

the storm has burst and disappeared it may leave behind it, by the overruling providence of God, some good results towards the better understanding and the greater love of those inestimable Holy Scriptures. It is only amidst the changeable experiences of life, and especially in its darker and more trying hours, that we learn to know the value of that word of God. It is one of the consolations which any man may take to himself when he is called to pass through a time of darkness and trial, of pain and suffering, that it is then he will learn more fully, more deeply than he ever did before how dear are God's counsels to us, and how precious are the consolations of His truth. And surely the practical outcome of any such meeting as this, when we congregate together to promote the circulation of the Holy Scriptures, should be an earnest inquiry on our own parts whether we are so searching the Scriptures or learning to value and to love them as we ought to do; whether they are our delight and our counsellors, as they were to the Psalmist of old; whether we are not sometimes tempted to deal with them in, if I may so speak, a merely official way, discharging our consciences by reading an appointed portion of Scriptures without seeking to penetrate into its spiritual meaning, and to take it home to our own hearts. Every such meeting of the Bible Society as this should certainly have for one of its results not only the promotion of the great work which brings us here to-night—not only the support of a Society, for that is not really our object, it is to help the work of God—not only this, but that that word may have more influence, more effect, more power, and more fruit in our daily lives, that men may see, those who know us best, those who see us oftenest—that that word is having free course in our hearts, and helping us to glorify God in our lives. It is a happy coincidence for those who belong to the Church of England that the appointed lesson for this very evening ends with these words, with which I will close what I have to say, “Blessed are they that hear the word of God and keep it.”

ADDRESS BY REV. WILLIAM WRIGHT, D.D.,

EDITORIAL SUPERINTENDENT OF THE BRITISH AND FOREIGN BIBLE SOCIETY.

A meeting of great interest, in the interest of the British and Foreign Bible Society, was held in the Mansion House, London, on the 14th of April last, at which addresses were delivered by several distinguished speakers. The larger part of Dr. Wright's address is here presented:—

My lord, the city which you so worthily represent is undoubtedly the great commercial centre of the world. By genuine energy and British pith the greatest city the world has ever seen has been planted on the wet banks of our river. Your city is the creation of centuries. Your influence is the growth of ages. Your keels plough all rivers, your ships traverse all seas. Your agents distribute your produce in all markets. Your wants, and even luxuries, are supplied from every region on earth. You build the world's bridges, construct the world's railways, finance the world's governments, and when calamity befalls a people you come to the aid of the sufferers. Yours is a splendid heritage, a sacred trust for the little world here and the big world around.

By your side and in your midst the Bible Society has become the centre of the world's religious activities. British energy, and pith, and pluck, and perseverance, such as laid the foundations of your greatness, have been consecrated to the building up of an organization with foundations more stable and a wider range of influence than yours. Every forth-putting of your energies has provided new channels for the Society's operations. In whatever creek or ocean your vessels flap their white sails, or mark their course by trailing smoke, the Society's living messengers are there. You span the rivers for our messengers to pass over. You tunnel the mountains for our messengers to pass through. But our messengers have gone in advance of