

corruptions nor invest him with moral purity and power. Is there then no cause for fear, lest we educate a generation of intelligent readers to be the prey of destructive error? Is it not sad to think of so many being trained to revel in a Christless literature. It is said "men will be like their books; if therefore the literature be pure, healthful and fraught with wisdom, the people will rise in moral excellence—but if it be frivolous, false and corrupting—the people will be perverse and immoral." Who then can doubt that the dissemination of a sanctified literature is of vital importance to the interests of religion and morality?

A sanctified literature is possible—Christ is the God of Nature and of Revelation—His is the world of matter—his is the world of mind. There is no branch of true science, no work of useful literature which may not be united to religion. Faith and philosophy are not enemies by nature. They are both children of the light and of the day, and were designed to walk hand in hand through the world. But men have often put asunder what God hath joined together. Philosophy finds in revelation the noblest of her maxims—literature the grandest and sublimest subjects, and poetry the loftiest of her themes. "Human language cannot be summoned to convey anything that is more sublime, awakening or pathetic, than the themes of religion;" and to carry those truths home to every human bosom is a work which may well engage the highest intellect and the noblest pen. It is gratifying to find men of sanctified intellect, the princes in Israel, devoting their energies to the work of giving to the world a literature, baptized with the influences of the gospel, and the duty of the church is to use the powerful resources in the form of talent and wealth at her command, and to lay hold vigorously on that powerful agent the *Press*, so that we may have not only religious biographies, and doctrinal and practical treatises of a religious character, but also the larger and smaller works of science, the cheap as well as the high priced periodical—the journals which treat of common things and the engrossing topics of the day as well as those taken up with the philosophic essay all leavened throughout with the principles of christian truth; works which will sanction no principle which the word of God condemns, and by which, if vice be portrayed, the impression produced will be "there is no peace to the wicked." This is the object kept in view by the Religious Book and Tract Society—a society which