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A

NARRATIVE

OF SOME OF

THE LORD'S DEALINGS

WITH

GEORGE MÜLLER.

WRITTEN BY HIMSELF.

FOURTH PART.

J. NISBET & CO., BERNERS STREET, LONDON.

TO BE HAD ALSO IN BRISTOL,

AT W. WHERRAT'S, No. 7, CORN STREET; AND AT THE BIBLE AND TRACT WAREHOUSE OF THE SCRIPTURAL KNOWLEDGE INSTITUTION FOR HOME AND ABROAD, No. 34, PARK STREET; AND THROUGH ALL BOOKSELLERS.

1856.

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PREFACE.

Twelve years have elapsed since the period at which the third part of the Narrative of the Lord's dealings with me closes. It has not been for want of matter, that this fourth part has not appeared sooner; but the increased and ever increasing variety of other occupations has kept me hitherto from arranging the materials for the press. Of late, however, I have judged, for the following reasons, that I ought particularly to give myself to this service.

1, It has pleased the Lord so abundantly to bless the former parts of my Narrative to the comfort, encouragement, strengthening and instruction of those who are young and weak in the faith, and to those unacquainted with the simplicity of the truth, that I consider myself to be the servant of such; and I feel that responsibility is laid upon me, to do what further I can, in this way, to serve them. And this, I confess, I do joyfully; for my spirit has oft times been not a little refreshed during the eighteen years which have elapsed, since I published the first part of my Narrative, by the many hundreds of letters I have received, giving an account of the blessing, which the writers of them have derived from the perusal of it; and I have thus been again and again encouraged to go on with the work.

2, I think it important, that the reader of the first three parts of my Narrative should have a right impression of the work in which I am engaged. He may not be acquainted with the Reports of the Scriptural Knowledge Institution for Home and Abroad, which have been published since 1844, and therefore he may know no more of the work, in which I am especially engaged, than the first three parts of my Narrative give him. In that case he would not know how the work has been growing since that period; he would not be aware that it is now three or four times as large as it was in 1844, and is still more and more increasing. He would not know, in that case, that the principles of Holy Scripture, on which the work of God in my hands was carried on, when comparatively small, and which then were found to be sufficient, even in these last days, are the same on which it is carried on now, though the work is now so large. This point has especially weighed with me, in desiring the publication of the continuation of the account of the Lord's dealings with me in the form of the first three parts, in order that the Living God may be glorified through this account. I judged, moreover, that, whilst the first three parts may especially furnish to the believer in the Lord Jesus *for his private life* subjects for comforting and encouraging reflections; this part, besides doing the same still further, may especially be of help to the servant of Christ labouring for God on a large scale, or to the man of God who seeks to carry on business on a large scale, on Scriptural principles.

3, Though the Reports of the Scriptural Knowledge Institution for Home and Abroad have been issued generally every year or every two years; yet, as they are not bound together, they may be lost in part, and thus the chain be interrupted. Moreover, they contain, sometimes, matters which may be of moment for the time being, but not so important afterwards. The Narrative leaves out

such points, and introduces on the other hand things which were scarcely suitable for the Reports. My desire, therefore, has been to give in this fourth part *the substance* of the Reports which have been published since July, 1844 and to bring thus together in *one* volume what is contained in these nine different Reports.

4, The Reports give scarcely anything of the dealings of God with me personally, irrespective of the work in which I am engaged; but I have not only to speak well of the name of the Lord with regard to his service in which I am engaged, but also with reference to his dealings with me personally and with my family; and I desire to serve the saints in relating to them instance upon instance of his kindness to me, hoping that thus many others may be encouraged more and more fully, unreservedly and habitually to trust in God; yea, to do so in the darkest seasons.

The plan on which I have thought it best to bring the materials before the reader is, to relate in distinct periodical chapters: *a*, How I have been provided, simply in answer to prayer, with means for the support of the various schools of the Scriptural Knowledge Institution, for the circulation of the Holy Scriptures and Gospel Tracts, and for the aiding of Missionary work. *b*, How I have obtained means for the support of the hundreds of Orphans under my care. *c*, How the Lord has led me to, and provided me with means for, the building of a large Orphan House, and how I am now occupied in seeking to build a second still larger. *d*, To state, periodically, a variety of miscellaneous points in connexion with the operations of the Scriptural Knowledge Institution, in a separate chapter. *e*, To give separately and periodically a chapter, for relating matters connected with my own personal affairs or the work of the Lord in my hands, not immediately connected with the Scriptural Knowledge Institution for Home and Abroad.—As, however, the

whole book is intended for the spiritual profit of the believing reader, and to show to those who know not God, by his blessing, the reality of the things of God, there will be found interspersed throughout the book such practical remarks, as the subjects may seem to call for.

I only add that this volume may be obtained with or without the first three parts, which are bound together in one volume.

GEORGE MÜLLER.

21, *Paul Street, Kingsdown,*
Bristol, June 18, 1856.

A

NARRATIVE,

&c. &c.

FOURTH PART.

Supplies for the School—Bible—Missionary and Tract-Fund, sent in answer to prayer, from July 14, 1844, *to May* 26, 1846.

Aug. 10, 1844. In the greatest need, when not one penny was in hand, I received 5*l.* from a brother at Hackney. I took half of this sum for these objects, and half for the Orphans.

Sept. 7. Our poverty has been great ever since the accounts were closed on July 14th. Our Tract and Bible stock is very small, and we have much reduced it on account of sending supplies to Demerara. The rents for the School-Rooms are becoming due, and other expenses are to be met. Under these circumstances I received today with Philip iv. 6, the sum of 50*l.* The donor writes that he thinks he is directed by the Lord to send the money. How truly is it so! I took of this sum 20*l.* for the Orphans, and 30*l.* for these objects.

Oct. 1. This evening I received a bank order for 70*l.*, to be used as the Lord might direct me. This money came in most seasonably, as I am thus able to pay to the six teachers who labour in the six Day-Schools, their salaries. I took 30*l.* of the 70*l.* for these objects, and 40*l.* for the Orphans.

Dec. 14. The means for these objects have been very small for some time past. Under these circumstances I received this afternoon from a sister in the Lord, who is near the close of her earthly pilgrimage, a small box, containing five brooches, two rings set with twelve small brilliants, five other rings, one mourning ring, a pair of gilt bracelets, a gold pin, a small silver vinaigrette, some tracts, and a sovereign. The donor stated on a paper, contained in the box, that the produce might be used for

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Thus the Lord rewarded at once this determination to endeavour not to look in the least to that promise from a brother, but only to himself. But this was not all. About two o'clock this afternoon I received from the brother, who had, more than forty days ago, made that promise, 166*l.* 18s., as he this day received the money, on the strength of which he had made that promise. Of this sum, 100*l.* are to be used for the work in my hands, and the remainder for brother Craik's and my own personal expenses.—I took of these two sums, *i.e.* of the 70*l.* and the 100*l.*, half for the Orphans and half for these objects. When this money came in, there was only very little in hand. The last Tracts had been given away, two or three days ago, but I had no money to order more: thus I was able to send off an order for 11,700. Bibles also needed to be ordered, but I had no money: I am now able to order some. It had been much on my heart to send a little help to some missionary brethren, as a token of affectionate interest, and this I am now able to do. The Lord be praised for his goodness in helping thus so seasonably!

From May 6, 1845, to May 26, 1846, we experienced no difficulty at all as to means, the Lord having always seasonably sent in the supplies, so that, without any one exception, I was always able not only to meet all the demands connected with the Day-Schools, the Sunday-School, and the Adult-Schools, but I was also able to do more, so far as it regards means, in aiding the circulation of Tracts, and helping Missionary efforts, than at any previous period of the same length. Of the donations which came in from May 6, 1845, to May 26, 1846, I only mention the following:—On June 23, with Philip. iv. 6, for circulation of Tracts and Bibles in foreign lands, or as needed, 60*l.* Oct. 12, 150*l.* On Feb. 26, 1846, I received 200*l.*, of which 100*l.* was to be used for Missionary work in foreign lands, and 100*l.* for brethren who labour in England, in the word and doctrine, without any stated salary. In connexion with this donation three points are particularly to be noticed:—1. The day before I received this sum, I had given 5*l.* to a brother, who was travelling through Bristol, and who was on the point of going out as a missionary, without being connected with any society. When I gave him this 5*l.* I had but very

little in hand, but I said to myself, the Lord can easily give more. And thus it was. 2. Before I received this donation, I had been especially led to ask the Lord, that he would be pleased to condescend to use me more largely in helping missionary brethren. For this I had a still greater desire when I found that the money, which I had sent to British Guiana, at the end of November, 1845, amounted only to a few pounds for each brother who labours there, on account of there being so many. I had, on this account particularly, a desire to be able shortly to send another sum to British Guiana, which was thus granted to me. 3. I had also, from time to time, sought to help brethren, who labour in dependance on the Lord for temporal supplies in various parts of England, and my desire especially had been, that, even in this particular, the Funds of the Scriptural Knowledge Institution for Home and Abroad might be more extensively useful. And thus, in this particular also, this donation cheered my heart, enabling me to assist, in some measure, several faithful labourers. Concerning this latter point I would especially notice, that whenever God has put it into my heart "to devise liberal things," he has not only blessed me in my own soul in doing so, but has also, more or less, given me the means to carry out such a purpose. I mention further here, in connexion with this point, that henceforth, as God shall be pleased to supply me with means, I purpose particularly, in connexion with this work, to endeavour to assist brethren of good report, who labour in the word and doctrine, in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, but who have no regular salary. If, therefore, any donations should be given henceforth for that particular object, they shall be, by God's help, applied to that; or, if no donations should be given for that particular object, yet, as God shall be pleased to intrust me with means, I purpose, by his help, to have my eye particularly on brethren who preach the Gospel without charge, and who, perhaps, besides, for conscience' sake, have relinquished former stipends or regular emoluments which they had in connexion with doing so. Have we not particularly to strive to be fellow-labourers with those who, seeking not their own things, but the things of Jesus Christ, preach the word without being chargeable to any one? Many, whom I

know and love in the truth, are mindful of this; but others may not, perhaps, have sufficiently weighed the matter.

On March 10, 1846, I asked the Lord for still further supplies for missionary purposes, and while I was in prayer a letter came from C. W. with 20*l.* for missionary purposes. Thus also, about the same time, came in, from the neighbourhood of Ludlow, 2*l.*, and from Keswick 5*l.* for Missions, besides other smaller donations for the same purpose.

It must not be supposed that these are all the donations which I received for the carrying on these objects from July 14, 1844, to May 26, 1846; but those which are referred to came in under remarkable circumstances, or, *more manifestly*, as answers to prayer.

I now proceed to give an account of the Lord's goodness in supplying me with means for the Orphans, from July 14, 1844, up to May 26, 1846; though here again only the most remarkable instances, on account of the great number of cases, can be given.

Supplies for the Orphan Fund, sent in answer to Prayer, from July, 14, 1844, to May 26, 1846.

July 25, 1844. The need of to-day for the Orphans is 2*l.* 5s. As there came in yesterday 2*l.* as the profit of the sale of ladies' bags, which are made by a sister in the Lord for the benefit of the Orphans; also two donations of 5s. each, through her; 5s. from a poor sister in the Lord; and 1*l.* from Hackney, in all 3*l.* 15s.; we have 1*l.* 10s. left.—In the course of to-day the Lord was pleased to send in the following donations:—by the boxes in my house 1*l.* 10s., in nine small donations 16s. 11d., and the contents of an orphan-box, 3s. 0½d. This evening also, two christian servants gave me the following trinkets:—a ring, a gold pin, two brooches, and a silver toothpick. A precious gift, because of its seasonableness, and because it gave me joy in seeing these ornaments given up for the Lord's sake.

Observe, dear reader, only eleven days after the accounts were closed, we were again in fresh poverty, and had to go on day by day waiting upon the Lord for the necessities of about 140 persons.

July 26. Only 6d. has come in to-day.

July 27, Saturday. Only 1*l.* 14*s.* was in hand to begin the day with. With two of my fellow-labourers I besought the Lord between nine and ten o'clock this morning for help, when, at eleven o'clock, came in, by sale of articles, given for the purpose, 7*s.* 3d., by sale of Reports 1*s.*, by sale of ladies' bags 1*s.* 6d., and by two donations 4*s.* 6d. There were sent also anonymously, a great coat, a small coat, a pair of trousers, and three waistcoats (worn). When this parcel and money came, I was called on for money from the Orphan-Houses. In the course of the day came in still further, by sale of articles, 10*s.* Thus we have been helped through this day. Late in the evening was given 2*s.* 6d. besides.

July 28. This morning, when there was now again only 2*s.* 6d. in hand, I received from Tavistock 6*l.*; and this evening, from Nailsworth, 2*s.* 6d.

July 29. Yesterday was anoymously put into the Chapel boxes 2*l.*; also by A. A. 1*l.* Thus we are provided for to-day and to-morrow. There came in still further to-day 1*l.*, from an orphan-box at Barnstaple 1*l.*, and by the profit of work, done by a sister, 5*s.* There was likewise given a little box, containing the following articles: a lady's bag, a pair of gloves, a silver fruit knife, a gold seal, a needle book with two farthings, a purse containing two-halfpence, 4½ francs, and a copper coin; a little tortoiseshell box containing two old sixpences, two fourpenny pieces, a shilling, a sixpence, and a pebble; a silver vinaigrette, a seal, two patterns for worsted work, a microscope, and six embossed cards. This evening I received two silver pencil cases.

July 30. By the boxes in the Orphan-Houses came in to-day 2*l.* 4*s.* 6d., and by sale of Reports 5*s.*

July 31. Immediately after having risen from my knees to-day to ask the Lord for further supplies, I received 19*s.* by sale of stockings, knitted by the Orphan Boys. This evening was given to me by A. A. 5*l.*, and through ditto 2*s.*

August 1. This morning I was called on for 5*l.* for the Infant Orphans, so that again only a few shillings remained, not enough for the other expenses of to-day, when I received, in the bag sent for the money from the Orphan-Houses, the following donations, 1*l.*, and 1*s.* 6d., 1*s.* 1d., 1*s.* 1d., and 2*s.* 2d. Likewise came in 1*s.*, and

found 2s. 6d. in an orphan-box in my house. Thus I had enough for to-day.

