

the fire of the chemist, nor the telescope of the astronomer, nor the development of any or of all science. The Bible professes to teach the science of salvation and the art of serving God. The most herculean efforts to crush it have failed. This Book is wonderful in the intensity of its friends and in the virulence of its foes. It has had a history almost miraculous. Fire could not consume it. Water could not drown it. Infidelity could not overthrow it; and all forms of opposition have had to confess its indestructibility. The Bible is changeless amid the mutations of all things earthly. "The Word of the Lord endureth forever." The Bible can hardly meet in the future greater opposition than in the past. The loftiest and most gigantic Goliaths of Scepticism and Atheism, have confronted this meek but heroic David, and they have fallen with many a mortal wound. Why have we a Bible? Because there was a Saviour to reveal. Why have we a Bible Society? Because man needs to know of the life, and love, and power of Jesus Christ, and the Bible is the infallible revelation of Him. This society sends it forth not because the Bible is a book of beautiful biography, of ancient history, of profound philosophy, of exquisite poetry, of and of unequalled literature,—does this society send it forth to all lands and peoples. The Bible Society is not blind to the literary attractions of the Book. Its beauties of thought and style have entranced the friends of the Bible Society. But it is sent forth because it testifies of Christ. They know in sending it that they are sending the "Desire of all Nations." They are sending light for the world's darkness, joy for the world's sorrow, hope for the world's despair, medicine for the world's healing, pardon for the world's guilt, and life for the world's death. O Book of God! O testimony of Jesus Christ! Thou art more precious than rubies. Thou comest to us breathing benedictions innumerable and inestimable. We think of thy doctrines and promises and of the help and comfort thou hast been to the generations which have passed on before us. Under thy shadow our fathers were screened from the scorching sun. At thy fountain they drew the water of life with joy. In life's temptations thou didst succour them, in life's duties thou didst strengthen them, in life's sorrows thou didst comfort them, and in life's last hour they heard thy voice saying unto them: "Let not your heart be troubled." What thou hast been to our fathers thou art and will be to us, their children. Of thee, this is our testimony:

This Book unfolds Jehovah's mind,
 This Voice salutes in accents kind,
 This Friend will all our need supply,
 This Fountain sends forth streams of joy,
 This Mine affords us boundless wealth,
 This Good Physician gives us health,
 This Sun renews and warms the soul,
 This Sword both wounds and makes us whole,
 This Letter shews our sins forgiven,
 This Guide conducts us safe to Heaven,
 This Charter has been sealed with blood,
 This Volume is the Word of God.

The hymn "Lord of All Power and Might" was then sung, and the collection taken up.

It was then moved by Colonel Moffatt, seconded by Dr. Hodgins, and unanimously carried, "That the hearty thanks of this meeting be presented to the pastor and trustees of this church for its use on the present occasion, and to the precentor for his valuable services in connection with this annual meeting.

The meeting was closed with the benediction pronounced by the Rev. Dr. Castle.