

REV. E. H. DEWART., D.D., seconded the resolution, saying, "I have very great pleasure in seconding the resolution. I am sure, after the eloquent, impassioned, and excellent address to which we have listened with so much interest and profit, no additional words of mine are necessary to ensure the hearty and cordial endorsement of the resolution by this audience."

The motion was then put to the meeting by the chairman, and carried unanimously.

After the singing of another hymn,

"Blow ye the trumpet, blow,"

Rev. E. A. Stafford, LL.B., was called upon to move the third resolution. "That we are profoundly impressed with the wonderful providence of God, as seen in the miraculous preservation of the Holy Scriptures through all the ages, as well as in the constantly accumulating testimony from every field of criticism, to its Divine origin and authority, and its beneficent influence wherever it is known; and we are therefore more than ever persuaded that the great duty of Christendom is, as soon as possible, to give the Bible to all mankind." He said:—

On the first part of the resolution I shall not detain you a second—more than a few seconds at least. I will just read a piece of composition I have in my hand. It is taken from the preface written by an American publisher, to Voltaire's greatest work, in the year 1836. John Quincy Adams gave this piece of composition—with a good deal more—over his own name, at that time. He said: "Even after the Bible shall be laid aside, for anything more than a book of mere antiquated curiosity, as being the fruits of ignorance and filled with absurdities, fiction, fable, and contradiction, this work of Voltaire (being as it were a library in itself) will be read with interest, it being so fraught with useful instruction." John Quincy Adams, in the year 1836! The Bible is there. John Quincy Adams is dead. The book which he so highly commended is not to-day known by name to one in every ten thousand of earth's population in civilized lands. I believe I would be safe in venturing the assertion that not fifty people in even this congregation to-night could tell which was the greatest of Voltaire's books, calling it by name, and not probably one in one hundred ever saw that book which was to live when the Bible had gone down into the silence of forgetfulness. The Bible lives, and finds its way into the hands of uncounted millions of children in Sabbath schools, in the homes of the people. It lives and finds its way into the sick room, where man lies nigh unto death, when all other friends are excluded except those necessary to attend and give the last ministries of life, the book is admitted as man's best and latest friend, to guide his steps down into the darkness, and into what—from our standpoint—is an unknown world. And so I say the resolution has a good basis upon which to rest the wonderful providence of God in the preservation of these Scriptures.

Many illustrations might be adduced on that other point, that we are finding from every field of criticism new testimonies of the authenticity and Divine authority of the Scriptures, and their beneficent influence wherever known. The admirable address of Dr. Pattison will have suggested many facts to your minds. I will just hurriedly refer to one which has been presented very recently. There is a passage in Genesis xl.: "And I took the grapes and pressed them into Pharaoh's cup, and I gave the cup into Pharaoh's hand." Intidelity read that passage, and then it turned up the pages of Herodotus, who, as an historian, is remarkable for his accuracy in all cases where the matter has been the subject of his personal observation, and Herodotus declared that the vine was not cultivated in Egypt, and therefore, it was argued, that passage in the book of Genesis must be mere fiction—there could