Aug 2. The day began with 2¾d. in hand. A little before ten o'clock in the morning the letter-bag was brought from the Orphan-Houses for money, in which I found a note, stating that the need of to-day was 1*l.* 17s., but I had only 2¾d. to send. I wrote so to brother R. B., master of the Orphan Boys, intending to request him to send up again in the afternoon, for what the Lord might have sent in the mean time. When I was going to put the 2¾d. into the purse in the bag, I found half-a-crown in the bag, slipped into it before it was opened. This half-crown is a precious earnest that the Lord will help this day also. It was found by me just after I had risen from my knees, having been with some of the labourers in the work in prayer for means. Before I had yet finished the note to brother R. B., a sovereign was given to me, so that I had 1*l.* 2s. 8¾d. to send off. About two o'clock this afternoon I received: by sale of articles 10s. 6d., by sale of stockings 6s. 8d., and by the sale of ladies' bags 9s. 4d. Thus I could send off the 14s. 6d. which was still needed for to-day, and had 12s. left.

Aug. 3, Saturday. With the 12s. we began the day. My soul said: "I will now look out for the way in which the Lord will deliver us this day again; for he will surely deliver. Many Saturdays, when we were in need, he helped us, and so he will do this day also."—Between nine and ten o'clock this morning I gave myself to prayer for means, with three of my fellow-labourers, in my house. WHILST WE WERE IN PRAYER there was a knock at my room door, and I was informed that a gentleman had come to see me. When we had finished prayer, it was found to be a brother from Tetbury, who had brought from Barnstaple 1*l.* 2s. 6d. for the Orphans. Thus we have 1*l.* 14s. 6d., with which I must return the letter-bag to the Orphan-Houses, looking to the Lord for more. *Evening.* In the afternoon one of the labourers received 6s. for himself, which he gave for the Orphans. This evening I went to the usual prayer meeting (which is held on Saturday evening at the Orphan-Houses, to ask the Lord's blessing upon the work generally), when I found that 2s. had been put into the boxes in the Orphan-Houses in the course of the afternoon; also 7s. had come

in by the knitting of the Orphan-Girls, and 3s. 6d. more one of the labourers was able to give. Thus we had 2*l.* 13s., which was enough for to-day. How very kind of the Lord thus to listen to the prayers of his children, and to help us day by day!—We had not yet separated, after our prayer meeting, when a box was brought from Scarborough, containing 5s. and a number of articles. When I came home I found that there had come in still further, by sale of articles given for the purpose, 15s.10d., and by sale of stockings, knitted by the Orphans, 7s. 8d. Thus the Lord has greatly helped us to-day.

Aug. 5, Monday. There came in from A. A. 1s., and anonymously was yesterday put into the Chapel-boxes 2s. 6d., ditto 2s. 6d.

Aug. 6. Without *one single penny* in my hands the day began. The post brought nothing, nor had I yet received anything, when, ten minutes after ten this morning, the letter-bag was brought from the Orphan-Houses, for the supplies of to-day.—Now see the Lord's deliverance! In the bag I found a note from one of the labourers in the Orphan-Houses, enclosing two sovereigns, which she sent for the Orphans, stating that it was part of a present which she had just received, unexpectedly, for herself.—Thus we were supplied for to-day. In the afternoon, when I had now again nothing at all in hand, as I had paid out this 2*l.*, there was brought to me from Oxford 1*l.* 2s. A sister also gave 2s. 6d.

Aug. 7. There came in, when there was NOT ONE PENNY in my hands, 4s. and 3s. 6d. I also found 3s. in the boxes in my house, 10s. was given as the profit of the sale of ladies' bags, and 2s. 6d. as the produce of "A forfeit-box at a young ladies' school." Likewise were given to me, two gold rings, two gold watch-keys, a pair of earrings, a gold brooch, two waist-buckles, a pair of bracelets, a watch hook, and a broken brooch. Thus we have a little towards the need of to-morrow.

Aug. 8. The money which came in yesterday was not enough for the need of to-day. The boxes in the Orphan-Houses were therefore opened, as I had understood that some money had been put into them during the last days, and they contained 1*l.* 4s. Thus we have been supplied this day also.

Aug. 9. It is just now striking eleven o'clock, and I

have not yet one single penny towards the need of this day. The bag is brought from the Orphan-Houses for money, but I have nothing to send, and am therefore obliged to return the bag without anything. But my soul is waiting for help. The Lord has so repeatedly helped us again during the last weeks, and so he will surely do this day also. *Evening.* At half-past twelve this morning I received two notes from two sisters who labour in the Orphan-Houses, the one from the sister who, on the 6th, had sent the 2*l.*, being part of a present which she had received, and who now sent 1*l.* more. She writes: The enclosed *I thought* of applying to another purpose; but *His thoughts* are not as *ours*. Please to use it as you think fit." The other sister, likewise one of the labourers, sent 10s. This 1*l.* 10s. met our need for to-day.

Aug. 10, Saturday. Only 3d., which had come in yesterday afternoon, by sale of a Report, was in my hands, when the day began. A little after nine o'clock I received a post-office order for 5*l.* from Hackney, to be used as most needed. Of it I took one half for the Orphans, and the other half for the Day-Schools. There came in still further, 2*l.* 5s., 5s. 10d., 9d., and 3s. 4d.

Aug. 12. Yesterday I received from a sister 5s., with James i. 17., 2s. 6d., 6d. was put into the boxes at my house, and 6d. was given by an aged friend. Thus, with what was left on Saturday, we had 1*l.* 15s. 5d., which met our need to-day.

Aug. 13. Nothing has come in, but one of the labourers, to whom 15s. was given last evening to buy herself a new gown, gave that. I am looking for more! The boxes in the Orphan-Houses were opened, in which 5s. was found. Thus we had enough, except 6s., which one of the labourers gave.

Aug. 14. Nothing at all had come in, when the bag was brought from the Orphan-Houses for money, and I had therefore to return it without any. About half an hour after, the labourers had an especial prayer meeting. At this meeting one of the teachers of the Day-Schools gave me 10s., which he had put by to buy himself some little books, but he considered it now not to be the Lord's will to do so, but that he should give this money for the present need in the Orphan-Houses. Another of the labourers in the Orphan-Houses gave 5s. Thus we are

provided with the absolute necessities till to-morrow after breakfast.

Aug. 15. Last evening I received 2s., just after our *last* public meeting about the Orphan-Houses and other objects of the Scriptural Knowledge Institution, at which I had testified afresh of my reliance upon the living God, though I had *not then one single penny in hand for the work*, which, of course, was not stated.—Now this morning, between eight and nine o'clock, sister L. M. came to me and brought me 30s., which she had received for the Orphans. But this will not be enough for to-day. Yesterday and this morning, before this money came in, the trial of faith had been very sharp.—*Evening.* At eleven o'clock I received still further from A. A. 5s., and this afternoon, from one of the labourers, 5s., and from two donors 6d. each.

Aug. 16. Our poverty is extremely great. The trial of faith as sharp as ever, or sharper. It is ten o'clock, and there are no means yet for a dinner. I now thought of some articles which I might be able to do without, to dispose of them for the benefit of the Orphans, when one of the labourers gave me 1*l.*, which she had intended for another object, and which she now considers must be left alone for the present. There was also taken out of the boxes in the Orphan-Houses 1s. 6d., and by knitting came in 2s. 3d., and from A. A. 2s.

Aug. 17, Saturday. The Lord has, in tender mercy, helped us, in sending in 3*l.* for knitting done by the Orphan-Girls, 9s. 10d. for stockings knitted by the boys, 11s. 11d. for things sold, which were given for the purpose, and 10s. 7d. put into the boxes at the Orphan Houses.

Aug. 18. There was put anonymously into the Chapel-boxes 1s., ditto 2s., ditto 2s. 6d., and A. A. gave 10s.

Aug. 19, *Monday.* Only 3s. has come in to-day

Aug. 20. This 3s. was all there was in hand for this day, which was needed at the Boys' Orphan-House towards the dinner. In the other houses nothing was needed, but at the same time NOTHING WAS LEFT TOWARDS THE NEXT MEAL. Two o'clock came, and we had nothing yet. After two o'clock I opened the boxes in my house, in which I found a paper containing a sove-

reign and a half, and two half-crowns loose. Of this I took 30s. at once to the Orphan-Houses, whereby we were helped for this day. *Our need had not been greater for a long time.* Dear reader! join me in admiring and adoring him, who caused that money to be put into the box, and, I have reason to believe, only a very short time before, and who led my mind to open it, to obtain thus the help which was needed.—In the afternoon came in still further 3*l.* 6s. by the sale of some old silver and a few trinkets.

Aug. 21. There came in, by sale of Reports, 5s., and from Tewkesbury 1*l.* This sovereign came in the greatest need. I took it at once to the Orphan-Houses, and by it we were supplied for the day, When I returned home I found that a little old gold watch had been given in the mean time. There came in also 3s.; and two half-sovereigns were given this evening by two little girls, through a sister in the Lord from Bath.

Aug. 22. The two half-sovereigns, which were given last evening, were all we had at the beginning of to-day. There was found in the boxes in the Orphan-Houses 5s. 9d., and in a post-office order I received 1*l.* So we had enough for one more day.—And it is by the day I live. Where I to think of how it will be a year or even a month hence, I should be tried indeed—yea, greatly tried. "Sufficient unto the day is the evil thereof," is my Lord's own precious warrant for this. He will not have me to be anxious about to-morrow, and therefore I cast my cares about to-morrow upon him. As the weeks pass on, and I go on Saturday evenings to the prayer meetings at the Orphan-Houses, I praise the Lord for having sustained me one more week in this service, by enabling me to look to him. Yea, as each day closes, I desire to be grateful to the Lord for having sustained my faith and patience, and enabled me to rely upon him, especially in seasons of such great poverty, lasting for weeks, as we have been in of late. But this I must say to the praise of the Lord, that my soul is kept in peace at such times, and, through the riches of his grace, I am kept from questioning whether he will help me or not. And, indeed, it would be sinful ingratitude, after all the Lord has been doing for me in this work, not to rely upon him. May

he in mercy uphold me to the end in this service, and keep me from dishonouring his holy name, either by unbelief, or in any other way.

Aug. 23. This morning the Lord greatly refreshed my spirit; for after a long-continued trial of faith, and after long and deep poverty, there was sent me from Devonshire a check for 20*l.* There came in 6s. besides.

Aug. 24. 1*l.* 19s. 7½d. came in to-day.

Aug. 25. From A. A. I received to-day 20*l.* How exceedingly kind of the Lord in an hour of such great need, on account of all the many and great wants in which I find myself just now, to have sent this sum! There came in 2*l.* 0s. 6d. besides.

Aug. 26. Received for Reports 1*l.* 7s., and 3d. besides.

Aug. 28. Altogether 1*l.* 11s. 2d. came in to-day.

Aug. 29. Received 2s. 11d. by sale of Reports, and 7s. 6d. from Bath. The brother in Bath, who sent me this money, wrote me that the 7s. 6d. was sent to him with the following letter.

27th August, 1844.

"Sir,

Part of the enclosed 7s. 6d. did belong to your dear Father, J. L., Esq., value of which I stole from him, in my unconverted state.—I, now a believer in Jesus, constrained by love to him, return it to you, with interest, praying that the Lord may richly bless you and yours.

* * * *."

J. L., Esq. has been dead more than fifteen years, therefore it must be longer than that period since the theft alluded to was committed.—This 7s. 6d. came in in especially great need; for though 50*l.* had been given during the last seven days, yet, on account of our long-continued poverty, and the heavy expenses which were to be met, this 7s. 6d. was received when there was nothing at all in hand, and was sent off at once to the Orphan-Houses.—This evening, when we were still in great need, and when means were required for to-morrow morning, 10s. was given to me. This money was sent off this evening to the Orphan-Houses, for the need of to-morrow morning. About nine o'clock a sister came to my house,

who had been to Shirehampton, and had there received 1*l.* 19s. 6d. for the Orphans. She gave also the remaining 6d. of the change of two sovereigns. The Lord inclined the heart of this sister to bring the money at once, and we are thus supplied for to-morrow. At half-past nine this evening I received another precious donation of 10s., with the following letter:—

Aug. 29, 1844.

"The history of this money is this. I did some work in the country some time ago, and thought I should never get the money for it, as I had repeatedly written about it, and could not get it. But some time ago I was asking the Lord to incline the heart of the person who owed me the money, to send it to me, and I told him, that if he would do so, I would give 10s. for the Orphans. Three days ago I had such confidence, that I should have the money, that I was enabled to praise the Lord for it; and to-day I was going up Park Street, and met the person coming with the money. It had been put into the party's heart the day before yesterday to pay me the money. Now, dear brother, I fulfil my promise to the Lord by giving you the money. Help me, dear brother, to praise him for it, and that I may be enabled to trust him more than ever I have done yet.

"Yours in Jesus,

* * *."

This brother is a poor tradesman, himself working with his hands.

Aug. 30. To-day 6s. 8d. came in by sale of Reports. This evening I met a sister from Bath, who is staying in Bristol for two or three days. She gave me her purse, and all that was in it, for the Orphans, being 5s., saying, she wanted nothing till she returned to Bath. This goes towards to-morrow's need, which will be at least 4*l.*, and for which we have as yet only 1*l.* 6s. in hand.

Aug. 31, Saturday. There came in a few shillings besides, last evening and this morning, so that I had 1*l.* 18s. 8d. to send to the Orphan-Houses; but I find 4*l.* 5s. is needed.—*Evening.* There came in still further in the morning, 5s. 6d. by sale of stockings, 1*l.* 8s. by sale of Reports, 15s, 1d. by sale of articles given for the purpose, 5s. 5d. by sale of ladies' bags. And in the evening

was received 2*l.* 10s. 2d. besides; so that I had 2*l.* 12s. 10d. more than was actually needed.

