

things as they are, and so to deal with them as to effect His object in a way accommodated to them, as well as worthy to himself?—What is this but saying that a father must communicate with his children, not according to his own powers and attainments, but according to their capacities and circumstances? Is it not simply what is said of our Lord, “With many such parables spake he the word unto them, as they were able to bear it?” (Mark iv. 33.)”

God’s Book, as becomes it, speaks constantly in His name—claims to be a message from Him, and is felt to be such by all devout hearts. It is the infallible, the only rule of faith; plain and explicit: opposed to vain traditions and human authority on the one hand, and on the other soaring high above the mere light of nature. Much of it is *Revelation*, the opening up of truths of which otherwise we should be inevitably ignorant; while much more is the record of human history written equally under the guidance of God’s Spirit.

The proofs that the Bible is God’s inspired Word are numerous and irrefragable—ancient manuscripts, ancient quotations, the universal consent of those who alone were in a position to testify—the unapproachable excellence of the writings: these and other cogent proofs are at hand to repel the adversary. But the one proof ever available, ever satisfactory, and infinitely valuable is for each one of us to feel in our own hearts God speaking to us through *His Word*. This argument from blessed experience can convince when all others fail, and it reaches millions who have neither the inclination nor the power to pursue any other trains of evidence. Reader, do you adequately prize God’s Book, study it, make it the rule of your conduct, and endeavour to commend its truths to others? If not it were better for you had God’s Book never been written.

ENCOURAGEMENTS.

It cannot but prove encouraging to the members of the Church generally, and especially to those upon whom devolves the duty of advocating the claims of the various

schemes of the Church, to mark the growing liberality and public spirit of our people.—No good cause is long left without support. The claims of the Heathen have been pressed upon the church and right nobly has she responded to the call,—not only contributing of her means but also sending forth her sons and daughters to the great work of evangelizing the world. When our pioneers fell, others stood forward to fill their places. And we believe that more than one or two of the young men of the Church are now making up their minds to say in due time, “Here are we, send us!” This certainly is a most satisfactory ground of encouragement. Other churches have found it next to impossible to secure men for the foreign field: we, by the blessing of God, are likely to have as many as we can send.

The Home Work of the Church is much apter to be overlooked and forgotten than her foreign operations. Yet we have to record with gratitude to the great King and Head of the Church that the spirit of genuine large-heartedness is visibly on the increase. We announce that the Home Mission Treasury is empty, and in a few weeks relief comes. It is proclaimed that provision requires to be made for the widows and orphans of ministers, and in a few days our Halifax congregations contribute sixteen hundred dollars. We cannot doubt that a similar spirit of christian liberality has been poured out on the other congregations of the Church, and if so the Widows’ Fund will be placed on a most satisfactory basis.

Whenever a weak and young congregation has done its utmost to build a church and support a minister, let that congregation seek aid from older and wealthier sections, and in many instances aid will be cheerfully given. There is hardly a year but three or four, often many more, cases of this kind are presented to our people, in this city for example, and each case receives kindly consideration.

In several of our congregations the stipends of the ministers have recently been augmented to a reasonable extent, so that a comfortable livelihood is secured to them. We trust that year by year the number of