

ed, its doctrines were set forth in the language of philosophy and supported by the authority of great names, behind which every kind of error found a shelter. But now, when the Bible is put into the hands of the illiterate and of children, the style of exposition has become a very great deal more simple, and at the same time more effective. Scholastic distinctions have in a great measure disappeared, and fewer allusions are made to the authority of celebrated names. Out of this must grow an increase of spirituality, than which, there is no better symptom of an improving age. Missions to the Heathen have contributed in no small degree to the production of simplicity and plainness in exhibiting Scripture truth. Missionaries are under the necessity of so presenting those truths in which is eternal life, that they may find an easy passage to the human heart. It is not till the truth reach that, that religion becomes a vital principle, the germ of immortality. The accounts which Missionaries have given of their success, and the means by which that success has been attained, have led those who are anxious to do good to accommodate, as far as circumstances may permit, to their own circumstances, what has proved so remarkably efficient in the hands of others. What could the heavy theology of the Schools have accomplished amongst the islanders of the South sea? This is not said to undervalue learning, but the abuse of it. The glory of learning consists not in the display of it, but in its perfect mastery over error, and in the ease with which it can clear out obscurities, disentangle difficulties, and make important truth plain—and for this no small amount of learning is requisite.

2. There is obviously a tendency to a separation of Christian Churches from civil government. The nature of a Christian Church is becoming every day better understood. It is not long since simple Christians thought that the Church could not subsist without the aid of civil power; and artful politicians made use of the Church as an instrument of governing; multitudes now see and acknowledge that they have been an encumbrance to each other, and that it will be better for both to be alone. And so it will. Measures of Government will then have to be of such a kind as that their own excellence will commend them to the approbation of the governed, and Christian Churches learn to lean for support on Him by whom the Church was founded, then they will be free of that insolence on the one party and that jealousy on the other, which the patronizing by the state of a particular sect, never fails to produce.

The efforts which are being made by some Episcopalians of the Church of England, to set themselves over all other Churches, and to draw closer the connexion between them and the State, is to be regarded as a step to the uniting of all who contend for a Scriptural Church. Their pretensions, so exclusive and so arrogant, their magnifying the power of their Church and attributing to her ordinances an influence in salvation to which the Apostolical Churches never laid claim, and which indeed, can belong to none but the Redeemer himself, and their denouncing all other Churches