

The gift of working miracles has ceased in the Christian Church, but it has been succeeded by something more beneficent to the world, and safer to the Church, and equally for the glory of God; the gift, viz. of sanctified ingenuity and unconquerable perseverance in the work of God, so that the Church has made her deaf to speak, her blind to see, and is now able to make herself understood as she preaches Christ in every language under the sun.—*The Canadian Christian Monthly.*

### ADDRESS OF FUNG AFFOO,

DELIVERED IN THE HOWARD STREET METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH, SAN FRANCISCO, MARCH 5.

The following address was delivered on Sunday evening, March 5th, at the anniversary of the California Bible Society, by Fung Affoo, a native of Canton, China. In early boyhood he made two trips, as cabin boy, between China and New York, and afterward took up his residence in Washington, D.C., where he received an English education and became a Christian, renouncing the faith of his fathers:

*Ladies and Gentlemen,*—When I was kindly invited by the secretary of this society to make a short address here to-night, I did not feel like consenting; but the name of this society is so precious in my ear, it compelled me to find words to express its preciousness. I said the name of this society is precious, because it is a *Bible Society*. It has taken the most glorious work in its hand to perform, for the sake of Him who died for the sins of the world, and for the benefit of all mankind. It manufactures Bibles and sends them out to all nations, printed in different languages, in order that the Word of God may be easily read and understood by all. This great book, the Bible, bears the truth of God, who created heaven and earth, and the testimony that He sent His beloved Son to the world to die for the remission of our sins, and that man shall be cleansed by His precious blood. Any family or nation that has not this book of truth for daily instruction is without comfort and without guide.

It cannot be denied that those countries which have the Bible as their instructor are happier, more prosperous, and more civilized. We do know the histories of those nations that years ago had no Bibles, or denied the Bible; how miserably they were existing! their consciences were governed by superstitions, and they were inclined to fall and give way to eternal darkness, but were saved by the sword of the Spirit of God. When they did receive the Bible, and walked by God's command, how everything was brightened up by this great light. God gives them strength to rise, and at the same time He wants to show this light to those who are still living in the dark. He has opened to these nations a fountain of living and healing waters, whose influence shall ever continue and increase. It gives joy to the Christian's heart and encouragement to all who help to send forth this Book of books, to see the heathen nations now demanding more and more the bread of life—the Bible. It signifies that they want to be taught the Word of God; they begin to see where the light comes from. They open their eyes with wonder, and think within themselves why they have lived so long in darkness, while that great light has been shining on every side of them. They begin to realize that they must cling to the Bible, lest they sink deeper and deeper into the dark waters. God be thanked that they do realize this great danger!

Now, I want to say a few words about my own country, concerning the Word of God. China is now much different from what it was some fifteen years ago, in regard to receiving the Holy Bible. The Gospel of Christ has found its way throughout China. The seed sown long ago in that land is now springing up and bringing forth good fruit. I remember that when I was a