

directed to some great and new interposition which, in God's own way and time, took effect, disappointing both the national ambition of the Jews and the subtle and fastidious philosophy of the Greeks, but proving then and in all the ages which have followed, *to them that believe, the power of God and the wisdom of God* manifested in Christ.

The survey of scenes now passing upon the theatre of the world, presents questions, engenders speculations, excites expectations, with which, as teachers of Religion, as *scribes instructed unto the kingdom of heaven* and qualified to *bring out of their treasure things new and old*, we ought to be prepared to deal. Wonderful, most wonderful are the times in which our lot is cast. I could say nothing new, nothing original, nothing but what suggests or rather what forcibly presents itself to every observing and serious mind and must often, I doubt not, have formed the subject of your own monitions to your flocks,—were I to occupy your time in dwelling upon the amazing improvements of the age,—taken in conjunction with the political movements and social changes of the world,—in their ordained effect, as we must devoutly believe, upon the loftiest interests of man and upon the progress of the kingdom of God, travelling on to its predicted universality of conquest. Your attention, my Reverend brethren, cannot possibly require to be directed to the *religious* consequences which must be anticipated from all those new and still multiplying marvels which we witness in the facilities,—*first*, of communication over the surface of the globe, promising, in their progressive operation, to afford the means of bringing into familiar and easy intimacy all the branches of this vast family of man, and *next*, of the transmission of intelligence in such a manner as to make the knowledge of all that is passing in each part of the world, the property, in a manner, of the whole, in a single day. We all feel that the contemplation is, in itself, of an overpowering character; and if we fix our regards, at the same time, upon the breaking up or the loosening, in conspicuous instances, of inveterate usage and immemorial prescription in many countries of the East,—so as to prepare the minds of men for foregoing, in other and higher points, their hereditary prejudices and for *admitting the principle of change*,—if we mark the heaving of whole empires, if we look