

championship of the South, that the Missionaries of all lands and churches, feel perfectly safe under the shadow of her flag, and regard it as the symbol of security, civilization, and social elevation.

To carry on this great work, immense sums of money are required, and the appeals that are made, from time to time, to British Christians, are usually responded to in a spirit of the largest liberality. Six millions of dollars are annually laid upon the altar of Christianity, principally for the purpose of furthering the objects of the Bible, Tract, and Missionary Societies, and this sum, large though it is, is being greatly increased every year.

From the past and present, we naturally turn to the future, and anxiously enquire, What will Britain's future be? Like the mighty nations of antiquity, will she only live in history, the records of her glory being read to fire the heart of some new and rising nationality, or will her power be perpetuated, and her career be one of undiminished and increasing greatness? Nineveh, Babylon, Tyre, Athens, Rome and Jerusalem, with their artists, orators, heroes, philosophers, and poets, have all passed away, and little remains but the name, and is there, or is there not, reason to fear that Britain's career may similarly close. The dream of Lord Macaulay and others, that the time might come when London Bridge will have crumbled away, the waters idly rolling on, no richly freighted ships coming or going, her Parliament House a mighty ruin, and the stranger, standing upon the site of the Royal Exchange or the Crystal Palace, will muse upon the departed glories of Great Britain, has far less of probability than of poetry in it. She may fall, her people may become vicious, lawless, and corrupt, her flag may be trailed in the dust, and her name be a byword, a hissing, and a reproach.

But we think not. We have good reason to believe that a far different fate awaits her. In the virtue and intelligence of her people we see hopeful indications of a bright and brilliant future. The signs of the times are encouraging. The national credit was never better, her moral influence never greater, and her statesmanship never wiser and more progressive than at present. Never was the people more loyal, the government more liberal, or the throne more stable than now. Never was there a better state of feeling between the Mother Country and the Colonies, and never was that connection more highly valued than at present. Disaffection is unknown, dismemberment is not to be entertained, and the reconstruction of the empire is to be the overshadowing question of the not very distant future. And our hope and prayer is, that such measures will be adopted, as will not only render separation