

attack error. For you, or for those who work under your direction, to denounce or ridicule non-Christian systems of belief would be to suggest to your hearers a wrong view of the Society's spirit and aim. By this it is not meant that the lips of our Agents and colporteurs are sealed. Out of the abundance of the heart the mouth will speak, and nothing can better accompany Bible circulation than that those who have felt the power and sweetness of the Divine Word should tell others what it has done for them. There is an obvious interval between this and the language of controversy.

This Society's Agents are also desired, in the prosecution of its work, to keep well within the limits of the law in the countries where they labour. It is of no small consequence to the success of its operations that its representatives should act so as to secure the confidence and goodwill of all those in authority.

With the depositories and colporteurs who may come under your direction, the Committee trust you will cultivate a spirit of true Christian sympathy. Help them by prayer and spiritual counsel to lift their work above the level of ordinary trade, and to keep in view the all important religious issues with which it is fraught.

To hold intimate intercourse with them and others, as well as to be of real value to the Committee in questions affecting versions of the Scriptures, it is of essential importance at the outset that you should spare no pains thoroughly to master the language or languages of the country where you labour.

Leaving other matters to the more detailed instructions which will be placed in your hands on paper, the Committee will now only add a brief word or two to you each in turn respecting your appointed individual posts of duty, and commit you all in prayer to the guidance and keeping of that Heavenly Master in close fellowship with Whom they beg you ever to endeavour to walk yourselves while you labour for the welfare of others.

You, Brother Thomson, are no stranger to the responsibilities and privileges of Bible-work in a heathen land. By ten years' able and efficient labour in Japan in connection with the National Bible Society of Scotland, you have gained the confidence and esteem of many friends. Now you go forth to place your talents and experience at Christ's service in similar work in North India. You will need to enter on this enterprise in a patient and conciliatory spirit, seeking to relieve the burden which has overtaxed even the unsparing devotion of the honorary secretary for so many years of the North India Auxiliary Bible Society, the Hon. G. E. Knox, and endeavouring to unite the sympathies and labours of the various missionaries of different societies within the field of the Auxiliary in perfecting the Hindi version, and in diffusing the Scriptures among the native population. We trust that Mrs. Thomson may find interest in doing what may lie within her power in furthering the circulation of the Scriptures among the females around your home.

In sending you forth, Brother Douglas, in the hope that you will ere long reach Persia, and qualify yourself to take effective oversight of the Society's work there, the Committee trust you will avail yourself of the opportunities you will find in Berlin, and it may be at other centres, on your way out, to master the business details which are essential to the proper conduct of this Society's religious work. They ask you, when the time comes, to do your utmost to carry on the Society's work in Persia in co-operation with the missionaries labouring there, and more especially to defer, as is due to a veteran and self-denying missionary, to the guidance which the Rev. Dr. Bruce may give you in beginning your work. Keep in mind the high standard, both of scholarship and of spirituality, set by Dr. Bruce's devoted predecessor in translating the Scriptures into Persian, Henry Martyn.

In sending you to Egypt, Brother De Glanville, for a preliminary engagement, it is the earnest hope of the Committee that they will learn from