

being a church without any literature of our own. We have had within a few years valuable contributions from Nova Scotia and Newfoundland, and we hail with much satisfaction the present one from New Brunswick.

ENGLISH STATESMEN ON MISSIONS.

It is one of the brightest traits in the character of Lord Strathford de Redcliffe, so long the English Ambassador at the Sublime Porte, that he was the friend of the Christian missionaries in Turkey. His advocacy of their cause, and of the cause of the Gospel, both in Turkey and in England, will be remembered and cherished in sympathetic hearts when his laurels, won in mere diplomacy, shall have faded. There have been many among the noble and honorable statesmen of England who have taken a similar stand in favor of the Bible, and of sending it to all parts of the world.

At a late meeting of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts the Right Hon. W. E. Gladstone, M. P., offered the following resolution: "That the success which has already, under God, attended the efforts of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts in those fields of labor, is a call and an encouragement for increased liberality on the part of Christians in aiding the support and extension of its missions;" and in the course of his remarks said:

Here in this little island what we inhabit, inferior in population to so many countries, inferior in size to every considerable country of the world, yet in two particulars excelling them all, excelling them in the extent of its colonial settlements, and likewise in the vast extent of its commercial operations: by our labor, skill and energy, by the invincible and resistless tendency to expansion which seems to be a property planted in this race beyond all other races in the world, you are continually putting forth in foreign lands agencies which are the source of great wealth and power to this country, but which likewise have another aspect. There is not a single commercial adventure which is undertaken in a foreign land, not a single ship dispatched, whether with emigrants or with a cargo to the remote parts of the earth, that does not, apart from the fulfilment of the designs and obligations connected with the immediate purpose of the voyage, entail another set of obligations also. You are possessed of other treasures besides the treasures that material industry can produce, and of those treasures it is your duty to make partakers the people with whom you enter into relations respecting

the goods and concerns of this life. It may be that in these times the faith of many has been shaken. I think that all must be sufficiently cognisant of what is going on in the world of thought and discussion at least to be aware that the period in which we live is a period of crisis for the Christian religion. But at the same time the strong conviction, I think, remains in our minds, our understandings and our consciences, that Christianity continues to be that which it has been heretofore, the great medicine for the disease of human nature, the great consolation for its sorrow, the great stay to its weakness, the main and only sufficient guide in the wilderness of the world. Somehow or other even those who may, upon intellectual grounds, be questioning many of its details, yet scarcely venture to impeach its moral authority and power. The Church and the religion of Christ are very old. They have endured for eighteen centuries. In the course of those eighteen centuries they have encountered many dangers. Many have been the times when the timid heart took fright, and when the unstable man anticipated to be overthrown. There were times in the early periods of the Church when a Pagan reaction threatened to overflow the territory that had been gained by the Gospel. There were times when superstition threatened to put out the light. There were times when the revival of Pagan learning threatened to seduce and draw away the whole Christian intellect of the world from the light of the Gospel and the worship of the Saviour. Therefore, do not let us suppose that the trial which has come upon this age is something wholly new and unheard of. Only let us wait a little. "He that believeth," we are told, "shall not make haste." Let us abide the issue. Let us see what all these objections and difficulties shall come to. But, while we are so abiding the issue, do not let us neglect or forget the duty of the day, to cope with even untold difficulties. This Gospel it seems to be the especial function of Englishmen to carry throughout the world; for I say that it is almost an elementary truth, almost a truism, to lay down this doctrine—that Christians, individual Christians, and a people of Christians, have positively no right to enter into social and civil relations with those parts of the world that are not Christians, and to decline to communicate to them the great treasure which they possess in the Christian religion, and without which all other treasures are valueless.

Sir Herbert Edwardes, K. C. B., lately addressed a large gathering of the clergy and gentry of Hertfordshire, at a lawn meeting held at Watton Woodhall, the seat of Mr. Abel Smith, M. P., controverting certain notions that had got abroad of the