

us, they say, one act by way of example, and that will go farther in producing imitation than ten thousand pages of precept. Influenced by this consideration, and earnestly desiring to promote the practise of the doctrines, which in much weakness I have endeavoured to advocate, I think I cannot do better, to prove my own sincerity in this matter, and thereby afford an example of imitation to others, than by requesting the Secretary to the institution to put my name down, as a subscriber in the sum of Five Pounds; and may the Lord be graciously pleased to accept of this my unworthy offering, and to cleanse my heart of all other motive, save his glory, and the establishment of the Redeemer's Kingdom.

With these remarks Sir, I beg to second the resolution proposed by the Rev. Mr. Gray.

The Rev. Mr. McGregor spoke nearly as follows—

Sir—I feel that I have perhaps done wrong in agreeing to take a part in the proceedings of this interesting evening—as I deeply feel my own inadequacy to advocate, in any suitable or effectual manner, the great cause of the Bible—I hope you will therefore ascribe the position which I now occupy before you—rather to my desire to testify to my fellow Christians of this place, my sincere and cordial approbation of their exertions—and my readiness to co-operate with them in the work—than to any conviction in my own mind that I possess the abilities of a competent or successful advocate. But while I feel my own weakness for the task, I feel that I am strong in the cause itself, which is at once the cause of God and of humanity—and in the persevering efforts which have been made, in behalf of the propagation of the holy Scriptures, by that venerable church whose commission I hold, to preach the gospel to every creature. For I cannot appear before you in this foreign city in support of the Bible Society, without fondly reverting to the land of my forefathers, which has sometimes not inappropriately been styled a land of Bibles—and though it may savour somewhat of boasting, I cannot refrain from subjecting myself to this charge, in stating to you some of those exertions which the Church of Scotland has put forth in behalf of the Word of God. To the honour of the reforming fathers of that Church it must be told, that while they themselves were exposed to the rage of a fierce and unrelenting persecution from an unfavourable government—while they could scarcely procure a scanty subsistence for themselves and their families—and while they were in continual danger of being driven from their homes and flocks to seek asylums in other lands—they successfully struggled, till they had obtained for the Bible the vantage ground of being admitted into the common schools of the country—in which it still forms the basis of the instructions communicated in them. This is more than can be said of any, so far as my knowledge extends of the other Ecclesiastical establishments of modern Christendom. But what has been the result of this general spread of the Scriptures among the people? I need scarcely say that the result has been cheering and happy in the extreme, so that through all the numerous parishes of the land, there are few houses indeed where the Bible is not a cherished inmate, and where the inhabitants cannot read and understand its contents. This has told happily upon the religious and moral habits of the people, and I only ask this intelligent Meeting to compare this state of things with that which prevails in France, falsely called enlightened—where according to the Report which has been read and adopted this evening—there are whole *communes*, where the diligent agents of the parent Society, the pious Colporteurs, cannot distribute the Society's Bibles because there are none who can read them—and where it would require more than 8000 schools to furnish the advantage of a common education to the mass of the people. This shows us Sir, something of the strength of our cause—for we can fearlessly go to the legislators of the earth—and with the Bible in our hands, we can say to them, here is an instrument, simple and cheap indeed—but which if you choose to adopt it, as the means of moral improvement among your people, under the blessing of God, will in course of time, displace the soldier with his musket, and the policeman with his pike—will save you much expenditure of money—and the punishment of many crimes—and diffuse knowledge, religion and virtue among all ranks of your subjects.

As allusion has already been made by one of the previous speakers to the door which has been opened in India for the spread of the Society's Bibles, I have much pleasure in informing this meeting that that door has, under the blessing of God, been opened chiefly by means of three princely establishments of Schools in Calcutta, Madras and Bombay, instituted and supported by the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland, and conducted by a noble band of zealous and talented missionaries—in which more than one thousand Hindoo youths are instructed, not as heretofore upon the merely intellectual and moral system of the East India Colleges, but upon Christian principles, and with the Bible as a text book—and it must

give satisfaction surely to every lover of the Bible, to learn that their parents throw no obstacle in their way, but rather seem anxious that they should be so educated. Let us then praise God that he has in his wise and holy providence, led to the adoption of a plan, which offers well to introduce the almost countless millions, of our fellow subjects in superstitious Hindoostan, to a knowledge of the Divine Scriptures, which alone can make them wise unto salvation.

