

which he did not immediately require, and if he wished to hide it where no one would ever seek it, he would lay it between the leaves of a Bible Society Report. If there was much truth in the saying, I hope, at any rate, that it is less applicable in these days, than it was in his. This Report, the adoption of which I move, is worthy of being published, not only because it tells of what has been accomplished by the instrumentality of this Society, but because it sets forth so clearly the great work to which we are called, together with the difficulties to be encountered, and the encouragements that may be hoped for in the prosecution of it. Let it be circulated, not in our cities and towns only, but throughout the whole country, that it may tell to those who are living in well settled townships, as well as to those who are "roughing it in the bush," that there is in Ontario a Society whose object it is to send the Word of God without note or comment, to every village, to every farm, and to every shanty within the sphere of its operations.

Let them know that in seeking the accomplishment of this object, we are united. We are here of various denominations; I do not say of various creeds, for I scarcely think that would be true. We believe—we all believe—in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ, His only Son our Lord. We believe in the Holy Ghost, the Holy Catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Some of us, indeed, hold to the Prayer-book, and the Thirty-nine Articles as an ecclesiastical standard; and others of us to the Westminster Confession; and others to Wesley's Sermons; and others, to other expositions of doctrine and Church government. But, in all these various books, there are vital, fundamental truths common to us all; and of these truths, the grand repertory and storehouse is the Bible.

The visible church, it is true, is divided in our day. It was so when we came upon the scene; and we have found that it is not by formal, specific efforts in order to that end that the "walls of partition" are to be broken down. We do not glory in existing divisions. God forbid! With heart, and soul, and mind, we appropriate and adopt Christ's prayer, on behalf of His people, "that they all may be one"—not one in *spirit* and *faith* only, but one in a manifest union that all the world may see. Meanwhile, we bless God for what of unity of spirit He enables us to cherish, and for what of unity of purpose He enables us to exhibit.

"If," said the Bishop of London, at an Anniversary of the Parent Society some years ago—"If we belonged to the Papal Church, we should keep matters very quiet: we should take care that no one knew of our quarrels; and we should present the appearance of outward unity, when there was perhaps very little unity in our hearts." Now, the forced unity to which he referred, and which he deprecated, is not the unity that we long for. We long to be brought more and more under the influence of the Holy Spirit. We long to be more and more of one mind and of one heart, striving together for the