

3. **INNOVATIONS.**—Changes are not to be blindly resisted as if everything new were necessarily evil; but neither are changes to be eagerly sought after, as if the old were worthless and the new the only pleasant way. We cannot view with any other feelings than indignation and contempt the attempts, elaborate and persistent, in sections of the Church of England to introduce the puerile peculiarities of the Church of Rome. Still more pitiful is the attempt on the part of some Presbyterians to deck themselves in the trumpery forms and ornaments of a superannuated ritualism. The command of God's Word is "Let everything be done decently and in order." Our places of worship should be neat, elegant and commodious. Our modes and forms of worship should be in accordance with those principles of taste which God himself has established. If we are true to those principles there will be less scope for the innovator among us.

4. **MISSIONS.**—A considerable class of travellers and men of science have, within the past year, been loud in their denunciations of Missions. They declare that the races of men are distinct and different, and that the religion which suits one race will prove injurious to another. Thus, they assert, christianity has been the source of incalculable injury to the natives of Africa, Polynesia, and other parts of the world.

This assault might fairly be looked for. The argument in favour of the truth of christianity, from the success and the beneficent influence of modern missions is irrefragable. It is stronger and more telling than a thousand syllogisms and *a priori* arguments. The infidel of a century ago ridiculed the idea of sending the gospel to any but a highly civilized people. Christians sent the gospel to Africa and Polynesia and the astonishing success which has crowned faithful labours in those regions is the best possible refutation of the old infidel sneers and arguments. A last resort has been to deny the truthfulness of the reports of Missionaries; but this did not succeed. Men stood out to testify to the truth whose honesty could not be doubted. Be it ours to make the argument for

our Master's cause still more cogent, and the confusion of his enemies still more complete. The success of the gospel among the heathen is the most cheering sign of the times. To the christian nothing can be more welcome than tidings of Emanuel's triumphs where his name has hitherto been unknown; to the infidel nothing can be more embarrassing and confounding.

There is abundant encouragement to work for Christ. We are invited, urged, commanded thus to work. 'The Lord hath need of all that we can do for him. He requires us not merely to be sound in the faith, to hold fast the form of sound words, but to translate our faith, our orthodoxy, into action.

ADDRESS

To the Children of the Presbyterian Church of Lower Provinces

BY REV. JAMES WADDELL.

Once I was familiarly acquainted with many of the lambs of our ecclesiastical flock, and much pleasing intercourse have I had with them both in the domestic and social fold. Many of them are now lambs no longer, but I hope they do not forget the scenes and lessons of their youth. Others have arisen in their places whom I have never seen, but with whom I covet to hold correspondence. Brothers and sisters who remember me, will tell them who I am—fathers and mothers will give me access to them, because they know I love them and seek to do them good—and where I am personally unknown the *Record* will kindly give me introduction, and make way for the message which I bring.

Well then, my dear young friends, I greet you in the name of our common Lord, and remind you that you are highly favored among children. From very childhood you learn to know the Holy Scriptures, to hear that Jesus loves you, to see how richly he provides for you, and how condescendingly he offers to employ you, and make you co-workers with him in carrying out his "Father's business." Ye have read "out of the mouths of babes and sucklings thou hast