

call to repent and do the first works, and seek by constant prayer and cordial striving together for the faith of the Gospel to rebuild your waste places, and maintain among yourselves the continuous and regular dispensation of the ordinances of Divine grace; and it is just possible that I might have given expression to some fear lest anything should occur to cause divisions and offences among you contrary to the directions which ye have learned, and prevent you for a time at least from going up together to the house of the Lord. Now I am privileged, and I bless God that it is so, to address you in the language of congratulation and thanksgiving, and to join you in giving praise to God that you have, so far, been enabled, in one spirit and one mind, to strive together for the faith of the Gospel, and have been indulged to obtain the object of your choice as the ambassador of Christ to you—that to-day your eyes see your teacher, and that you have the prospect of the permanent enjoyment of fellowship with Christ and with each other in the public institutions of his grace.

This day is to you full of interest, solemnity and responsibility, and they who are set over you in the Lord, are with you to guide your exercise, administer to you fitting counsels, and join you in your prayers. I need not say it would afford me pleasure to be with you, too; and you will not consider me obtrusive when, even in the midst of your services, I come to you in this manner, and bid you God speed in your new arrangements.

Your mutual duties as minister and people will be set before you, and pressed upon your attention by those who are in authority over you; and I have every confidence in your young Pastor that he comes to you an earnest and a faithful labourer, and will declare to you the counsel of God. Receive him as his Master's servant and your servant for Jesus' sake, and give earnest heed to the word from his mouth.

Let the Word of God come to you with authority as the rule of your lives. The question for you to consider in relation to Christian duty is not what others do, nor what you would like to do, but what the Lord requires you to do. He may, he will demand of you often that which it is difficult to accomplish, but he will not require of you anything that he has not promised to enable you to perform. Trust Him and remind Him of His promises. Where your own weakness leads you in contemplation of arduous duty to exclaim Who is sufficient for these things, remember that our sufficiency is of God, and agonize and persevere, pray till you are made more than conquerors through him that hath loved us. Feel that you are a peculiar people, a chosen generation, and that you are set as lights

in the the world, and are as a City set upon a hill that cannot be hid. Have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness. Let the resolution of Joshua be a ruling principle of your lives, and say, as for me and for my house we will serve the Lord. Walk in the statutes and ordinances of the Lord blameless, and say to all around you, both by precept and example, We are journeying to the place of which the Lord hath said, I will give it you—come with us and we will do you good. Now the God of peace that brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is well pleasing in His sight through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen.

From yours, ever affectionately,
JAMES WADDELL.

British American Book and Tract Society.

The Fourth Annual Report of this Society is now published and exhibits an amount of work accomplished, and a degree of prosperity enjoyed, that cannot but prove gratifying to every friend of evangelical religion. The Society was formed in 1867, with a capital of about \$3000. By means of this capital, with the aid of Colportage, and through the Depository, the Society has distributed Religious Publications, by sale and grant to the amount of more than \$70,000, including 48,826 Bibles and Testaments, nearly 600,000 Religious Periodicals, 6,000,000 pages of Tracts, and scores of thousands of the best religious books published.—With the additional aid of the sum annually contributed for Colportage more than TWENTY-EIGHT YEARS of labor have been performed, and nearly 70,000 Family Visits made by the Colporteurs of this Society. They distributed Bibles and other religious publications to the amount of \$28,315.76—1,561.59 of which were given away gratuitously.

Last year the receipts of the Society from all sources amounted to \$30,487. The expenditure amounted to \$30,178. Two million pages of tracts were distributed last year. Probably there were never so many Bibles and Testaments distributed in one