Sept. 8, Tuesday. Since Saturday evening there has come in, in donations 18s. 10d.; by sale of Reports 2*l.* 3s. 1d., and by work done by the Orphan-girls 1*l.* 8s. 8d. Thus, with what was left on Saturday, we have been supplied these two days.

Sept. 4. Only one farthing was in my hands this morning. Pause a moment, dear reader! Only one farthing in hand when the day commenced. Think of this, and think of nearly 140 persons to be provided for. You, poor brethren, who have six or eight children and small wages, think of this; and you, my brethren, who do not belong to the working classes, but have, as it is called, very limited means, think of this! May you not do, what we do, under *your* trials? Does the Lord love you less than he loves us? Does he not love all his children with no less love than that, with which he loves his only begotten Son, according to John xvii. 20—23? Or are we better than you? Nay, are we not in ourselves poor miserable sinners as you are; and have any of the children of God any claim upon God, on account of their own worthiness? Is not that, which alone can make us worthy to receive anything from our Heavenly Father, the righteousness of the Lord Jesus, which is imputed to those who believe in him? Therefore, dear reader, as we pray in our every need, of whatever character it may be, in connexion with this work, to our Father in Heaven for help, and as he does help us, so is he willing to help all his children who put their trust in him. Especially do not think, that because you may not be called by God to establish Orphan-Houses and Schools for poor children, therefore you are not warranted to rely upon God in all your need; for the blessedness of depending upon the living God may be enjoyed by all the children of God, though they are not all called by him to such a work as this Narrative describes. Nor must you suppose, that our only trials in this work arise from want of means, so that, in carrying it on, we have to rely upon God for nothing besides this. I assure you that the want of means is the smallest trial, and that I have had far, far greater exercises of faith on account of other things in connexion with this work, than those arising from the want of means. But the trials connected

with the want of means I dwell upon so particularly, because that is a matter which can be understood by all, and in which the senses themselves almost force us, so to speak, to acknowledge the hand of God.—Well, let us hear then, how God helped when there was only one farthing left in my hands, on the morning of Sept. 4, 1844.

A little after nine o'clock I received a sovereign from a sister in the Lord, who does not wish the name of the place, where she resides, mentioned. Between ten and eleven o'clock the bag was sent from the Orphan-Houses, in which in a note it was stated that 1*l.* 2s. was required for to-day. SCARCELY HAD I READ THIS, when a fly stopped before my house, and a gentleman, Mr. ———, from the neighbourhood of Manchester, was announced. I found that he was a believer, who had come on business to Bristol. He had heard about the Orphan-Houses, and expressed his surprise, that without any regular system of collection, and without personal application to any one, simply by faith and prayer, I obtained 2000*l.* and more yearly for the work of the Lord in my hands. This brother, whom I had never seen before, and whose name I did not even know before he came, gave me 2*l.*, as an exemplification of what I had stated to him.—There came in still further this morning 10s., being profits from the sale of ladies' bags. From the same donor who had sent the sovereign this morning, I received, two hours later, a box, containing the following articles:—Three mourning rings, three other gold rings set with cameos, two gold watch keys, four gold lockets, a gold brooch, a silver snuff-box, six medals, three gold ear-drops, a pair of mourning earrings, a purse, two pairs of babies' shoes, a pair of card-racks, two necklaces, five ornamental hair pins, a wafer-stamp, a paper-knife, two book-marks, and a great variety of polished pebbles.—Oh! how good is the Lord, and how seasonably comes this help, in our great, great need, when so much is required for clothes, &c. There came in likewise through a sister in Bath 1*l.*, and 5s. 6d. more. Thus, besides all the articles, which have been mentioned, altogether 4*l.* 15s. 6d. has come in this day, at the commencement of which I had only ONE FARTHING left.

Sept. 6. Besides the money, spoken of on the 4th, only 6s. 10d. more had come in, so that, after this day's

necessities had been met, there was now again nothing at all in hand. Soon after I received 3s. 6d. This also was presently spent, except 9d., when a brother from Essex came, who gave me 2*l.*

Sept. 7, *Saturday*. Having had to pay out 10s. more, immediately after the receipt of the 2*l.*, this day began with 1*l.* 10s. 9d. in hand, whilst the need was 3*l.* 15s. This 1*l.* 10s. 9d. I sent off to the Orphan-Houses, trusting in the Lord for more. And this time also my hope in God was not put to shame; for in the course of the morning came in 10s. 6d. by sale of Reports, by a donation 10s., by sale of articles 2*l.* 8s. 8½d., by sale of stockings 1s. 8d., and by sale of ladies' bags 4s. It was very kind of the Lord to send in this money in the course of the morning, thus providing us not only with the 3*l.* 15s. which was needed for house-keeping, but enabling us also to meet other unexpected expenses. In the evening I received still further, after the need of the day had been met, but when all again was expended, a sovereign, four small old silver coins, a pair of coral earrings, and a brooch.

Sept. 8. There was the sovereign in hand which came in last evening, as a little towards the need of Monday, when I received this morning 50*l.*, to be used as most needed. It is impossible to express how seasonably this help came, as, though our daily wants had been met day by day, yet very much is required in the way of clothes, &c. But as the need for the other objects is as great or greater, I took of this sum 30*l.* for them and 20*l.* for the Orphans. We are thus greatly encouraged to continue in prayer. Our poverty has scarcely ever lasted longer than now, yet the Lord has helped us as our absolute need has required it. The donor of this 50*l.* wished me to enter it with the text Philip iv. 6, judging that this text must have been often a refreshment to me in seasons of trial, as indeed it has.

From Sept. 8th to 17th came in 23*l.* 2s. 6½d.

Sept. 18. From A. A. 5*l.*, by sale of Reports, 13s. 8d., and by the boxes in the Orphan-Houses 14s. 11d.

Sept. 19. This morning came in 10*l.* from Scotland. By this 10*l.*, and what came in yesterday, I am able to meet the expenses of to-day, which are more than 16*l.*

Sept. 21., Saturday. Yesterday came in from Clapham, at an hour of need, 1*l.* 12s. 10d., together with several

articles, also 1*l.* from Clifton; and to-day, by sale of Reports, 1*l.* 15s. 4d., and by sale of articles 14s. 9d. Thus we are brought to the close of another week, though the expenses of it have not been less than 110*l.* (part of which had been put by beforehand). At the close of the week I have not more than 3s. left; but the Lord will provide.

Sept. 22, Lord's-day morning. This morning I received from the neighbourhood of Crediton 10*l.*, and from Sidmouth 10*l.*, of which 8*l.* is for the Orphans, and 2*l.* for my own personal expenses. Likewise from A. A. 2s. 2½d., for Reports 4s., and in the Chapel-boxes was put anonymously 6d., ditto 2s. 6d., ditto 2s. 6d., ditto 6d. with these words: "Be still and know that I am God." How precious this word, and how have I seen to-day again the truth of it!—Three days ago a sister in the Lord, who is a servant, came to me, and brought me 9*l.* 16s. which she had drawn out of the Savings' Bank, considering it the Lord's will that she should not keep it there any longer, but spend it for him. She gave me the money that I might do with it as I thought right. However, I sent her home again with the money, advising her to weigh the matter still further, and to pray still further about it, and to count the cost; and if she was of the same mind, after some days, to come again to me. Now this afternoon this sister came again, with her little all, 9*l.* 16s. As she had now, for a long time, weighed the matter (according to her own statement), and as there had three days more passed away since I had sent her home again with the money, and as I found her grounded upon Scripture for what she was going to do, I could not refuse the money. She portioned it out thus: 2*l.* for her father, brother, and sister, 1*l.* 10s. for the poor believers in fellowship with us, 1*l.* for the Chapel expenses, and 1*l.* for missionary purposes. This left 4*l.* 6s., of which she would give me 2*l.*, which I declined, in order that there might not be even the appearance as if I had persuaded this poor servant to draw her money out of the Savings' Bank. She then wished me to give brother Craik 1*l.*, which I accepted for him, and as I saw she wept, because I would not receive anything for myself, I said I would take a sovereign. This I did, that she might not think I refused her Christian kindness because she was a poor servant The remaining 2*l.* 6s. she gave for the Orphans.—

By the donations which have come in to-day I am able to meet almost all the expenses connected with the procuring of many articles of clothing and furniture, for which I have long been praying.

Oct. 1. Since the 22nd many pounds have come in, though not any sums above 5*l.* Now this evening I have received a bank order for 70*l.*, to be used as the Lord might direct me. The donor wishes me to let him know if anything particular should be connected with this donation. There is indeed much connected with it, as it comes most manifestly in answer to prayer; for thus I am able to supply all that is needed in the way of articles of clothes for the Orphans, for which I have been long waiting upon the Lord, and as the winter is now drawing near, the winter-clothes need to be got ready; further, I am able to have the Boys' Orphan-House painted inside and coloured down, which is much needed; I am able to furnish all the labourers in the Orphan-Houses with some money for themselves, which, on account of our long-continued poverty, I had not been able to do for six months. Yet, though the donation comes in so seasonably, I cannot write to the kind donor thus, lest he should be induced to give more, by my exposing our circumstances, and lest also the hand of God should not be so manifest, in providing me with means for the work, as otherwise it would. —I took of this money 40*l.* for the Orphans, and 30*l.* for the other funds.—During the last two weeks I have had to pay out for the work about 200*l.*, and this week I shall have to pay out again about 60*l.* Thus the Lord helps continually.

Nov. 1. Since Oct. 1st there has come in such an abundance, that without any difficulty I have been able to meet all the expenses for the Orphans, though during the week ending Oct. 5th I had to pay out 59*l.*, during the week ending on the 12th above 40*l.*, during the week ending on the 19th nearly 40*l.*, and during the week ending on the 26th about 50*l.* Of the many donations which came in during this period I will only mention the following: From a small town in the kingdom of Wirtemberg 1s. 8d.; from Nice, in France, 1*l.*; from a missionary in the East Indies 14*l.* 12s. 6d. Notice, dear reader, how the Lord sends donations from Wirtemberg, France, and the East Indies! Great, however, as our income had

been, we were now again poor, on account of the heavy expenses, when, in answer to prayer, there came in to-day, from some sisters near Coleford, 2*l.* 10s., by sale of Reports 2s., and from A. A. 10*l.* 7s. 7½d. The post was out this morning and nothing had come; but my heart said, the Lord still can send, though the post is out; and these donations were soon after given to me.

Nov. 11. From Nov. 1st up to this day we went on easily. There came in again many donations. Now, however, we were again very poor, having had again very heavy expenses. In this great need a ten pound note was this afternoon put into an Orphan-box at my house. This evening I received also still further, from a brother who labours in Demerara, 1*l.*, and 1*l.* 10s. besides.

Nov. 13. Yesterday and to-day came in again more than 10*l.* Our expenses having been again very great, as during these three days above 30*l.* had been paid out for the Orphans, we were still poor, notwithstanding the considerable income during the last three days. Under these circumstances a ring was given to me this afternoon, set with one large and six small brilliants. How kind of the Lord, thus to help us continually in the work, and to listen to our supplications, which, day after day, we bring to him! During *no time*, since I have been engaged in this service, have the expenses been heavier than during the last four months; yet the Lord has always given us what we have needed.

Nov. 18. The produce of the ring, together with about 10*l.* more, which had come in since the 13th, was nearly all gone again, on account of the expenses of the past week having been nearly 50*l.*, when this morning a Christian gentleman from Devonshire called on me, who, on leaving, left a letter on my table, containing two five pound notes, of which five pounds was for the Orphans, and five pounds for three other objects. This evening I found a five pound note in one of the Orphan-boxes at my house. Thus we are again helped for the present. The name of the Lord be praised!

Nov. 21. The need of to-day was 4*l.* 5s., but there were only a few shillings in hand. I opened the boxes in my house, in which I found a sovereign and a shilling. The sovereign could have been put in only last evening. After family prayer I retired again for prayer, about the

work, as I do daily, by which means I have been helped not only to meet the very heavy expenses since July 15th, but have been helped through many and great difficulties in other respects, and have been enabled to bring many blessings upon the work. *While in prayer* I received a letter from the neighbourhood of Leeds, with 5*l.* Thus we are helped for to-day. This afternoon came in still further, by sale of articles 1*l.* 9s., by the boxes in the Orphan-Houses 1*l.* 6s. 3½d.; and this evening I received 5*l.*, being the profits from the sale of a Hymn book, which has been printed for the benefit of the Orphans. Thus we have something for the need of to-morrow also.

Nov. 23. As yesterday's expenses had to be met out of what had come in on the 21st, only 11s. 10d. having come in yesterday, and as the need of to-day for housekeeping was 4*l.* 10s., we had not enough in hand. Our precious universal remedy, PRAYER, was now again resorted to. About TEN MINUTES AFTER, I received a Post-office order from Stafford for 2*l.* About twelve o'clock this morning came in still further, by the sale of some books and prints, given for the purpose, 3*l.* 1s., by the sale of other articles 3*l.* 7s. 9d., by the sale of Reports 1s. 1d., by the sale of ladies' bags 13s. 5d., and by the sale of stockings 2s. 6d. This afternoon came in still further from Glasgow 5*l.* Thus the day, which commenced when we had not enough in hand for its necessities, has ended in comparative abundance, though there is still little in hand for present use, as we need to provide for the rent of the houses and for the purchase of oatmeal, and therefore put by a part of the money given to-day. Yet we are brought to the close of another week, having been able to meet all its expenses.

Nov. 24. This morning I received a letter from the neighbourhood of Dublin, with four five pound Post-office orders. Thus the Lord has done according to my expectation; for in our usual weekly prayer meeting last evening at the Orphan-Houses with the labourers in the work, I was enabled to praise the Lord, that he would provide for the need of this week also.