But I am reminded that I have wandered from my province, as the resolution with which I have been entrusted refers me to the province of New Brunswick. You have already learned from the Report read by your Secretary, that this Auxiliary has been honoured of God to be successful in its exertions within the province for the past year. I am only sorry that my want of knowledge of facts, prevents me from going into details—but it must please all to know that his Excellency the Lieut. Governor has in the course of the year condescended, in imitation of his youthful Sovereign, to become the patron of this Society.—Let me only hope that this is a sign for good, and an indication of the approach of the times, when Kings and Queens shall become the nursing fathers and mothers of true religion, and when the sentiment shall be exploded that rulers have nothing to do with religion.—It is deserving of thanks to the Almighty, that a Ladies' Branch of this Auxiliary Society has been instituted at Richibucto, having in view especially the circulation of the Scriptures among the descendants of French settlers—and that the other Branches are still in active operation. Allow me, Sir to ask whether any endeavours or agencies are employed by this Auxiliary to reach the remnants of the native tribes which are scattered up and down through the Province—or whether there is any translation of the Bible fitted for their use? Allow me to ask also, whether there is any agency directed to the crews of the numerous ships, which visit our harbours during the season? and who are often neglectful of that pilot which can conduct them to the harbour of everlasting rest; or whether there is any directed to ascertain, and to supply the wants of the hundreds of immigrants who are annually landed upon our shores? These are objects, which I am of opinion, might be of importance to your Auxiliary to keep in view.

To conclude, several circumstances have tended to remind me forcibly this evening, that this is but the day of small things—when the Word of the eternal God is left, to make its way into the habitations of ignorance and poverty, by means of the humble agents whom he is pleased to employ.—Let us fervently hope that he, who employs the instrumentality of the smallest and most insignificant insects, to rear up from the bottom of the ocean, whole islands and continents for the reception and habitation of man, is forming by means of these humble instruments, a glorious Church for himself in the earth, which is destined to embrace in its compass the great and the mighty ones of the world—when its kingdoms shall become the kingdoms of our Lord and his Christ—and when the Bible instead of being clandestinely admitted, shall be hailed by enlightened and regenerated nations as the best gift which they can receive from heaven—Let us not relax in our efforts till the knowledge of the Lord shall cover the earth, as the waters do the channel of the sea.

INTERESTING EXTRACTS.

THORNS AMONGST THE WHEAT.

"Madam, there is no hope," said the physician to the weeping wife, as he was taking his departure; "I will not deceive you; there is no hope."

When the physician had departed, and she that was so soon to become a widow, was left alone with her dying husband, she felt it her duty to communicate the mournful intelligence to him, that his mind might be more earnestly directed to that state he was so soon to enter. He had been a professor of religion, had attended divine service, and kept up domestic worship regularly; and to the world he appeared, and he believed himself to be a devout man; but the hour was now come when all self-deception was to be rent away, when the truth of his profession was to be put to the test, and then he was weighed in the balance and found wanting. And why? The word had been sown; it had not fallen by the way-side; nor did his religion appear to be the religion of a moment or an hour. The seed had evidently taken root, it had sprung up, and the eyes of men beheld it, at a distance, apparently green and flourishing; but it was growing amongst thorns, and the cares of this world and the deceitfulness of riches had choked the word; and when the sower sought for fruit, it was found unfruitful.

