

tending her efforts to the Old World, she is found side by side with the agents of the Parent Society in many of the fields in Europe and in Asia; as the agents of the British and Foreign Bible Society are to be seen in hearty cooperation with the agents of the American Bible Society in many of the countries of Central and South America. We read with joy of the zeal and success which accompany the efforts of this Society, especially in Mexico, Uruguay, Chili, Brazil, and Peru. While England and America possess and sustain such institutions surely we must have peace. A most noticeable fact has taken place in the recent election, as President of the American Bible Society, of a gentleman who is also President of Girard College, Philadelphia. In accordance with the will of its founder no minister of any Church is permitted to enter its walls.

Of this event—the choice of a new President—the American “Bible Society Record” thus speaks:—

“THE NEW PRESIDENT.—It has already been announced that the Board of Managers, at its meeting in March, unanimously elected Wm. H. Allen, LL.D., president of Girard College, to fill the vacancy occasioned by the resignation of James Lenox, Esq. Not to speak of the eminent qualifications of Dr. Allen for the position to which he is called, it is gratifying to note that the selection of a President has been made from the field of our largest Auxiliary, which has never before been thus represented in this Society. Nor should the fact of his connection with Girard College be overlooked. Many have supposed that the founder of that institution intended to exclude the Bible and Christianity from its walls. But there is no proof of this. At any rate, he required that the best system of virtue and morality should be taught there, and the trustees decided that this system is in the Bible. The Bible, therefore, was adopted as the text-book, and the only text-book of morality in the institution. Thus a Christian character has been given to it, without in any way departing from the letter of Mr. Girard's will. There is something beautiful and significant in the fact, that the President of Girard College is also President of the American Bible Society.”

CONCLUSION.—In reviewing the operations of the year, while, with you, the Board would feel deeply grateful to our God for the measure of success vouchsafed to our own and to kindred societies, we do not feel any disposition to boastfulness, but in deep humility before Him, we apply to ourselves the inquiry, *what have we that we did not receive?* And while we recognize and acknowledge an open Bible as the chief agent, with the divine blessing, of all our national greatness, freedom and strength; of all our domestic purity and happiness; and of all our spiritual joys and heavenly hopes; we must be true to those obligations which a knowledge of the wants of others imposes upon us. We would, with christian temper, but also with christian fortitude, do all in our power to resist the progress of any doctrine, or any system, which would rob us of those divinely conferred privileges and blessings which we now enjoy, and the value of which we here to-night acknowledge.

We cannot attach too much importance to the free circulation of the Word of God. To this, together with the preaching of the ever blessed Gospel, are