Dec. 2, Monday. During the last week the income had been again about 36*l.* But having had still many extra expenses, and also to put by money for the rents due on the next quarter-day, there was nothing left at the close

of the week. Yesterday came in 5s. 10d., 4d., 5s., 19s. 10d., and 1*l.* By this money we were able to meet the housekeeping expenses of this day, being only 2*l.* 5s.; but having 2*l.* to pay out, besides the current expenses, and having understood that a brother in the Lord from Birmingham, with two other strangers, had visited the Orphan-Houses, and that money had been put into the boxes, they were opened, and 3*l.* 3s. 1d. was found in them. Thus I was able to send off the 2*l.* There came in also this *afternoon* 10s. for work done by a young lady, and this *evening*, by sale of Reports, 4s.

Dec. 3. As only 1*l.* 15s. was required for house-keeping to day, we had enough, by what had come in yesterday afternoon and evening, and I had twopence left.

Dec. 4. The Lord has again, in the love and compassion of his fatherly heart, multiplied "the handful of meal in the barrel, and the little oil in the cruse." The twopence have been multiplied more than a thousand fold. Yesterday came in from Clapton 2s. 6d., from the county of Dorset 10*l.*, and from A. A. 10s., being (as the donor writes) "the produce of a needless article of jewellery."

Dec. 7, Saturday. Only 2*l.* 10s. 10d. having come in during the last two days (among which was a remarkable donation of 10s. from Calw, in the kingdom of Wirtemberg,) I had again, after I had paid out yesterday what was required, only 2*l.* 10s. 3d. left, which I knew would not be half enough for this day. Yesterday afternoon came in from Sherborne 6s. This morning I had an unusually full assurance, that the Lord would help us this day again, though I knew that more than 8*l.* would be needed to-day, towards which there was only 2*l.* 16s. 3d. in hand. I praised the Lord repeatedly this morning BEFOREHAND for the help which he again would grant this day. By the first delivery arrived 10s. from the neighbourhood of Kingsbridge. Thus we had 3*l.* 6s. 3d.; but for housekeeping we needed 5*l.* 10s., and for other expenses 3*l.* 1s. 5d. However, when the Orphan came with the letter-bag, to fetch the money, I received in it a letter from Bath, containing 5*l.* Thus we had enough, and more than enough, for the momentary need, as to the housekeeping expenses. About twelve o'clock came in the following sums besides: by sale of articles 4*l.* 5s. 8d., by sale

of Reports 8d., by sale of stockings 2s. 2d., by sale of ladies' bags 3s. 9d. This evening came in still further, from Dublin, for Reports 1*l.* 2s., and 1*l.* as a donation, together with some prints, some books, etc. for sale. Thus we had all we needed, to help us to the close of the week, and were able to put by some money for the weekly rents and other expenses, to be met on quarter day.

Dec. 9, Monday. Though we had been helped abundantly on Saturday, yet, as some money needed to be put by, we had still nothing for the beginning of this week. Yesterday came in for Reports 7s. 4d., and anonymously was put into the Chapel-boxes 1s. and 2s. 6d. There was also anonymously put into the Chapel-boxes a 50*l.* note, with these words: "25*l.* for the Orphan-Houses, and 25*l.* for clothing and blankets for the poor." Thus we are again most seasonably helped, and are now almost entirely prepared to meet all the expenses coming upon us a few weeks hence.

Jan. 18, 1845, *Saturday*. Since Dec. 9th we had always supplies sent, before the last money was given out; it was a season of rich abundance, for there came in (including the 25*l.* last mentioned) about 140*l.* Now, however, this evening, after all the expenses of the day had been met, there was nothing remaining. But admire with me, dear reader, the goodness of the Lord! This very evening he has again kindly supplied us with means for the commencement of another week. The boxes at the Orphan-Houses were opened (our need leading us to do so) in which was found 10*l.* 16s., one of them containing a ten-pound note. Is it not, dear reader, a precious thing to trust in the Lord? Are not ten pounds, thus received out of the hands of our Heavenly Father, as the result of faith in God, most precious? Will not you also seek to trust in him, and depend on him alone in all your every-day's concerns, and in all spiritual matters too? If you have not done so, do make but trial of the preciousness of this way, and you will see how pleasant and sweet it is; and if you have done so in a measure, do so yet more and more, and you will never have cause to regret it. But, perhaps, you are not a believer; if so, you cannot trust in God, and go in all circumstances to him, as to your Father, except you are first reconciled with him through our Lord Jesus. What you have then to do is, to learn that you

are a lost, ruined, guilty sinner, deserving nothing but punishment. But, at the same time, you have to remember that God, in the greatness of his love to sinners, sent his own dear Son, that he, in their room and stead, might bear the punishment due to them, make an atonement for their sins, and fulfil the law of God in their stead, in order that every one, who believes on him, might obtain the forgiveness of his sins, and be reckoned righteous before God. If you believe in the Lord Jesus, *i. e.* if you receive him as the one whom God has declared him to be, even the Son of God (*as to his person*), and the Lamb of God that takes away the sin of the world (*as to his work*), and if you rest upon him, trust in him for the salvation of your soul, then all your sins shall be forgiven. Though you have grown old in sin, though your sins have been very many and very grievous, yet the blood of Jesus Christ cleanseth from ALL sin. Do but believe, and you shall be saved. And when thus you are reconciled with God, through faith in his dear Son, walk before him as an obedient child, seek in child-like simplicity to go to God for every thing, and do REALLY treat God as your FATHER.

There arrived also this Saturday evening, from the Isle of Wight, a small box containing 14s., and many articles for sale.

Jan. 20, Monday. 3*l.* 11s. has come in besides the 11*l.* 10s. which came in on Saturday evening; but as, in addition to the ordinary house-keeping expenses, I had this afternoon to order materials for boys' clothes, all the money which had come in since Saturday evening was now again gone. About an hour afterwards I found that two five-pound notes had been put into one of the boxes at my house, and at the same time I received a bank order for 16*l.* from a poor missionary brother, who labours about 3,000 miles from Bristol, in dependance upon the Lord for his temporal supplies. Of this 16*l.* the sum of 12*l.* is to be employed in sending him Bibles and New Testaments, and 4*l.* he gives to the Orphans. What ways has not the Lord to help his children who trust in him! Who would suppose that a poor missionary would send 4*l.* for the Orphans, from a distance of 3,000 miles? But rather must the ravens again bring supplies, as in the days of Elijah, than that the children of God, who trust in their Heavenly Father, should not have their need supplied.—

Thus the Lord has again given 14*l.* for the Orphans when all was gone.

Jan. 25, Saturday evening. We have been helped through the heavy expenses of this week, without lacking any thing; but now we have nothing left.—This evening, *about ten o'clock*, I received from Barnstaple some articles for sale, and a Spanish dollar, two ½ of a franc, and a sixpence; also 1*l.* and 2*l.* Also sixpence for Reports.

Jan. 27, Monday. Yesterday I received from F. E. B. 2s. 6d., from "Friends to the Institution" 4*l.*, and 2s. 6d. was put into the Chapel-boxes anonymously, ditto 10s., ditto 2s. 6d. Thus, by what came in on Saturday evening and yesterday, I am able to meet this day's demands, being 4*l.* 5s. 6d.—*Evening.* This afternoon I received from Camerton 5*l.*, of which 3*l.* is for the circulation of the Holy Scriptures, and 2*l.* for the Orphans. Thus, as the money goes out, the Lord kindly sends in supplies, and all without speaking to one human being about our necessities, but making them known to him only; yea, determined by his help and support, rather to endure many trials, in order that through our difficulties the Church of Christ at large may be comforted, and those who are weak in faith be strengthened, than to go away from the door of our Heavenly Father to that of brethren.

Feb. 1, Saturday. We are brought to the close of another week, and have been supplied with all we needed; but there is now again nothing left.

Feb. 2. When now again there was nothing left last evening in my hands for the beginning of the coming week, there have been to-day, by two different donors, two five-pound notes put into the Chapel-boxes, ditto 2s. 6d., ditto 2s. 6d., and also 2s. 6d. given besides. Thus we are again supplied for the present. O Lord, fill my heart with lively gratitude for all thy goodness! Lord help me, not only to trust in thee more and more, but also to love thee more and more, seeing that thou dost condescend to use such a poor sinful servant!

Feb. 8, Saturday evening. Above 30*l.* has come in during this week, but as there have been bought eight hundred weight of rice and eight bushels of peas, besides meeting the regular housekeeping expenses, again only a few shillings remain.

Feb. 10, Monday. Yesterday 2*l.* was sent to me, from a physician residing in Bristol; anonymously was put into the boxes at Bethesda Chapel 2s., ditto 1*l.*, and ditto 2s. 6d. Also by A. A. was given to me 7s. 2d. I was thus able, with the few shillings that were left on Saturday evening, to meet the expenses of this day, after which 7s. 10d. remained. This morning I was kept, through pressure of engagements, from having prayer, on account of the work, at the usual time; but at half-past two I united with my wife and her sister in prayer, and I asked the Lord, among other blessings, also for means. As to the latter, we had answer upon answer before the close of the day. For this afternoon 1*l.* 5s. 9d. arrived from Stirling. This afternoon also five sovereigns were put into the box in my room, which I happened to find out soon after. I received also this evening 5s., which had yesterday been anonymously put into the boxes at Salem Chapel. A poor brother likewise gave me 2s. Still further came in 11s. 5d.

Feb. 11. This morning I received still further a donation of 2*l.* This afternoon I received, as the profit of the sale of ladies' bags, 1*l.*, and 2*l.* 17s. 4d. came in by sale of articles.

Feb. 12. After I had sent off this morning the money which was required for the housekeeping of to-day, I had again only 16s. 2½d. left, being only about one-fourth as much as is generally needed for one day, merely for housekeeping, so that there was now again a fresh call for trusting in the Lord. In the morning I met again, as usual, with my wife and her sister, for prayer, to ask the Lord for many blessings, in connexion with this work, and for means also. About one hour after I received a letter from Devonshire, containing an order for 22*l.*, of which 10*l.* was for the Orphans, 2*l.* for a poor brother in Bristol, and 10*l.* for myself.—Besides having thus a fresh proof of the willingness of our Heavenly Father to answer our requests on behalf of the Orphans, there is this, moreover, to be noticed. For many months past the necessities of the poor saints among us have been particularly laid upon my heart. The word of our Lord: "Ye have the poor with you always, and whensoever ye will ye may do them good," has again and again stirred me up to prayer on their behalf, and thus it was again in particular this morning.

It was the coldest morning we have had the whole winter. In my morning walk for prayer and meditation I thought how well I was supplied with coals, nourishing food, and warm clothing, and how many of the dear children of God might be in need; and I lifted up my heart to God to give me more means for myself, that I might be able, by actions, to show more abundant sympathy with the poor believers in their need; and it was but three hours after when I received this 10*l.* for myself.—This evening was left at the Infant Orphan-House an anonymous letter, containing a sovereign for the Orphans, with the letters C. T. D.

Feb. 15, Saturday evening. 6*l.* 1s. 4d. has come in since the 12th. All the wants of this week have been richly supplied, but now there was again scarcely anything left towards the coming week, when this evening, just before I was going to our usual Saturday evening prayer meeting at the Orphan-Houses, a bank post bill for 10*l.* came to hand, being the gift of an aged clergyman. Thus we have a little for the next week, and we have also been able to order two hundred weight of soap, which it was very desirable to have, in order that there might be no need of using new soap for washing.

Feb. 16. To-day the Lord has given still more. Anonymously were put into the Chapel-boxes the following sums: A twenty-pound note, a sovereign, 2s. 6d., and 6s. There was given also by A. A. 3s. 7d., and a lady from Nottingham sent 5s. It was particularly kind of the Lord to send in this rich supply, because soon again a ton and a half of oatmeal will need to be ordered from Scotland, the rents need to be provided for, and I desire soon to be able to give again some money to the labourers in the Orphan-Houses for their own personal necessities.

March 4. Besides the 32*l.* 7s. 1d. that had come in on the 15th and 16th of Feb., there came in up to this day 38*l.* 17s. 1d., so that there was not any difficulty to meet all the demands. After I had met the expenses for housekeeping yesterday, all our means were again gone, and there was therefore nothing in hand towards the expenses of to-day. But the Lord helped us again; for two five-pound notes were found in one of the boxes at my house, whereby I am able to meet the need of this day, which is 3*l.*

Dear reader! does your heart admire the hand of God

in these instances? Does your heart praise the Lord for his goodness to us? Does it, or does it not? If not, then I beseech you to lay aside this account of his dealings with us, and fall on your knees, and ask God to have mercy upon you, and to soften your heart, that you may be sensible of his goodness to us. Surely if you can read this account of his goodness, and it make no impression upon you, it is a sign that your heart is not in a right state before God. I do not expect that all the readers will, as much as I do, by the grace of God, see the hand of God in all these matters, though I could wish that they did so, even a thousand times more than I do; but yet all should adore God for his great goodness to us, and should remember that what he does for us, in answering our poor sin-mixed petitions, for the sake of his dear Son, he is willing to do for them also.—Particularly notice, that the help never comes too late. We may be poor, yea, very poor, yet the help comes at the right time. We may have to wait upon the Lord, yea, even a long time; but at last he helps. It may seem as if the Lord had forgotten us, by allowing us to be poor and very poor, and that week after week; but at last he helps abundantly, and shows that only for the trial of our faith, both for our own benefit and the benefit of those who might hear of his dealings with us, has he allowed us to call so long upon him.—By the grace of God my heart is not troubled now, whether there be much or little in hand. I am sure, that, in the best time and way, God will send help; and thus it is not only with reference to temporal supplies, but also as it regards other things that we may need, or when we may be in peculiar difficulties in other respects. When boys need to be apprenticed, or situations have to be found for the girls, and there are difficulties in the way, as we never send them out, except to believing masters and mistresses, my soul is yet at peace, because I betake myself to my Heavenly Father. When there have been infectious diseases in the Orphan-Houses, whereby, looking at it naturally, many children might be taken away through death, my soul is at peace, because I cast this burden upon the Lord, and he sustains me. When one or the other of my fellow-labourers have left the work, and I needed their place supplied, and knew of no suitable persons, I have been looking to God for help, and

that has kept my heart in peace, though this is no small difficulty, as not only can no hirelings be engaged in this work, but also, in case the individual is a true child of God, there are yet so many things to be considered as to fitness and call for the work. When all kinds of lying reports have been spread about the work and about myself in connexion with it (though they have been very much less than might have been expected), I have committed my case to the Lord; and such things, instead of casting me down, often have greatly cheered me, because they have been a fresh proof to me, that God is at work, and that, therefore, the devil is angry, and stirs up these lies. When I have had for months to leave the work, as in the year 1838, for about four months, in 1843–4, for seven months, and in 1845, for three months, being called to labour on the Continent, or being ill, as in 1838, my heart has been in perfect peace, committing all the concerns of the whole Institution into the hand of God, considering that it was not my work but his, and that, therefore, I might be without carefulness about it. I seek to believe more and more what God says about himself in his holy word, and it is this which gives this rest and peace to my heart, not only with reference to all the various objects of the Scriptural Knowledge Institution for Home and Abroad, but also about my own body and soul, my dear wife and child, my other dear relations, the temporal supplies for myself and family, my service in the Church in which I labour, now consisting of more than 700 believers, and the state of the Church of Christ at large.