Yes; the deceitfulness of riches was his ruin. Day after day had he knelt at the family altar, and poured his prayer for daily bread; and then, rushing into the pursuits of business and accumulating wealth, had seen around him the hungry, but had not fed them—

the naked, but had not clothed them—the sick, but had not ministered unto them. No; absorbed in the accumulation of riches, and engrossed in the cares of business, his eye, if not absolutely averted from, was never directed to, the widow and the orphan; and his heart, exulting in the success of his business and the thriving state of his affairs, had forgotten to listen to the cry of the needy. He had oppressed no one; he had rendered to every one his due, and his integrity was unquestioned; he was indeed, as the world terms it, a respectable, a highly respectable man; and as he rose in wealth, so he rose in the esteem of his acquaintances.

And he was now a rich man; his thoughts had been all directed to this end, and he was successful; but could the contemplation of his riches afford him pleasure now? When his wife had told him that all hope was gone, and that he must soon be summoned to give an account of his stewardship, what consolation could his riches afford him? O, in the contemplation of eternity, how worthless did the things of time appear! and that heap of gold his life had been dedicated to collecting, what dross did it then seem! And how gladly, how joyfully, would he have parted with it now for the good of his fellow creatures, could he have done it! Had he then but an opportunity of doing good, how gladly would he have embraced it! But no; the summer was past, the harvest was ended; the opportunity once granted and rejected, was now denied.

And this, it is to be feared, will be the case with many. The young, who are rising in life, and whose aim is to acquire a competence and independence, had need to take care lest this form the chief end of their existence; lest the deceitfulness of increasing wealth, the excitement of business, or the cares of the world, should overcome them, and make their religion, a religion of theory, not of action; but let them recollect they must be judged according to their works, and that an account of their stewardship will be demanded; let them remember they are sent into the world to act a part in it, and that part for the benefit of their fellow-creatures; let them recollect, that in the parable of the last judgment, in Matt. xxv. they who were condemned, were condemned not for sins of commission, but for those of omission. Let them take heed and beware. Let each one who professes to love the gospel of Christ show it by actions, show it by promoting to the utmost the spread of that Gospel, show it by joining with heart and hand in those religious and benevolent institutions that are rising up on every side of us; by visiting the cottages of the poor, ministering to their wants, and relieving their distresses; by giving his assistance towards implanting in the children of the poor, knowledge and the fear of God; in short, by labouring strenuously on every side, while health and strength are spared.—Let him be assured, that unless his religion produces some good to his fellow-creatures, there is something defective in it. Thorns of some sort are growing up with the seed, and, unless eradicated, will choke it. Hasten then to Christ, for strength to eradicate these thorns, that fruit may be produced, lest you should at length be compelled in anguish to exclaim, "The harvest is past, the summer is ended, and I am not saved."—*Boston Recorder.*

MANIFESTATIONS OF THE GOODNESS OF GOD.

The whole scene of nature and providence is fitted to arrest, and to fix our attention upon Him who ruleth over all, and who is everywhere present, beholding the evil and the good. The morning proclaims his loving kindness and the evening his faithfulness. The varied seasons of the rolling year all speak of him. Whether it be the howling blasts of winter, or the gentle opening of the budding spring—the gay luxuriance of blooming summer, or the abundant riches of gathering autumn, that draw our attention to God, all direct us to lift the hymn of gratitude to His name who has fixed their ordinances with a regularity that shall endure so long as the earth remains. The universe is replete with the evidences of his presence—the traces and manifestations of his divine perfections. When you look to the heavens you behold the magnificence of his creative and constructive power, in those vast systems, receding into endless space, which perform in immeasurable fields their majestic and ceaseless revolutions. When you walk abroad through nature's landscapes, each scene of loveliness that meets your eye—each object of interest that fixes your attention—all the organization and beauty that you admire, whether in things animate or inanimate—the very flowers of the earth, the grass of the field, or the insect that almost eludes your observation, as it fulfils its ephemeral destiny—all proclaim to you the being and the perfections of him who is the universal Parent of all; and whose every work reveals him to be excellent in working and wonderful in counsel.

But instead of telling you where you may find God, let us rather ask, Where is he not? Can you flee from his presence, or hide yourselves from his Spi-