

REPORT.*

Gradually, yet surely, that day is drawing nigh when the knowledge of the Lord shall cover the land as the waters now cover the sea. In these latter days the voice of God has again proclaimed "Let there be light!" and the dark thunder clouds of wickedness and vice, the thick mists of ignorance and superstition, and the shadows of prejudice and indifference are vanishing away before the beams of the Son of Righteousness as reflected from that Book which He has given to man to be a lamp unto his feet and a light unto his paths.

Already the Italian reads the Book of God's Truth in the Eternal City, beneath the very shadow of the Vatican; the Greek turns over its sacred pages amid the ruins of Athens, on Mar's Hill; it blesses the Armenian merchant, and calms the fierce Malay; it is carried up the broad rivers to the teaming millions of China, and across the snowy plains and ice-clad hills to the scattered denizens of frozen Siberia; it draws tears from the eyes of those who breathe the spicy breezes of Ceylon's Isle; the African in his wild woods rejoices in its simple stories; the wandering child of Ishmael reads it beside his cooling fountains, beneath his shady palms; it has nerved the Malagasy for a faithful martyrdom, and it now rejoices his soul in the hour of his peace; the Hindoo yields to its spell beside Gunga's sacred stream, and no longer casts her babe to the foul river-god, but takes it to Him who said "of such is the Kingdom of Heaven;" and the daughters of Judah on the slopes of Olivet, on the banks of Kedron, within Salem's walls, weep over the story of the sufferings of Jesus for themselves and for their children.

*This Report was read at the annual meeting held on 2nd February, 1875.