March 8, Saturday. 11*l.* 17s. 1½d. more has come in since March 4th. Thus I have been able fully to meet all the expenses during this week, but now have again only a few shillings left towards the necessities of the coming week.—*Late in the Evening.* After our prayer-meeting this evening four sovereigns were given to me, two for the Orphans, and two for the other objects. This is the beginning of the help which the Lord surely will give during the coming week also.

March 11, Tuesday. Only 17s. 6d. had come in since Saturday evening, and therefore, after the expenses of yesterday had been met, there remained again only a few shillings in hand, on account of which my prayer was, that the Lord would be pleased to send in something for

this day. When I came home last evening from the meeting, my wife told me, that there was some money in the box in our parlour. I opened it, and found it to contain five sovereigns. Thus we are supplied for to-day.

March 13. Yesterday I had sent off all the money, which was remaining in my hands, to the Orphan-Houses for housekeeping. Also the boxes were opened in the Orphan-Houses, but only 10½d. was found in them. We were comfortably supplied yesterday with all that was required, but there was no money at all in hand for to-day. When the letter-bag was brought this morning for money. I found that the need for housekeeping for to-day was 2*l.* 15s.; but there was nothing at all in hand. Therefore, while the boy was waiting at my house, I disposed of some trinkets, which had been sent a few days since, for 2*l.* 15s. 6d. Thus we had enough, and 6d. over. There came in also 8d. by sale of Reports.—*Evening.* This afternoon came in, by sale of articles, 17s. 6d., and by a donation 1*l.*

March 14. The need of to-day is 2*l.* There was 1s. 4d. more needed than I had in hand, when 5s. 6½d. came in from two Orphan-boxes. Thus we are helped for this day.

March 15. Yesterday afternoon half-a-sovereign was brought to me. In the evening 19s. 4d. came in by sale of articles. But this was not enough for the need of to-day. *While the Orphan boy was waiting* for the money, I received the following letter from Bath:—

"Beloved Brother in the Lord,

My sister E. and myself feel it laid on our hearts to send a little for your need at this time, thinking it must be increased by the severity of the weather. We send the inclosed in much love, and thankfulness to the Lord for permitting us to do it, half for the Orphans, and the rest to be applied as seems good to you. Etc."

The letter contained two sovereigns, of which I took one for the Orphans, and the other for the School fund. (The latter sovereign was needed to-day towards the payment of the teachers in the Day-Schools.) Thus we had all that was needed to-day for the Orphans. This evening I found a sixpence in the box in my room.

March 17, Monday. The sixpence which I took out of the box in my room on Saturday evening was all there was in hand, when yesterday came in the following donations: A. A. 1*l.* 2s. 4½d., anonymously 6d., ditto 2s. 6d. When this morning I had the bag sent from the Orphan-Houses, I found that the amount needed for house-keeping was 2*l.* 5s.; but there was only 1*l.* 5s. 10½d. in hand. Immediately after, before the bag was fetched, one of my fellow-labourers sent me 1*l.* for the Orphans, so that we had enough for to-day, and 10½d. over. When now only 10½d. remained, I received from Swansea a letter containing a franc and a half, with the words, "Jehovah Jireh."

March 18. "Jehovah Jireh" (*i. e.* the Lord will provide) has been again verified in our experience. 10½d. remained in hand, and the need of this day was 6*l.* 3s. But the Lord knew what we should need to-day, and he helped accordingly. I opened the box in my room, and found a ten-pound note in it. Thus we have more than is needed for the present moment.

March 19. Yesterday afternoon I had to pay out 3*l.* more, for one of the apprentices. Thus the expenses of yesterday were altogether 9*l.* 3s. How kind therefore of the Lord to have put it into the heart of the donor of the ten-pound note to give that money just then. And now we had again only 17s. 10½d. left towards the need of to-day, which is 3*l.* 5s. But our most faithful Lord has been again mindful of us at this time also. For there came in yesterday from a lady at Sheffield 1*l.*, by sale of Reports 8d., by the profit from the sale of ladies' bags 15s., and by three donations from Bristol donors 12s. Thus there is again all we need for to-day, and 6½d. left. Immediately after I had written this in my journal, the Lord began to increase again "the handful of meal in the barrel." I received from Barnstaple 5s.

March 20. Yesterday morning, when I was going to send off the money to the Orphan-Houses, I found 2s. 6d. in the letter-bag, slipped in anonymously. I found also 1*l.* 5s. in the boxes at my house. Thus we have 1*l.* 13s 0½d. for the necessities of to-day, which I find is sufficient.

March 21. All the money being spent, the boxes in the Orphan-Houses were opened yesterday afternoon, in which were found a sovereign, half-a-crown, and a penny. This is all we have for to-day.

March 22, Saturday. We were able to get through yesterday with the 1*l.* 2s. 7d. found in the boxes; but in this way our stores become much reduced. Now, however, was Saturday before us with its heavy expenses, and there was nothing yet to meet them, when I went last evening to our public meeting, to minister in the word. However, my soul has been in peace, by the grace of God, during all this week and the last, though again and again we have had nothing. I have reminded the Lord repeatedly during this week, that it is his commandment to his disciples to be without anxiety, and that I am so, because it is his commandment that I should be so, but that now he also, on his part, graciously would be pleased to continue to help me, as he had done hitherto. And now observe how the Lord again has helped! After the meeting last evening, between 8 and 9 o'clock, when I had nothing at all in hand, towards meeting the necessities of this day, which I had every reason to believe would be several pounds, one of the labourers in the Orphan-Houses gave to my wife 5s.; Miss E. N. sent 10s., and a sister in the Lord, who arrived last evening from Hull, put the following letter into the hands of my wife, addressed to me:—

"Hull, March 20, 1845.

"Beloved Brother,

I send you a small box of articles, which perhaps you can dispose of for the Orphans, and 5*l.* 5s. 7d. in money. Accept it in the Lord's name as a tribute of love from the brethren here. We shall be always glad to see you, if you travel this way.

In haste,

Yours affectionately in the Lord,

* * * *."

The box contained the following articles:—a gold cross, two gold pins, two brooches, three gold rings, a small gold seal, two gold bracelet snaps, a pair of silver studs, a mourning brooch, necklace and ear-rings, a silver pencil case, a stone cross and heart, a gilt waist-buckle, a dozen new cloth caps, two books, two new cotton frocks, three new pinafores, a new white lace veil, two waistcoats, a gown, a pair of lady's boots, three veils, two lace capes, two lace shawls, two muslin aprons, a lady's bag, four waist

ribands, three pairs of cuffs, a little scarf, three necklaces, 4*l.* 5s. 7d. for the Orphans, and 1*l.* for the circulation of the Holy Scriptures.—To-day there came in still further, by sale of articles, 8s. 6d., for Reports 8d., and by sale of stockings 6s. 8d. Also from Thornbury 2s. 6d. Thus we have enough for to-day, and something left.

March 24, Monday. Yesterday and to-day came in only 7s. 6d. altogether. We have enough for to-day, and 6s. 6d. left, as the demands were only 2*l.* 10s.

March 25. When there was again only 6s. 6d. left, 4s. 6d. came in yesterday evening. There was also 5*l.* put into one of the boxes at my house. This morning I received from a brother from the neighbourhood of Birmingham 2*l.*, and 10s. came in in another donation. Thus I had more than sufficient for the need of to-day, which is 4*l.* 15s. There came in still further from Bridgenorth 10s., and from a sister in Bristol 2s. 2d.

March 26. Only 3s. 2½d. came in to-day, by the boxes in my house.

March 27. Yesterday morning I sent off for housekeeping all the money I had left. It was enough for yesterday, but only enough. Only 1*l.* came in yesterday, and this morning 4d. This 1*l.* 0s. 4d. was all I had to send to the Orphan-Houses. There came in 5s. 4d. besides, and thus we were helped through this day also.

March 28. Nothing has come in. While the Orphan Boy was waiting for the bag to be made up, 1*l.* 5s. 1d. came in for a few trinkets, which I had sent out to be disposed of. This was all I could send.

March 29. By the 1*l.* 5s. 1d. we were helped through yesterday. But there was now again not only nothing at all in hand, but we required the more, as the last two days there had been so little laid out for housekeeping, and also because to-day was Saturday. However, as the Lord never once has forsaken me in the work during the last eleven years, so it has been at this time also. About five o'clock yesterday afternoon a note was given to me, in which was enclosed 5*l.*, which a physician of this city kindly sent. In the evening I received 10s., being the profit from the sale of ladies' bags, and this morning came in still further by the sale of articles 9s. 6d., and by the sale of stockings 13s. There was also last evening, anonymously, left at my house: a gold seal, a brass seal,

and a pair of gilt ear-rings. There came in still further 10s., and 10s.

March 31. There came in yesterday and to-day anonymously from Hayes-Town, near Uxbridge, 1*l.* and 2*l.* 10s. besides.

April 1. On account of the expenses of Saturday having been great, and of yesterday likewise, there remained again but a few shillings. Our gracious Lord, however, who day after day looks on our need, yea, so to speak, inspects our stores, knew this, and therefore yesterday caused ten pounds to be put into one of the boxes at my house. Last evening came in also still further 1*l.* 7s. from the Isle of Wight.

April 2. As I had to expend to-day more than 10*l.* for the Orphans, I was again reduced to a few shillings, when this morning 15*l.* was sent to me by two donors from Liverpool. Also at the same time came from the neighbourhood of Worcester 1*l.*

April 3. After having been comparatively poor, the Lord is now again pouring in means, which come very seasonably for the replenishing of our stores, for the obtaining of certain articles of clothing for the children, etc. To-day I received the following donations: 19*l.* 5s. from the brethren assembling at Bethesda Chapel, Sunderland, from two sisters 6s., from A. A. 18s. 5d., and by sale of Reports 1s. 4d.

April 4. Still further from Sunderland 15s., from Sherborne 8s. 6d., from Sidmouth 1*l.*, and from "S. P., Dublin," 1*l.* 10s.

April 12, Saturday. 33*l.* 19s. 7d. more has come in since the 4th. After the expenses of to-day had been met, there again remained scarcely anything, when, in addition to all the ordinary expenses during the coming week before me, a fresh supply of oatmeal needed to be purchased. The boxes in the Orphan-Houses therefore were opened, but only 1*l.* 8s. 6d. was found in them. There came in besides from A. A. 7s.

April 18, Lord's-day. This morning I received a letter from Hampstead, containing four post-office orders of 5*l.* each, of which 10*l.* is for the poor believers among whom I labour, and 10*l.* for the Orphans.

April 30. From the 13th to this day came in altogether 57*l.* 18s. 2d. Thus we were well supplied with all the means which were needed during this time; but yesterday

morning I had sent off to the Orphan-Houses the last money I had in hand. In the afternoon a sister in the Lord from Bath called, and gave me a sovereign, when I had not one penny in hand towards the need of to-day. This morning came in still further 18s. 10½d. by needlework done by the Orphan-Girls. Also 4d. by sale of a Report. Thus we were supplied for to-day.

May 1. When this day began I had only half-a-crown in hand, which I had taken last evening out of one of the boxes in my house. When I was this morning on my usual walk before breakfast, bringing my circumstances before the Lord, I reminded him of his word, "Take no thought for the morrow," (*i.e.* be not anxious about the morrow), and I told him that yesterday I had not been anxious about to-day, and prayed that he would now be pleased to help me. I was in perfect peace, though I had not the least natural prospect of having the necessities of to-day supplied. Of the money put by for the rent I would not take. Our *need* was my comfort. When I returned to my house at eight o'clock, I found that there had been sent from the Orphan-Houses 5s., given there, and 2s. 6d. for knitting. Also a person had brought yesterday to the Orphan-Houses the contents of an Orphan-box, which he had in his room, having felt himself, as he said, much stirred up to do so. It was 3s. 6d. Also a sister from Worcestershire had sent 10s. Before money was sent for from the Orphan-Houses, I received this morning from Stafford 10s. Thus I had 1*l.* 13s. 6d. to send to the Orphan-Houses for the need of to-day.

May 2. A little after I had sent off yesterday all the money to the Orphan-Houses, a brother in the Lord from Cornwall called on me and gave me 1*l.* In the afternoon a sister, who had received peculiar mercy from the Lord in the way of temporal help, called on me, and gave 10s.; and a christian servant, who had received a fee, gave it, the amount being 2s. Thus I have 1*l.* 12s. to send for the need of this day.—I had written this in my journal, but the bag was not yet gone, when I received from a distance of about 50 miles for Reports 4s. 1d., and from "a Field Officer" 3*l.* 10s. 2d., so that I could send all that was needed to-day, being 3*l.*

May 3. Yesterday afternoon I received half-a-crown more, and this morning 3s. by sale of articles, and fr-

Kendal 1*l.* 10s. The money from Kendal came about two minutes before the boy came from the Orphan-Houses to fetch the supply for this day's necessities. It was a most seasonable help, as this is Saturday and we needed to-day 3*l.* 15s., and I had not nearly enough in hand.—There came in further this morning 2*l.* 1s. 2d. by sale of articles, and in the evening 10s., being the contents of an Orphan-box in the neighbourhood of Coleford. —We are thus brought to the close of another week, and have a little left towards the heavy expenses of the next, as, besides the usual housekeeping expenses of about 20*l.*, there are a ton of oatmeal to be bought and about ten tons of gravel for the playgrounds.

