

shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard? And how shall they hear without a preacher? And how shall they preach, except they be sent?" Sending teachers without the Bible was the error of the the Church of Rome; sending Bibles without men to preach the gospel is an error among many who call themselves Protestants in our age. It is, we are aware, objected by many, that the Churches composing this Association, are not able to do any thing for Foreign Missions—that Christians in this Country have nothing to spare. But we will not believe them until all their earrings and finger rings, their gold seals and silver plate are converted into coin, and cast into the treasury of the Lord—until their dress shall be divested of every useless appendage—until they indulge in no article of diet which is not necessary to healthful sustenance, and until not an hour shall be spent by them in idleness in which they might be usefully employed. It is objected by others, that God requires not our gold, or silver, or property, but our hearts, and the life of prayer. Such persons, however, forget that heart religion and covetousness are inconsistent with each other, and that prayer without effort by them who have it in their power to do any thing, is but solemn mockery of Him who accomplishes his purposes by human agents. And who, with the word of instruction in his hands, can avoid the conviction that God claims a part of what he has given us to support his cause, and that the treasures of the earth will one day be converted to his service? Almost as often as the Old Testament speaks of the Messiah's reign, the consecration of the world's wealth forms a part of the subject. "To him shall be given of the gold of Sheba. Surely the Isles shall wait for me, and the ships of Tarshiah first, to bring thy sons from afar, their silver and their gold with them, unto the name of the Lord thy God. Kings shall bring presents unto him—they shall bring gold and silver unto his kingdom. They shall bring the glory and the honor of the Nations." Wealth, which for ages has robbed God of his glory, and in so many idolatrous forms been erected in his stead, shall be brought to his altar, "an odour of sweet smell, a sacrifice acceptable and well pleasing to God." How important is it for us, then, dear Brethren, to look on all our possessions as the property of Christ, and to do what we can for the promotion of his kingdom and the glory of his name! Time is short. Next year our tongues may be employed in celestial praises, and our substance in the hands of others. What remains, then, but that we dedicate ourselves and our all, to advance the cause of him, who loved us and washed us from our sins in his own precious blood? To whom be glory, honor and dominion for ever and ever, amen.