

kindred origin may gather, and by means of an organization as simple as it is inoffensive, may form a closer acquaintance either with other, and promote the best interests either of other.

I could wish that Englishmen would in greater number join themselves to the St. George's Society ; and that the actual members of the Society would by increased exertion, enlarge the scope of its aims, and extend its influence for good.

In requesting your contributions this day, I will venture to use an argument, which, strangely as such a statement may sound, I have always hitherto forborne to employ. On five different occasions I have pleaded the cause of the Society, and in spite of good humoured intreaties and remonstrances have declined to avail myself of the latitude which seems to be tacitly conceded to the preacher, and have refused to make out a case of need when I felt that there was rather cause for gratulation. I may hope, therefore, that you will believe me sincere when I now beg you to add, and in no niggard spirit, to the amount of the gift which you had purposed to offer. I will mention in few words whence the present need has arisen. The collection after the last Anniversary Sermon was, as you may remember, devoted to the support of the Victoria Hospital. It was then thought that this sum might be spared with comparatively little inconvenience ; but, owing to whatever cause, such proved to be the pressure of the times, and such the extent of distress, that in the earlier part of the winter, the Charitable Fund was exhausted ; and but for the disinterested kindness of the President of the Society, and of the Secretary of the Charitable Committee, several urgent and most truly deserving cases would have been unrelieved. Let this fact plead with you, and with an eloquence all its own.

My Brethren : I am persuaded better things of you than to suppose that you need to be lured to benevolence by any arts of popular preaching. I am sure that you will not hesitate to supply what is lacking, and all the more cheerfully at this time, when you are fain to present to the God of Nations some not unsuitable tribute for that His Mercy displayed in the restoration of peace, of peace fraught with such promise of renewed and enlarged and abiding prosperity to the land—Give then, as mindful of this, and not unmindful of all those other manifold and undeserved blessings which you have received : and may He, who loveth the cheerful giver, so stir up your wills, that plenteously bringing forth the fruit of good works, you may of Him be plenteously rewarded ! The good Lord grant it ! Even so, for His own name's sake.—Amen and Amen.