

sions in over 100 more languages. You will better appreciate this part of the Society's direct or indirect work, when I tell you that it is authoritatively stated that the Scriptures have been provided in all the great vernaculars of the world; nevertheless, I must add, thus simply opening the way for many future years of translation and distribution labour.

The Bible, on the point of translation, is unlike any other book. It does not suffer by being translated. It retains its life, its power, its influence in all languages; we should expect it. The Bible is God's word to all souls—true, it will suffer by being badly translated—true, carelessness in translation may kill the usefulness of that translation. True, treachery in translation may, if not counteracted promote the evil designs of Satan, but this enhances the work of the British and Foreign Bible Society, and like societies. The value of the work of the Society, in the matter of translation, is beyond computation. The minute care, the faithful scrutiny, the enormous and learned toil lavished upon the translations with a view to ensure perfection,—if perfection be possible,—and all this with prayer for the inspiration of the Holy Spirit gives to the Society a character, as a divine instrument, which justifies the cry—"Behold the messenger of God to the whole world."

And then, the effect of that message, given to a people, and received by them in their own tongue, cannot be exaggerated. You cannot even by searching reach the full truth. You seek to know the power of a received Bible, but it baffles all investigation. It is like the love of Christ himself, as you follow on to know its effect on mankind. There is revealed physical blessing, mental blessing, spiritual blessing, without limit, until, as the blessing baffles all thought, you exclaim—"it passeth knowledge." You are asked for proof? Your difficulty is not to find proof, but to select from the accumulated and accumulating evidence your difficulty is not to choose from the sayings of the biassed friends of the Bible, but from the avowed and insistent enemies of the Bible, as the word of God. You are asked, what has the Bible done for the physical well-being of a people? In reply, you do not cite such men as Henry Martin and Moffat