July 10. From May 3rd to this day was a season of comparatively rich abundance. The total amount which was received amounts to 268*l.* 10s. 6½d. Immediately after the 3rd, the Lord sent considerable help, so that I was able to meet the extraordinary expenses which are referred to under the last date; for on the 4th came in 6*l.* 0s. 3d., on the 5th 9s. 6d., on the 6th 70*l.* and 100*l.*, of which two sums one half was put to the Orphan-Fund, and the other half to the fund for the other objects. On the 10th of May I had to leave Bristol on account of my health, and was absent three weeks, and had to pay away, for the Orphans, about 100*l.* within one fortnight after. How seasonably, therefore, came these two donations! When these two sums came in there was only 10s. 3d. in hand, and, as has been stated, ten tons of gravel were needed, and a ton of oatmeal, also money for the apprentices, besides the daily current expenses. Of the other donations, which came in during this period, I only mention: FROM NEGRO BRETHREN IN DEMERARA, TWELVE DOLLARS. All the money, after this long time of comparative abundance, was to-day, July 10th, reduced to 1*l.* 6s. 0½d., and 2*l.* was needed. The boxes in the Orphan-Houses were opened, in which 16s. 1d. was found. Thus we had enough, and 2s. 1½d. was left.

July 11. Yesterday afternoon a box came from Newport, in the Isle of Wight, with many articles for the Orphans, and a little money for the other objects. This was a precious encouragement to continue to wait upon the Lord. —At the first delivery this morning I received several letters. The first I opened was from a brother in

Devonshire, with a post-office order for 8s. for the Orphans. He writes thus: "My box for the Orphans still yields but little, but I have been frequently inquiring of the Lord when that little should be sent. For the last few days it has appeared to me that the time was come to send it to you, I therefore sent for the amount in an order, which I this day received, and now send, in hope it may be of some help in a time of need." This 8s. was a further precious encouragement.—The next letter which I opened was from a christian gentleman at Edinburgh, containing a bank order for twenty-five guineas, of which twenty guineas are for the work of the Lord in my hands, and five for my own personal necessities. There came in still further to-day, from brethren at Perth 2*l.*, and from the neighbourhood of Glasgow 5*l.*

July 12. This morning I received a legacy of 5*l.* for the Orphans, from the relatives of a dear departed sister in the Lord, who, from the commencement of the work up to her last days, had taken the deepest interest in it. Also from Jersey, together with a gold ring, 4*l.* Also 3*l.* 2s. 0½d. by sale of articles and donations, so that during these two days we have had above 40*l.* coming in.

From July 13th to 19th, came in 16*l.* 6s. 8d. more. On July 19th I left for the Continent, to labour for a season in Germany. I returned to Bristol on Oct. 11th. For about eight months, before I left England, I had seen it to be the Lord's will that I should go again this year to the Continent for a season, and had made my journey and service a subject of prayer from Nov., 1844. Besides asking the Lord's blessing upon my service, I also sought his help for means, and for this also I had not to wait on him in vain. For as the Lord had sent me, before I went in 1843, the sum of 702*l.* 3s. 7d. for various purposes, and for the work in Germany in particular, so he gave me again, on May 3rd, 1845, the sum of 500*l.* for the work in Germany, yet so, that the surplus which there might be should be employed for the Orphans and other work in my hands. From the conditions under which this donation was given to me, it was obvious then, that whilst on the one hand, when it plainly could be seen that only a certain part of the money would be needed for the present service in Germany, the remainder might be used for

the benefit of the Orphans, or the other part of the work; yet, on the other hand, we could not begin at once to apply any part of this money to the objects of the Scriptural Knowledge Institution; for at the commencement I could not know how much might be expended on the service in Germany, particularly as my intention was to do as much as I could for those on the Continent who are in darkness and in the shadow of death, and also as I wished as much as possible to help the Church of Christ in that part of the world. Therefore those who said: "We are quite sure there must be much money in hand for the Orphans, else Mr. Müller would not have gone to Germany," were quite mistaken. Often have I had similar things said to me, or about the work, when we have been in the deepest poverty, simply because in faith a certain step had been taken, or a certain thing had been done, which was connected with great expense. At such times, of course, my fellow-labourers and I have had to be silent. For we could not say it was not so, else it would be exposing our poverty, and would look like asking for help. Therefore we have had to be content with something like this: "Lord, it is said that there is much money in hand, whereby some who would otherwise help us, it may be, are kept from doing so; now, Lord, do thou nevertheless, as the work is thine, lay our need, the real state of things, on the hearts of thy children, that they may help us." Thus it was during my service in Germany in the summer of 1845 also. My fellow-labourers in Bristol, and my dear wife and I in Stuttgart, poured out our hearts before the Lord, seeking his help upon the work, and asking him also for means, and he did not despise our cries. There came in, during the twelve weeks that I was away, for the Orphans alone, 200*l.* 5s. 5½d. This, together with what was in hand when I left, and with some money, that at the end of my stay in Germany (when I saw that I should scarcely need one half of the 500*l.*) I could order to be drawn out of my bankers' hands in Bristol, richly supplied all the need, during my absence. But the labourers were repeatedly in straits, and several times the last money was gone; but the Lord refreshed their hearts by seasonable help.—Of the 500*l.* given for the service in Germany, and for the printing of tracts, there re-

mained 311. 18s. 1½d., of which I took for the Orphans 161*l.* 18s. 1½d., and for the other objects of the Scriptural Knowledge Institution 150*l.*

Jan. 17, 1846. From the day of my return to Bristol, on Oct. 11, up to this day, there has been no difficulty at all with regard to means. The many donations which have come in, together with what came to the Orphan-Fund from the surplus of the sum given for the work in Germany, enabled me, without any difficulty, to meet all the expenses, though they were many and great. Of the donations which came in during this period I only refer to the following: On Nov. 19th I left Bristol to labour for a little while at Sunderland. I had but little money to leave with my dear wife for the work; but my path was plain to go, and therefore my hope was in God, as to the work in Bristol during the meantime, being assured that he would care for it. And thus it was. Rich supplies were granted by him. On the very next day, after my departure, Nov. 20th, the following *anonymous* letter was left at my house, containing six five-pound notes and two sovereigns.

"My dear Brother in the Lord,

About six or eight weeks since, anticipating soon a remittance by a bill, which would become available about a week previous to this date, I was led to ask the Lord what he would desire to do with the money which might remain in my hands when I should receive the money for this bill, and your name was immediately presented to my mind with these words: "The Lord has need of it." I therefore enclose the amount, viz. thirty-two pounds, and remain, Dear Brother,

Yours affectionately in the Lord,

Nov. 20, 1845. &c. &c."

Look at this, dear reader! Is not the hand of God most manifest in such cases? This unknown donor prays what to do with the money, and *my name* is brought to his or her mind. See also how seasonable the help!

This 32*l.* was put to the Orphan-Fund, as there was but little in hand. By this and the other sums, which came in during my absence, my dear wife was helped, without any difficulty, through all the expenses.

There being now again little in hand, I asked the Lord

yesterday (Jan. 16, 1846) that he would be pleased to send in supplies, when almost immediately after a sister in the Lord, who had unexpectedly received a rich remittance from far-distant relatives, gave me 10*l.*; and to-day a lady, who on her way from Cornwall to London was staying for a day or two at Clifton with relatives, kindly sent me 20*l.* Thus we are again supplied at least for a week.

March 2. Goodness and mercy have followed us again in many respects with reference to the work, since the last date, Jan. 17th, up to this day; and, with regard to means, there has been again a rich supply granted to us, so that I have been able to meet all the expenses of the work, though they have been for the Orphans alone 180*l.* 19s. 1d., and more than 100*l.* for the other objects, during these six weeks. But there remained now scarcely anything in hand, when I received this morning, from a distance of about 200 miles, the following letter with 15*l.*

"Beloved Brother,

Enclosed is the produce of the sale of a pianoforte, which I thankfully send for the Lord's work in your hands, having received blessing to my own soul by means of that work, and not the least in being weaned from some of those things I once found pleasure in. I have been waiting payment of the amount for some time, but, having money now in hand, I send it without further delay, as you may possibly need it now. The 15*l.* you will kindly allot as you see most desirable. That our God would fulfil in you all the good pleasure of his goodness, and the work of faith with power, that the name of our Lord Jesus Christ may be glorified in you, is the prayer of

Your affectionate Brother,

* * * Feb. 28, 1846. * * * * *."

March 18. Up to this day also we have been helped, though but little, comparatively, has come in. When yesterday, March 17, all the means were gone, a brother gave me 1*l.* as a thankoffering for having received a sum of money unexpectedly, as a dividend from a bankruptcy. In the afternoon I received a half sovereign as the profit of the sale of ladies' bags, made by a sister in the Lord for the benefit of the Orphans, and 2s. 6d. was put into an Orphan-box at my house. This morning I received the

following letter from Devonshire, together with a Post-office order for 5*l.*

"Beloved Brother,

I send you an order for 5*l.*, half of which will you accept for yourself, and the other half appropriate for the Orphans;—or, if they happen to be well supplied at present, you may apply it to the building you have in contemplation. Job. xxii. 21–30.

Believe me very affectionately yours,

* * * *."

The half of this money was taken for the *present* need of the Orphans. There was also sent 1*l.* 13s. from Weymouth. Thus we are again supplied for the present need.

March 20. To-day I have to send more money for housekeeping to the Orphan-Houses, and the Lord has kindly given me yesterday afternoon and this morning the means for it. Yesterday came in by sale of trinkets, &c., 3*l.* 8s. 4½d. and by two donations 2s., and this morning I received 11s. from Marlborough.

March 21, *Saturday.* Since yesterday morning, when I had sent off to the Orphan-Houses *the very last penny in hand*, the following sums have come in: A sister from Worcester gave 2s. 6d., and in the boxes in my house I found 10*l.* This morning 10s. came from the neighbourhood of Castle Cary, from a sister in Bristol 2s. 2d., by sale of articles 1*l.* 15s. 8d., and by sale of stockings 5s. Thus I have been enabled, during this week also, to meet all the expenses, though they have been more than 30*l.*; and 7s. 6d. is left towards the coming week. My heart is in perfect peace, though there are between 140 and 150 persons to be provided for (including the teachers and matrons in the Orphan-Houses and the apprentices), and though there is heavy sickness in two of the houses.—*Saturday Evening.* The Lord has already increased "the handful of meal in the barrel, and the little oil in the cruse." This afternoon I received 3*l.* 14s., being the contents of an Orphan-box at Barnstaple. There came in 3s. 6d. besides.

March 26. On the 23rd came in 3*l.* 2s. 1d. On the 24th and 25th came in 1*l.* 5s. Yesterday was also take

out of the boxes in the Orphan-Houses 7s. 6d., our need having led to the opening of them, and in the boxes in my house was found 2s. 6d.; but we had not quite enough for the need of to-day, when about twelve o'clock this morning a box arrived from Chelsea, containing 17s. 0¼d., many ornaments, etc.—We are thus helped for this day.

March 27. To-day came in 4*l.* 11s. 7d. by sale of some of the articles which arrived yesterday, and by sale of some other articles. Likewise 1s. from a little girl. Thus we are again provided for to-day.

March 28, *Saturday*. Yesterday afternoon came in still further from Street, by sale of Reports 10s. and three donations of 6d., 4d., and 2d. There was likewise given by a sister a small gold watch-chain. This morning I received, by sale of articles 4*l.* 14s. 4d., by sale of Reports 1s., and by sale of stockings 6s. Thus, by the income of this week, and by about 2*l.* 12s. which I found I had more than was needed for the rent when paying it on the 25th, having to receive drawbacks from the landlords, I have been again able to meet the house-keeping expenses during this week, amounting to 21*l.* 19s. 10d., besides the rent which is 37*l.*, for which the money had been put by, and I am come to the close of another week, with 17s. 8d. in hand towards the necessities of the next.—*Late on Saturday*. There has come in still further this evening from A. A. 11s. 3½d., and from Mrs. R. 8s.

March 30, Monday. My heart was particularly in peace on Saturday evening after the prayer meeting, though I could leave only a few shillings for each of the four houses towards the house-keeping expenses of this week, where, besides the ordinary expenses, there is also money needed on account of heavy sickness in two of the houses. When I emptied the purse to the last penny, and returned home without anything in hand, I felt fully assured that we should have again abundant reasons for thanksgiving next Saturday, and told my dear fellow-labourers so. And thus it is. Yesterday was put into the Chapel-boxes for the Orphans 50*l.*, ditto 1s., ditto 10s. This morning I received 5*l.* from a miner at a distance, an entire stranger.

Thus our Heavenly Father has helped most seasonably. 1, In giving me means for present necessities as to house-keeping. 2, In providing me with means for the extra need on account of the illness of several children. 3, In

giving means for getting a ton and a half of oatmeal from Scotland.

April 4, Saturday evening. On the 2nd I received anonymously from London 1*l.*, besides some money for needlework done by the Orphan-Girls; on the 2nd was sent to me 10*l.* from Bath, from a lady quite unknown to me. These two donations I received *the very moment I rose from my knees*, having asked the Lord for more means, as, on account of the heavy expenses just now, we needed again more money by the end of this week. There was also given on the 2nd 1*l.* by a lady who had received a present of 10*l.* from some relations, and gave the tenth part of it to the Orphans. On the 3rd and 4th came in 2*l.* 10s. 7d. The actual expenses of this week have been 42*l.*, besides 22*l.* having been put by for the oatmeal which has been ordered, and we have a little more than 9*l.* left.

