

stand still, and the thousands who were wont to earn their subsistence in the huge manufactories in Britain, are unemployed, and are now dependent on these supplies which charity provides. Who can tell the sufferings which many have endured and are still enduring? Patiently have these sufferers submitted to their privations. Most exemplary and noble has been their conduct under their distresses. In many places deep religious feeling appears to prevail among the unemployed operatives, while they attend with commendable regularity on classes for their improvement. It becomes us even in this more remote part of the British Empire to feel that it is our duty and our privilege to contribute, according to our means, for their relief. Most appropriate was the recommendation of our Moderator to take up collections for this purpose on the Thanksgiving day. Every locality, yea, every individual will, we trust, contribute cheerfully for the aid of the suffering. And while we give of our means let us add our prayers that God would, in His providence, arrest the present war, which is attended by so sad effects on either side of the Atlantic; and that He would comfort and uphold the poor and needy, and sanctify for the good of all the present crisis. Everything is in His hand, and He can make all things to work together for good.

The year which is past saw another great gathering of the nations, for the purpose of advancing the progress of the nations in all the useful arts and manufactures. Although there were many drawbacks, especially the removal of him who had mainly originated the enterprize, and the sad gloom of the royal raourner, it is confessed that the meeting was crowned with success. There is good reason for congratulation and encouragement that so much was done in connexion with the Exhibition for the dissemination of the Word of God among the strangers then gathered together, and for bringing the Gospel into contact with those who otherwise might never have heard it. May these efforts be made, through the influences of the Spirit, productive of permanent good!

The march of freedom has been, we believe, onward during the past year. Amidst some discouragements and drawbacks the cause of civil and religious liberty has been maintained in Italy. Even in Austria the bands of absolutism and of oppression appear to be relaxing. Spain is almost the only country in which no progress appears to have been made. There religious bigotry and tyranny are still predominant. But even in Spain, while the government is as exclusive and as persecuting as ever, we rejoice to believe that the light of the Word of God is penetrating hither and thither among the masses. On this side the Atlantic, too, the cause of freedom has made progress, and, whatever be the issue of that great struggle in which the neighboring republic is engaged, we believe that God in His providence is hastening on the time when the yoke of oppression shall be broken, and when liberty shall be recognised and enjoyed, without regard to race or color, or any outward distinction.

Religion has been, on the whole, advancing during the past year. In many places of Britain and Ireland there have been religious movements without much excitement or outward demonstration, but with extensive and beneficial influences. Midnight meetings for the fallen; special efforts for other classes, both in the higher and lower grades of society have been diligently kept up; and there is reason to believe that many have been spiritually benefited. Our