

of birds is come, and the earth shall soon yield her increase, and God, even our own God, shall give it his blessing.

Many obstacles may oppose themselves to the spread of the Gospel and the conversion of sinners, but God has promised that his knowledge shall cover the earth as the waters cover the channels of the great deep; and for this purpose he has given his only begotten Son, "for a light to the Gentiles, that he may be his salvation unto the ends of the earth." The Redeemer and Saviour of man shall not labour in vain, nor spend his strength for nought; for he shall be glorious in the eyes of the Lord, and God shall be his strength. Kings shall see and arise, Princes also shall worship him, because of the Lord that is faithful. Your Committee entertain no doubt whatever of the fulfilment of God's faithful word, and are therefore encouraged to proceed in humble dependence upon the influence of the Holy Spirit, knowing assuredly, "the Lord will make bare his arm, in the eyes of all the nations; and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of God." "And the loftiness of man shall be bowed down, and the haughtiness of men shall be made low: and the Lord alone shall be exalted in that day. And the idols he will utterly abolish." The signs of the times bear witness to the dawn of these glorious events. The awakened zeal of all true Christians is a coincidence that should not be overlooked—the powerful Auxiliary of a Bible Society—the promptitude and Christian ardour of promising young men—the talents of eloquent Preachers to plead the cause of missions—the engerness of the Heathen world to receive missionaries—the piety of humble Christians to pray down success, and the liberality of opulent persons to afford support, show that we are not going before, but following after the divine purpose.

The number of Missionary Stations at present occupied by the Wesleyan Missionary Society, is 138, and the number of Missionaries regularly employed is 190, exclusive of Catechists, Schoolmasters, &c. &c. The number of members in our Foreign Societies amounts to 36,917, being an increase for this year of 2025. Of these 22,590 are *Slaves*, and 6470 Free Negroes and persons of Colour, in the West Indian Colonies. The returns of the numbers of Children in the Mission Schools, so far as received are 17,033.

The income of the Society for the year ending 31st December, 1828, was £50,005 19s. 4d.; being an advance on the preceding year of £6770 11s. 7d., and considerably exceeding that of any other year since the formation of the Society. The Committee say, "that claims the most urgent and most affecting continue to be preferred for missionary instruction, and new

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