April 18, Saturday. The Lord has been again good to me since the 4th with regard to means, 53*l.* 14s. 0½d. having come in during these two weeks. To-day, having only 2*l.* 1s. 5½d. in hand, towards the supplies of the next week, we made known our requests to God, and, while I was in prayer with two of my fellow-labourers, there came a letter, in which F. from London sent 10s. There came in almost immediately after by sale of articles 13s. 8d., and by a sister in the Lord from Brixham, who called this morning, 10s. was given. This afternoon the boxes in the Orphan-Houses were opened, but only 10s. 10d. found in them. 6s. came in besides. This afternoon a brother called at the Boys' Orphan-House and gave eight sovereigns, saying that he had had a desire to bring this money for some days past, but had been unable on account of his health, but now was pressed in spirit to do so, though scarcely able to walk. The following points are to be noticed concerning the Lord's goodness to-day. 1, I purpose, on account of my health, and for the sake of procuring time for the writing of the Report, to leave Bristol on Monday, and thus I am able to leave money for at least 3 or 4 days behind. 2, I had been speaking to-day and yesterday in my prayers to the Lord, "It is thy will that I should not be anxious. I am not, by thy grace; but, Lord, there are about 140 persons to be provided for in the 4 Orphan-Houses, wilt thou then help me

with means?"—I was able to send altogether 11*l.* 6s. 11½d. to the matrons.

April 20, Monday morning. The Lord has helped still further. There came yesterday anonymously from London 5*l.* with these words: "To Brother Müller, with the writer's fervent prayer, that the giver of all good may continue to pour down upon him and all his undertakings the abundance of his blessings. Half for his own necessities, and half to be disposed of as he thinks fit." I cannot help noticing here the Lord's double kindness, both towards the Orphans and towards myself. I now need for myself more money than usual, as, besides the regular house-keeping expenses at home, I need money for myself and wife in going away for the twofold object of our health and my having thus time to write the Report: and the Lord supplies me with means. Thus also I received yesterday 5*l.* for "change of air," and 5*l.* was sent to me for myself the day before yesterday from a brother at Winchester, whom I have never seen. I find continually that, without making provision for extra need, and without reckoning anxiously about the future, the Lord helps me when I need anything. I find it pleasant and precious, *even as to this life*, to walk in the ways of the Lord.

There came in still further yesterday morning for the Orphans from A. A. 13s. 1d., from a brother 1*l.*, from "A friend at Stirling" 6s., and from an Irish sister 5s.—Thus I could send still further this morning to the matrons, before my departure, 4*l.* 11s. 1d., so that I am able to leave about 16*l.* behind, and thus the need is supplied for about five days, humanly speaking; and before that time is gone, I expect to obtain more, by waiting upon God.

This morning, before I departed, I received a letter in which was the following sentence: "With regard to property I do not see my way clearly. I trust it is all indeed at the disposal of the Lord; and if you would let me know of any need of it in his service, any sum under 200*l.* shall be at your disposal at about a week's notice." This brother meant what he said, I have every reason to believe. I might have written: "The Orphans, my dear brother, are now in need, and it would be a particular comfort to me, as I am going away, if you would send me 190*l.*,"

and I doubt not that I should have had it after a week. I preferred, however, to continue, as heretofore, to deal with God alone in this service, that the church of Christ at large still further may be benefited, particularly those who are weak in the faith, or those who are recently brought to the knowledge of our Lord Jesus, in seeing how blessed it is to make known our requests unto God, and that those who trust in him are not confounded. I therefore wrote to this brother, with regard to his kind offer, that I only speak to the Lord about my need.

May 9, Saturday. This evening, after an absence of 19 days, I returned to Bristol. During all this time the Lord supplied us with means, but it was almost always by the day. During the last days, in the course of my regular meditation on the New Testament, I came to that precious word: "Casting all your care upon him: for he careth for you," 1 Peter, v. 7, and, by God's grace, I was able to cast all my care concerning this work on the Lord; and when I returned this evening I found, that for this day also the Lord had not only provided, but there was 1*l.* 16s. 3½d. more than was needed.

May 11, Monday. Yesterday a brother from Hackney gave 2*l.*, and 17s. 1½d. came in besides. Thus, with what was left on Saturday, I was able to send 4*l.* 13s. 5d. to the Orphan-Houses, to be divided among the four matrons. After having sent this morning *to the last penny* all the money I had in hand to the Orphan-Houses, I received 200*l.*, which, being left entirely at my disposal, was portioned out thus: 100*l.* for the present need of the Orphans, 50*l.* for the other objects, and 50*l.* for the Building Fund of the Orphan-House. How kind of the Lord to help so seasonably; for I have very many and heavy expenses before me, besides the ordinary expenses of about 30*l.* per week. There are to be bought 4 bags of rice, 4 bushels of peas, 2 cwt. of soap, materials for boys' clothes, the 4 houses are to be coloured down, several small sums for apprentices are to be paid, the Report is to be printed, etc. This also is to be noticed: The Lord rewarded me thus, for not exposing our poverty to the brother, who offered on April 20th to give me any sum under 200*l.*, if I would let him know if I needed anything for the Lord's work. Thus we had at least a little more than we should have had, even if I had asked that brother.

May 26. Up to this day, till the last hours before the commencement of our public meetings, at which an account is to be given of the Lord's dealings with us since July 14, 1844, the Lord's goodness has continued in supplying us with means. About 80*l.* more has come in during the last fifteen days. And this very day, the last day of this period, I received 26*l.* anonymously from Stafford, with an affectionate and encouraging note; 20*l.* 1s. 6½d. I took out of the boxes at my house, two ten-pound notes having been put in; and several other little donations came in besides.

It is scarcely needful to state, at the close of these details, that, notwithstanding our having been often poor, and very poor, yet the children have always had the needful articles of clothing and nourishing food. Those who know what it is to walk in the fear of God, know also, that God would not help us, in answer to our prayers, if we hypocritically stated that the children were well provided with wholesome food, etc., and yet it were not true.

Account of the New Orphan-House, on Ashley Down, Bristol, from its earliest beginning to June 4, 1846.

I BEGAN the service of caring for children who are bereaved of *both* parents, by death, born in wedlock, and are in destitute circumstances, on Dec. 9, 1835. For nearly ten years I had never had any desire to *build* an Orphan-House. On the contrary, I decidedly preferred spending the means, which might come in, for present necessities, and desired rather to enlarge the work according to the means which the Lord might be pleased to give. Thus it was till the end of October, 1845, when I was led to consider this matter in a way in which I had never done before. The occasion of my doing so was this: On Oct. 30, 1845, I received from a gentleman, who lived in the street where the 4 Orphan-Houses were, a polite and friendly letter, in which he courteously stated to me, that the inhabitants in the adjoining houses were in various ways inconvenienced by the Orphan-Houses being in Wilson Street. He left to myself the judgment of the case.

This letter I received on Thursday morning, Oct. 30, 1845. Being very much occupied that week, I had scarcely

any time to consider the matter. On Monday morning, however, Nov. 3, I set apart some hours for the prayerful consideration of the subject, and after I had besought the Lord to guide me to a right decision, I wrote down the reasons which appeared to me to make it desirable that the Orphan-Houses should be *removed* from Wilson Street, and also the reasons *against removing*. As far as they are suitable for being stated in print, they were these:

I. *Reasons for Removing from Wilson Street.*

1. The neighbours feel themselves inconvenienced by the noise of the children in the play-hours. This complaint is neither without foundation, nor unjust; for many persons are very much inconvenienced by the noise of children, and those living close by the Orphan-Houses must be so during the play-hours, even though the noise be only of that kind, that one could not at all find fault with the dear children on account of it. I should myself feel it trying to my head to live next door to the Orphan-Houses, on that account. I therefore ought to do to others, as I should wish to be done by. This point had never before appeared to me in so serious a light.

2. The greatness of the number of the inmates in the houses has several times prevented the drains from acting properly, and thus has a few times affected the water in one or two of the neighbours' houses. With reference to these two reasons as it regards those living near the Orphan-Houses, these words, "Let not your good be evil spoken of," Rom. xiv. 16, and "Let your moderation (*i.e.* yieldingness) be known unto all men," Philip iv. 5, seemed to me two important portions of the word of God to be acted out in this matter.

But in addition to the reasons for removing the Orphan-Houses from Wilson Street, on account of the unavoidable occasional inconvenience that comes upon the neighbours, there appeared now to me, when once I was led to consider seriously the reasons for removing the Institution from Wilson Street, other reasons for doing so, in connexion with the work itself, which had occurred to me before, but never in so strong a light as now, when the subject was brought more immediately before me by the letter, in which I was politely requested to remove the

Orphan-Houses from Wilson Street. These reasons are as follows:

1. We have no proper play-grounds in Wilson Street. There is one play-ground, which, however, is only large enough for the children of *one house* at a time; but as there are children in *four* houses who ought to have the benefit of it, we cannot arrange so that all the children have the full benefit of that play-ground, as the meals, the school-hours, the weather, and other hinderances interfere. The dear Orphans ought, I know, to be trained in habits of industry, but children are children, and need to be treated as such; and they should, on account of their health, have the full benefit of a play-ground. But this they cannot have in Wilson Street: and to take them out into the fields for the benefit of bodily exercise, as we have been in the habit of doing, is often very inconvenient.

2. We have no ground for cultivation, near the Orphan-Houses, and hence there must be more walking for the children, on account of using proper means for keeping them, with the blessing of God, in health, than is in other respects good for them; because frequent walks easily beget in children habits of idleness, which would be especially felt when boys are apprenticed. But this difficulty cannot be obviated by remaining in Wilson Street, and renting a piece of land somewhere else for cultivation; for, to get the children ready and conduct them to the piece of ground, not only takes a good deal of time, but is connected with other great inconveniences, yea with insurmountable difficulties, so that we found it needful to give up a small piece of ground which we once rented for about two years for the Orphan-Boys, at a distance of about half a mile from Wilson Street. Thus, by removing from Wilson Street, and obtaining premises surrounded by land for cultivation, we should be able to procure a most important moral benefit for the children, by having the opportunity more fully than we now have, of training them in habits of industry, besides giving to the boys occupation which is more suitable for them than knitting, which is now the only employment they have, besides making their beds, cleaning the house, and attending to the cooking of their meals. Moreover, this would

be occupation in the open air, which not only would bring into exercise the use of their limbs, but also make walking, for the sake of health, almost entirely needless.

3. If we were to remove from Wilson Street, and obtain premises in the country, we might have all the washing done at home, which now, for want of room, can be only done in part. Thus the girls also would have more laborious work at home, a point of great importance for them, so that they would not feel so much the hardships connected with going out to service.

4. The situation of Wilson Street is *perhaps* scarcely bracing enough for strengthening the constitution of the Orphans, most of whom, being the offspring of very diseased parents, require a very invigorating place of abode.

5. The present situation is *certainly* not desirable for the teachers, especially as, when their hours of work are over, they have no garden or fields close to the house, immediately to go into for a little refreshment of their body; and for some of them it is too far to go to fields, where they might have a bracing air.

6. In times of sickness we are too confined in the houses in Wilson Street. If there were less than 30 children in each house, the average expenses for each child would be too great, it being desirable, as the arrangements are now, that there should not be less than 3 labourers in each house; and yet, if there are 30 children in each house, we are too full in time of sickness, as we have not a single spare room in any of the houses. Now, though the Lord has during all these years most mercifully helped us through such seasons, yet it has not been without inconvenience, and without also, perhaps, having more of the children in one room, at such times, than on account of health it is desirable.

7. Even ordinarily, when there is no sickness, it would be desirable to have more room.

There are no premises to be had in Bristol, or in the immediate neighbourhood, where we could have these advantages; *for I have been looking about in all directions for this purpose during the last ten years.* But suppose there were a large house to be had in one part of the city, and a second a mile off, and a third and a fourth in other directions, such houses, on account of our peculia-

position in the work, would not do. For in seasons of need the distance of the several houses would render it very inconvenient for the labourers to meet together for prayer, to divide the means that may be in hand, etc. Besides, when in seasons of other peculiar difficulties, connected with the work, I wished to meet all my fellow-labourers, there would arise great difficulty by their being divided in different parts of the city. It would also thus be very inconvenient to persons, who wish to see the work, to go from place to place, in order to have a view of all the Orphan-Houses. But this is not all. The more I have considered the matter, the more am I now persuaded, that no ordinary large houses, built for private families, and therefore only calculated to accommodate 10 or 15 persons at most for any length of time in them, will do for charitable institutions of any considerable size, as no ordinary house, except built on purpose, furnishes the proper advantages of ventilation, *a point so needful for the health of the inmates in a charitable institution.* There seemed to me, therefore, to remain nothing but to build premises for the purpose.

II. *Reasons for Remaining in Wilson Street.*

1, God *hitherto* has pointed out the spot most plainly. At the commencement of the work, in 1835, no other house was to be had but No. 6, Wilson Street. Afterwards, when in 1836 the Infant Orphan-House was on the point of being opened, again I was looking about in all directions, and saw many houses, but found none that was suitable, till all at once, most unlooked for, the occupiers of No. 1, Wilson Street, were desirous of immediately leaving that house, and I was able thus to rent it. When in 1837 I was on the point of opening the Boys' Orphan-House, I looked about again for a house in all directions; for I knew not at that time, what I have since learned by experience, that it was so important that all the houses should be near together. After seeking long in vain, I at last found a very large house, not far from Wilson Street, which I rented; but when the occupiers of the houses in the neighbourhood heard that that house had been let for a charitable institution, they threatened the owner with an action, which led him to request

me to give up the agreement, which, of course, I did immediately. At last, most unexpectedly, after having looked about in vain in all directions, the occupiers of No. 3, Wilson Street, offered it to me, and I rented it for the Orphan Boys. Lastly, in the year 1843, when I was led to see it to be the will of God to go forward in this work, and to establish the Girls' Orphan-House, No. II, for older girls, one particular feature in the matter was, that the house No. 4, in Wilson Street, had been offered to me, without being sought after, when there had not been for about 6 years one single large house to be let in that street.

[But though *hitherto* God has pointed out Wilson Street as being the spot where this work should be carried on, may not *now* the time have come for removing?]

