

Jesus: and may happily also, in a day of merciful visitation, win some to embrace and obey it.

We may yet again briefly advert to the importance of the **RELIGIOUS CULTURE OF THE YOUNG**, in connexion with another great duty—**THE PROMOTING THE ADVANCEMENT OF THE KINGDOM OF THE SAVIOUR**. The children now on the breasts of their mothers, and around our tables, and the youths acquiring the rudiments of learning, and the arts and occupations of life, must very soon take the place and the stations in the Church and in the State, of the present generation of men and women. Of what infinite moment, then, is it, that our children should be imbued with the fear of God, and love to the Saviour—in a word, regenerated! And, on what instrumentality does this blessed result so much depend, as Parental instruction? We would have the fathers and mothers then, who hear or read these lines, deliberately to consider that it is with them, through the promised blessing of our Heavenly Father, on the right exercise of their influence and authority in their households, to give an increase of active and useful members to the Church of God.

If our population shall henceforth increase at a rate only the half of what it has done, since the territory was divided into two Provinces, then, ere the youths of our day shall have reached their threescore and ten years, the Upper Province alone will contain a population of seven millions of souls. How solemn the thought, that ere long, on a land that was but recently a wilderness, so large an addition is to be made to the Kingdom of God's Dear Son, or to the kingdom of the Prince of darkness!—And, who that knows the natural tendency of men to profligacy of principle and practice, and observes the many in-

fluences of an evil kind that are now in vigorous operation in forming the character of this youthful community, and observes also—we say this with sorrow—how feebly Christian influence has yet been put forth by ourselves, or any other Church, to bring individuals under the reign of Christ, and mould the public mind to virtue—will not anticipate the future with the deepest solicitude? The regeneration of individuals and nations is indeed the direct result of the Divine Spirit; and yet, like any of the beneficial changes that take place in the natural world, it is in all cases brought about through the application of suitable means: and hence we do certainly infer, that unless there shall be found amongst us increased activity and zeal on the part of the Church of God, together with a more vigorous exercise of Christian influence, through the **PRESS, EDUCATION, and LEGISLATION**, then, there must inevitably ensue a rapid increase of spiritual ignorance and error, superstition and infidelity, with their sure accompaniments—licentiousness, fraud, violence, and anarchy. **BELOVED BRETHREN**, let all of us, Ministers, Elders and People, do our part; we may do much to avert these evils, and promote the reign of the Prince of Peace. Let us study to know “the love of God, which passeth all understanding,” the “unspeakable gift of God,” which is Christ the life of the world, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, who quickens and sanctifies all the elect of God, and then, shall we present our very selves “living sacrifices to God,” and improve our many opportunities for the advancement of His cause in this land.

We specially commend to your countenance and support the Missionary undertakings of your several Presbyteries. Grudge not the occasional absence of your Ministers when they may be sent