

security—for the measure of prosperity with which he has blessed our land, and for the favourable circumstances in which our Dominion of Canada has been inaugurated. May our gratitude be practical in its character, and may we be all led to seek God's favour as our highest glory and distinction, and our great defence from evil. If we are only a people whose God is the Lord, we need not fear for the future.

For some seasons past the new year has been commenced with a week of prayer among God's people throughout the world; and no doubt many and precious benefits have been experienced in connexion with these exercises. The oneness of God's people has been realized; religion in churches and in individuals has been revived, and quickened. The hearts of missionaries struggling amidst great discouragements, and privations, have been cheered and comforted, and many results have been realized fitted to call forth the praises and thanksgiving of Christians. The Evangelical Alliance has issued an invitation for united prayer, during the week beginning on the first Sabbath of January. We publish it, as no doubt many of our congregations will avail themselves of the suggestions which it contains. The paper is signed by the Secretaries of the various branches of the Alliance throughout the world. The invitation is in the following terms:—

WEEK OF PRAYER THROUGHOUT THE WORLD.—JANUARY 5-12, 1868.

Our Gracious God lends an attentive ear to the supplications of his people. The records of individual, family, and church life, abundantly prove that believing prayer is followed by results that call forth gratitude and praise, and encourage renewed requests at the Throne of Grace.

In every land, and in most of the leading cities, the annual invitation of the Evangelical Alliance to observe the week of prayer at the commencement of the year has been largely and increasingly responded to.—Multitudes have united with one accord to implore, in the name, and relying on the merits and mediation of our Divine Lord, that the new year may be crowned with the goodness of God, and special blessings conferred both upon the Church and the world.

The Evangelical Alliance, by its British and foreign organization, renew their invitation for the opening of the year 1868. In doing so, they express their profound conviction that passing events are more than ever furnishing motives for a closer union among all true followers of Christ, and for the offering of faithful, importunate prayer for things pertaining to the spirituality and spread of the kingdom of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Fellow-Christians of every land and language: in the prospect of the weighty interests and great responsibilities of the new year, let us again draw near to the Heavenly Throne, that common centre for universal prayer, and prove the Lord of Hosts according to his own word, wherein it is written: "See if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it."

The following topics, among others, are suggested as suitable for exhortation and intercession on the successive days of meeting:

*Sunday, January, 5th.*—Sermons. Subject: The Person, Work, and Kingdom of our Lord Jesus Christ.

*Monday, 6th.*—Thanksgiving for special and general mercies during the past year, to nations, churches, and families; and confession of sin.

*Tuesday, 7th.*—Prayer for nations; for kings and all in authority; for the observance of the Lord's Day; for the removal of obstacles in the way of moral and religious progress; and for internal and international peace.

*Wednesday, 8th.*—Prayer for families; for schools, colleges, and universities; and for sons and daughters in foreign countries.