

and can scarcely recognize the sites of their overturned capitals. And China, the most persistent of the nations, has been stagnated for centuries and is covered with gross idolatry. Such has been the experience of the world when there has been no criterion for truth, no authority to stamp its demands; when every man formed his own standard of right and wrong. In the very nature of things this must be. For the laws which govern human actions, as well as the material universe, will shape the destiny of men, as well as the rise and fall of nations. Is there no hope for man, even though his intellect be lifted up to great attainments? None; unless a light comes from an external source, and unless there exists a spiritual force which shall influence his principles of action, hold out pure motives for conduct and help him to attain a higher plane of life. A lover of truth will, of necessity, investigate; he knows that all the phenomena around him are based upon laws; he will apply this investigation to the work we have engaged to assist; and he will legitimately ask, what are the results among those who receive the Bible as an authority? As regards its expected results, we have the evidence of those who either deny its inspiration, or are living regardless of its laws, *in the fact*, that they require of persons who advocate its duties, a more than usual uprightness; and none are so ready to point the finger of scorn at the inconsistent professor as these very men.

In the report for the last year, as well as in all the previous reports, there are accounts of men who have been led by contact with the Scriptures to repentance for sin, to a trust in a Saviour, to a new life.

A Brahmin received a Bible; sold it to another who, by reading it, was led to repentance; then to find that peace which comes from a knowledge of Christ. Again, a book was given to a carter—he was unable to read it himself; it was picked up by a neighbor, who first read it himself, and then his neighbors, with the result that twelve others were led to repentance and faith in Christ.