dried by the winds of the wilderness, and swept by the fiery breath of the Simoom, shall yet be sparkling with fountains, be green in the loveliness of spring, and golden in the richness of autumn; and the oases which now lie in them, green in the midst of desolation, are the emblems of that hope, and that future of nature's universal fertility.——And on the irrational animal creation, now at war with man, and he with them, and they with each other, the Bible, also, casts the light of a glorious future, when "the wolf shall dwell with the lamb, and the leopard lie down with the kid, and the calf and the young lion and the fattling together, and a little child shall lead them. And the cow and the bear shall feed, their young ones shall lie down together, and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. And the sucking child shall play on the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put his hand on the cockatrice's den. They shall not hurt nor destroy in all my holy mountain, for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the Lord, as the waters cover the sea." And in that millennial age of universal peace, it is the express declaration of God in regard to his people, "I will make a covenant for them with the beasts of the field, and with the fowls of heaven, and with the creeping things of the ground; and I will break the bow, the sword, and the battle out of the earth, and will make them to lie down safely."——And for man, now alienated from God in his mind and by wicked works, unhappy in himself, and in his condition, and subjected to innumerable miseries, a better state is predicted. Then, no one shall need to be taught, "know the Lord;" no land of idols shall be found then; for the missionary enterprise shall