

ADDRESS OF THE GOVERNOR.

*My Lord, Ladies and Gentlemen,*

I have accepted the invitation, which I have had the honor to receive, to preside on this occasion, under a conviction of the inestimable value and social benefits of true religion, and that it is needful even for the temporal welfare of the people.

It is one of the designs of this Society, as His Lordship has just stated, to procure funds for the maintenance of the Clergy, the erection or enlargement of Churches, Parsonages and School-rooms, and the supply of Bibles, Prayer Books, School Books and Religious Tracts. These are laudable objects.

Here, where there is no legal provision for the support of public religion, the duty of making contributions for the maintenance of the open worship of Almighty God, devolves upon individuals. By such tributes we may evince our love and reverence towards Him from Whom we receive life and health, and to Whom we are indebted for every mercy that visits our earthly path ; and it is thus that, as a community, we may link ourselves to the things of Heaven.

It is a Divine Ordinance that they who preach the Gospel should live of the Gospel. Moderate as is the provision which circumstances permit to be made for the support of the Ministers of Religion in this climate which, although healthy, is still for a great portion of the year rugged, and thus increases their toil and adds to their claim upon our consideration ; yet, their duties remain the same, and the serious responsibility does not the less attach to them, of proclaiming in their heavenly purity, those evangelical truths which alone are effectual to diffuse regenerating life.

I will not detain the meeting from the business of the evening.