

may be followed by the most effectual consequences. The noble lord who addressed you some time since, alluded to the fact that even in Pagan times, and in the early poetic description of the establishment of a colony, religious considerations formed a prominent feature in colonization. That was founded upon the certain general rule, that Religion is implanted by the Divine Creator in the mind of every man. Some err, some have not the light at all, some pervert the true light; but Religion exists in the minds of all. It will be, I trust, at the present moment, a characteristic attribute of this country amongst others, to exert our national energies, as far as is possible, to spread that true light which has so eloquently to-day been said to be entrusted almost peculiarly to the people of this realm. At this moment you have been enabled to perform great works in this respect. The Bishops of the West Indies have been already spoken of. To-day you have had the great advantage of hearing the eloquent and zealous piety of one of them. A Christian Bishop has been established in Jerusalem,—an English Bishop in the Mediterranean; there are now, also, the Bishops of Quebec, Toronto, Nova Scotia, New Zealand, and of Australia; there is scarcely any part of the world in which, through the instrumentality of this great nation, the Gospel of Christ has not been propagated and is in the course of further propagation. There is no part of the world in which this cheering view is not to be seen;—India and America have properly been alluded to; barbarism is receding from Africa; China, heretofore sealed to strangers, is at the present moment open to you—social intercourse and commerce in the van, Religion and the Gospel follow in their train; and there is no part of the globe in which English commerce, English industry, English exertion, English enterprise, and the English language are spread, in which the light of the Gospel has not also shed its pure and civilizing light. You have, therefore, now the strongest possible reason for combining those exertions which have been followed by such fruits, and at the present moment, seizing the opportunity when the great dispensations of Providence seem to have opened such a wide field for the exercise of your apparently commissioned energies.

Many of the most influential, both in this country and abroad, of the Jews, our elder brethren, the keepers of the oracles of God, have renounced the rabbinical dogmas—the traditions of men, the error attributed to them by Divine authority in the day of their redemption; freed now from persecution and civil disabilities, they mingle with the mass of society, and are the most forward in works of charity and benevolence. The peculiar tenets of the Romish branch of the Catholic Church are, partly by their own proceedings, and partly by other circumstances, brought now so prominently before the world, that they cannot but yield to the test of Scripture and the Divine truth. The Greek Church is much in a similar position,—and the varieties of superstition which pervaded a large portion of the world are gradually receding, and yielding to a better dispensation.

Again, my Lord, allow me to add one other consideration upon this point. We all deplore the religious differences and dissensions which have lately existed and still in part exist amongst us. Let us consider