

unwilling to refuse an application, from a fit recipient of their bounty, while there is room.

Now, in asking at your hands this assistance, I know I am asking that which may be able to procure you much present gratification; but in withholding it, will you not be acting cruelly towards yourselves? will there be no misgivings now, and accusations hereafter? will it satisfy you, if you keep for yourselves what might have covered the naked and fed the hungry; will it be pleasant to you to know, that you might have comforted the sorrowing and the destitute, but you turned away to your own pleasures and your own gratifications? or will it not rather be infinitely more delightful, that you now listen to the cry of the aged, and the widow and the orphan, and though it be at some expense of present selfishness, that you have their *prayers for you*, rather than their *reproaches against you*, May God direct you by His Spirit.