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REPORT, &c.

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WHEN we look around in our world, and see the vast amount of evil, with the little good ; and consider, that man is the divinely appointed agent of taking from the one, and adding to the other ; and, at the same time remember how short is the period, during which, he is permitted to labour : all else seems an *impertinent intrusion on time, except to advance the glory of God in setting forth the salvation of man.*

This is the sober dictate of human reason when taught by the Holy Spirit. But alas ! how seldom acted on. That numberless amount of trifles, called by our Lord, "*The cares of other things*" "enter in, choak the Word, and render it unfruitful."

It is far from the design of Your Committee to impute any such motives as the cause of seven long years having intervened since the last Report of the Kingston Auxiliary Bible Society, however much they may deplore the fact ; (various causes have led to this seeming neglect on the part of former committees ; many have been called to their rest ; and others have left the Province ;) but rather would they use it as a beacon to warn them, and their successors in office, against like apparent sloth in their Master's cause, and insensibility to the condition of the many around, perishing for lack of that knowledge, which, alone, can sustain the soul of man. For be it remembered, all other knowledge is *relatively* useful. Its value is measured by circumstances. What is needed for this individual, or class of persons, may be wholly useless, perhaps, injurious to others. Not so the knowledge of the Holy Scriptures. The Bible has been styled "*the moral pathway for the communication of the Spiritual influence of Heaven unto man.*" It is through the word that man derives his acquaintance with that world, to which he is fast hastening ; and of his true position, there. It is the prospect, there unfolded, which stimulates his endeavors onwards, upwards, and it is the supply of that Spirit which the Bible offers, that, alone, can give him that grace which, one day, will be swallowed up in glory.

How far above all price, then, must be a spiritual acquaintance with this sure guide of the Holy Spirit ! How deplorable the condition of those ignorant of it ! *Without any sure standard of morals* they must weigh good and evil by present profit and loss ; and what

147161