

owe its advancement in wealth—in civilization—its beneficent laws—its increased order, and the mutual confidence that binds the people together?

England has no natural advantages either in soil or in climate—and the sun which it is said never sets on her dominions seldom deigns to shine on her. How is it then that she stands peerless amongst the nations of Europe to-day, while Spain and Italy and sunny France are degraded by superstition, or covered with the leprosy of infidelity, or just awakening to the first dawn of freedom? How is it that England has long ago shaken off Barbarism and Ignorance and Superstition, as Paul shook off the viper into the fire? How is it that when all Europe tottered with the storms that swept over it like a mighty flood, England knew not of it, save in the spent spray, which dashed in harmless anger on her shore? France and England ninety years ago were both alike exhausted—why was it that while France drifted into the anarchy of the revolution, England stayed herself nobly by her faith? After a few more soul-stirring sentiments, Dr. Punshon concluded his admirable speech.

4th Resolution,—Moved by the Rev. Wm. Reid, M.A.; seconded by the Rev. Alexander Sutherland.

“That the hearty thanks of this meeting be presented to the Trustees of Knox Church for its use on Sabbath forenoon last; to the Trustees of this Church for its use on the present occasion; and to the organist and choir for their valuable services in connection with this annual meeting.”

5th Resolution,—Moved by the Rev. Egerton Ryerson, LL.D.; seconded by Daniel Wilson, Esq., LL.D.

“That the sincere thanks of this assembly be given to the President of the Society, the Hon. G. W. Allan, for the dignified and courteous manner with which he has presided over the business of this annual meeting.”

After the singing of the Doxology, the benediction was pronounced by the Very Rev. Dean Grasett.

ANNIVERSARY SERMON.

Preached by the Rev. ALEXANDER TOPP, D.D., in Knox Church, Toronto, on Sunday, the 4th May.

“He shall see of the travail of His soul, and shall be satisfied.”—ISAIAH liii. 11.

In these few but comprehensive words, the prophet, writing by divine inspiration, brings before us the grand object on which the heart of the Son of God is fixed with reference to this world, I mean the salvation of his spiritual seed, and at the same time the assurance that He shall not be disappointed therein; that He shall be fully satisfied with the attainment of it; that His labours shall be crowned with ultimate and complete success. There are thus presented to us the strongest motives and obligations and encouragements to cherish the same spirit, and with all our hearts to countenance and further those Missionary Institutions, and Bible Societies, and Scriptural means, which have for their end the promotion of that work for which the Redeemer of mankind suffered, and agonized and died.

The whole of this chapter from which our text is taken is prophetic, or rather, I should say, descriptive of the sufferings and death, and subsequent triumphs of Messiah. For whilst it is the grand design of all the writings of the prophets to testify beforehand of the sufferings of Christ, and the glory which should follow, there are none of them that come up at all to the prophet Isaiah in the rich and full disclosures which he was privileged to make of the events of Gospel times—neither in any part of his own writings do we meet with so minute and accurate and affecting an account of the Saviour's humilia-