2. Perhaps we might also rent Nos. 2, 5, and 7 in Wilson Street, and use two out of those three houses for Orphan-Houses, and one of them for an infirmary in the case of sickness.

[But then, I said to myself, would not the objection, which the neighbours on the opposite side of the street might make, on account of the noise of the children in their play-hours, etc. remain? Also the drains would be still more unsuitable, not being constructed for so many inmates; and to alter them would be a heavy expense. The play-ground would be still less sufficient, if two new houses were added. Lastly, there was no reason to think that we could rent Nos. 2, 5, and 7.]

3. There are these three great objections against building: The considerable sum which is required, and which could be spent for present use upon the Orphans. The pilgrim character of the Christian seems lost in building. The time that it will necessarily take in making arrangements for it.

[Do not all these objections only hold good, I said to myself, if I were *needlessly* to set about building? If I could rent premises, which are really in every way suitable for the work, and I *preferred* building, then those objections would apply to the case; but when one is *forced* to it, it is no more than erecting a large building, because there may be 800 children of God in Fellowship who have been hitherto renting a meeting place, but for certain reasons are obliged to leave it, and cannot rent

another. Such could not be accused of needlessly spending money in building instead of renting; nor could it be justly said that they have *on that account* given up the pilgrim character; nor would it be time wasted if some individuals were to make arrangements about the building of that meeting-place. Therefore these three objections just mentioned, which had been *for ten years strongly in my own mind*, were removed when once I saw plainly that nothing remained but to build.]

After I had spent a few hours in prayer and consideration over the subject, I began already to see that the Lord would lead me to build, and that his intentions were not only the benefit of the Orphans and the better ordering of the whole work, but also the bearing still further testimony that he *could* and *would* provide *large* sums for those who need them and trust in him for them; and besides, that he would enlarge the work, so that, if I once did build a house, it might be large enough to accommodate three hundred Orphans with their teachers and other overseers and servants needful for the work.—Concerning this latter point, I think it important to remark, that during no period had the number of the applications for the admission of Orphans been greater than just before I was led to think about building, so that it was quite painful to me, not to be able to comply with the wishes of all the many persons who applied for the admission of Orphans. There were many waiting for admission, particularly Orphan-Boys.

In the afternoon of November 3rd, 1845, I laid the matter before my fellow-labourers in the Church (eight in number), to get their judgment, whether I ought not to leave Wilson Street, and to build. All judged that I ought to leave Wilson Street, and none saw reasons against building.

On Nov. 4th, my dear wife and I began to meet for prayer about this matter, and purposed to do so morning by morning. We asked God for clearer light concerning the particular points connected with the subject; and being assured that it was his will that I should build, I began asking the Lord for means.

On Nov. 7th, I judged, having considered the matter more fully, that sufficiently large premises to furnish all needful accommodation for 300 children (from their earliest

days up to 15 or 16 years old), together with a sufficiently large piece of ground in the neighbourhood of Bristol, for building the premises upon, and the remainder for cultivation by the spade, would cost at least Ten Thousand Pounds. I was not discouraged by this, but trusted in the living God.

We continued meeting for prayer morning by morning for 15 days, but not a single donation came in; yet my heart was not discouraged. The more I prayed, the more assured I was, that the Lord would give the means. Yea, as fully assured was I that the Lord would do so, as if I had already seen the new premises actually before me. This assurance arose not from some vague, enthusiastical feeling, the mere excitement of the moment, but 1, from the reasons already related, and especially from the commandment contained in Philip iv. 5. For I saw that I should not act according to the mind of our Lord Jesus, if I did not, as soon as I could, remove the Orphans from Wilson Street, as it had been stated to me in the letter above referred to, that their living there was an annoyance to some of the inhabitants in that street. 2. This assurance that I should build an Orphan-House arose, further, from the whole way in which the Lord has been pleased to lead me in connexion with the Scriptural Knowledge Institution for Home and Abroad since its beginning on March 5, 1834, *i. e.* he has been leading me forward as by an unseen hand, and enlarging the work more and more from its commencement, and, generally, without my seeking after it, and bringing things so clearly before me that I could not but see that I ought to go forward. 3. Lastly and chiefly this my assurance, that I should build unto the Lord this House of Mercy, arose also particularly from this, that having strictly examined my heart as to the motives for doing so, I found that, as before God, I could say that my only motives were his honour and glory and the welfare of the Church of Christ at large, the real temporal and spiritual welfare of destitute Orphans, and the welfare of all those who might take care of them, in the building to be erected. And finding, that, after praying again and again about the matter, I still remained in perfect peace, I judged it assuredly to be the will of God that I should go forward.

On Nov. 15th, brother R. C. arrived, to labour for a

little while in Bristol. I communicated to him my position with reference to having to remove the Orphans from Wilson Street, and I had his judgment also as to its being of God that I should *build*. This dear brother's judgment greatly encouraged me. His visit was to me of great help in this particular, especially in stirring me up yet more, to bring everything, in connexion with this matter, before God. He also laid it on my heart to seek direction from God with reference to the plan of the building. He said, "you must ask help from God to show you the plan, so that all may be according to the mind of God."

On Nov. 19th I left with my brother and fellow-labourer, Mr. Craik, for Sunderland, where we arrived on Nov. 20th. Here we laboured till Dec. 4, when I left alone for Kendal, to labour there for a few days. All the time that I was at Sunderland I had very much prayer about the building of the Orphan-House, and I felt all the time fully assured, that God would bring the matter to pass. But thirty days had now passed away, whilst I had been day by day waiting upon God for means for this work, and not a single penny had been given to me. Nevertheless, this did not in the least discourage me, but my assurance, that God in his own time and in his own way would give the means, increased more and more. While I was at Sunderland the portion which came in course of my meditation, on the New Testament, was the beginning of the epistle of James. More than at any period in my life was I struck with these verses: "My brethren, count it all joy when ye fall into divers temptations (*i.e.* trials); knowing this, that the trying of your faith worketh patience. But let patience have her perfect work, that ye may be perfect and entire, wanting nothing." James i. 2—4. It was especially the last verse, "But let patience have her perfect work, etc." which I found of exceeding great importance with reference to the building of the Orphan-House. It led out my soul in prayer day after day, to ask the Lord to increase my faith and to sustain my patience. I had these verses so impressed upon my heart, that I could not but think that God meant particularly to bless me by them, with regard to the work before me, and that I should especially need patience as well as faith.

I stayed at Kendal from the evening of Dec. 4, to Dec. 8, when I left for Bristol, where I arrived on Dec. 9th. It was now 35 days that I had been day by day bringing this matter before God, as to the various points connected with it, and especially also asking the Lord for means; but nothing whatever had been given to me. On the day after my return I renewed our united prayer meeting with my dear wife. Now observe: on the 36th day, after having begun to pray, on Dec. 10, 1845, I received 1000*l.* towards the building of the Orphan-House. This is the largest donation that I had received up to that time for the Scriptural Knowledge Institution; but when I received it I was as calm, as quiet, as if I had only received one shilling. For my heart was looking out for answers. Day by day I was expecting to receive answers to my prayers. Therefore, having faith concerning the matter, this donation did not in the least surprise me. Yea, if Five Thousand Pounds, or Ten Thousand Pounds had been given to me, instead of One Thousand Pounds, it would not have surprised me.

Dec. 13. On the 39th day my sister-in-law, who had been for some weeks absent in London, and who had now returned to Bristol, told me that she had met a gentleman in London, who, having quite recently read with deep interest the Narrative of the Lord's dealings with me, wished to know as many particulars about the work in my hands as he could. Being told by my sister-in-law that I purposed to build an Orphan-House, he, an architect, offered to make the plan, and superintend the building *gratuitously*. Unsolicited he pressed this matter upon her with deep and lively interest. I hear also that he is a Christian. The fact, that this offer comes *unsolicited* and from a Christian architect, shows especially the hand of God. This is the *second* proof that God will help me in this matter.

Dec. 23. This is now the 50th day since I have come to the conclusion to build, and the 49th day since we have been daily waiting upon God for help. Nothing more has come in since Dec. 10th, not even one penny. This morning I have been particularly encouraged by the consideration that the Lord has sent me the 1000*l.* and the promise from that pious architect, whom I have never seen, and of whose name I am as yet in ignorance, *not to*

mock me, but as an earnest that he will give all that is needed.

It seems desirable that we should have a large piece of ground of at least six or seven acres. This piece of ground must be in the vicinity of Bristol. 1. In order that the Orphan-House may be accessible to me, as my place at present is fixed by my other work in Bristol. 2. That the labourers in the Institution and the Orphans may be able to attend our meetings, at least on the Lord's day. For if meetings were held on purpose in the Orphan-House, either the labourers or the children would not be benefited by them in that measure in which it is desirable. 3. That the inhabitants of Bristol may have the benefit of seeing with their own eyes this work of God, which is so manifestly his and not mine. 4. That strangers, who pass through Bristol, may have easy access to it, for the same reason. But then, such a piece of ground, near Bristol, where there is just now such an inordinate desire for building, in the way of speculation, would cost in all human probability between 2000*l.* and 3000*l.* Then, the building itself, however plain, would not cost less than from 6000*l.* to 8000*l.*, being for 300 Orphans, besides all their overseers, teachers, and assistants. In addition to this, the fitting up and furnishing the house for all these between 300 and 400 inmates, would not cost less than 1,500*l.* more. This is indeed a large sum of money which I need; but my hope is in God. I have not sought after this thing. It has not begun with me. God has altogether unexpectedly, by means of the letter before mentioned, led me to it. Only the day before I received the letter, I had no more thought about *building* premises for the accommodation of the Orphans, than I had had during the ten previous years.—My especial prayer is, that God would continue to me *faith* and *patience*. If he shall be pleased to help me, in faith and patience to continue to wait on him, help will surely come.

Dec. 24. No further donation yet. But my hope in God is unshaken. He most assuredly will help.—I have on purpose not issued any circular in connexion with this matter, in order that the hand of God may be the more manifest. To some persons, residing in or out of Bristol, I have spoken about my intention of building, when conversation led to it. Through this, if the Lord please, he

can make it known to others, and thus send means for the Building Fund. Or he can send in such an abundance of means for the work which is already in existence, that from that abundance there might be a rich surplus towards the Building Fund. But howsoever God may help, I do desire to see his hand made most manifest. There will be, no doubt, many trials connected with this enlargement of the field of labour (for if with 130 Orphans there has been so much trial of faith, what is to be expected when the number is 300); and therefore I desire to see as clearly as daylight that God himself is leading me onward.

Dec. 29. This is the 56th day since I came to the conclusion to build, and the 55th since I have been day by day waiting upon God concerning it. Only that one donation had come in till this evening, when I received 50*l*. This donation is exceedingly precious to me, not only because I am sure it is most cheerfully given, nor even because of its largeness, but because it is another precious proof that God will bring about the matter, else he would not give me these earnests. All *my* business therefore is: to continue in faith and patience to wait upon God. My assurance has been more and more increasing that God will build for himself a large Orphan-House in this city, to show to the inhabitants, and to all who may read and hear about it, what a blessed thing it is to trust in him.—Of late I have seen, by God's grace, more and more how entirely unworthy I am of being used by God for this glorious and honourable service, and I can only say: "Lord, here is thy servant, if thou art pleased to use such a one as I am."

Dec. 30, 1845. This morning I came, in course of my reading, to the commencement of the book of Ezra. I was particularly refreshed by the two following points contained in the first chapter, in applying them to the building of the Orphan-House: 1. Cyrus, an *idolatrous* king, was used by God to provide the means for building the temple at Jerusalem: how easy therefore for God to provide Ten Thousand Pounds for the Orphan-House, or even Twenty or Thirty Thousand Pounds, if needed. 2. The people were stirred up by God to help those who went up to Jerusalem. Thus it is a small matter for him to put it into the hearts of his children to help me, in desiring

to build this house of mercy unto his name.—This meditation I had before breakfast. After family prayer in the morning I had again my usual season for prayer about the building, and at this time it was particularly coupled with thanksgiving for the 50*l.* received last evening, and with entreating blessings on the donor. I was now looking out for more, as I am doing day by day, when this afternoon I received from a person at Clevedon 2s. 6d., from her grandson 6d., and from the sister in the Lord, who brought the money, the change, which she did not wish back, being another 6d. These donations, though small, are nevertheless very precious to me, as I take them as further proofs out of the hands of God, that he will most assuredly bring this thing to pass. This evening I received One Thousand Pounds towards the Building Fund. When I received this donation I was as calm, yea as perfectly calm, as if I had received a single penny, because, by God's grace, I have faith in him, and therefore I am looking for answers to my prayers, and am sure that God will give every shilling that is needed.

January 2, 1846. This evening I received from Bideford 11s. towards the Building Fund.

Jan. 3. One of the Orphans gave 6d.

Jan. 6. Received a little bag made of foreign seed, and a shell flower, to be sold for the Building Fund. The sister who sent these articles wrote to me, that the moment she heard of my intention of building an Orphan-House, this text was before her mind: "Who art thou, O great mountain? Before Zerubbabel thou shalt become a plain."—Zech. iv. 7. Also one of the Orphans sent 4d.

Having asked the Lord to go before me, I went out today to look for a piece of ground. The armory which is to be sold had been several times mentioned to me, as a suitable place. I did not think so, yet I thought I ought at least to look at it. Having seen it and been confirmed in my judgment about its unsuitableness, I asked the Lord whether I should turn towards the city or towards Stapleton. I felt led to go towards the city, and saw immediately after some fields near the armory. After having made inquiry to whom they belonged, I have been led to write this evening to the owner of them, asking him whether he is disposed to sell them, &c. I am now quietly waiting the Lord's pleasure. If his time is come to

answer our requests as to a suitable piece of land, I shall be glad; if it is not yet come, I desire that "patience may have her perfect work, being perfect and entire, wanting nothing."

Jan 8. This evening I received a reply to my letter. The owner of those fields writes, that, if he did sell them, it would be only for building land, and therefore they will be too dear.

Jan. 9. Went this morning once more to see those fields, which seem very suitable. Met there Mr. L., a land agent, who told me that they would be nearly a Thousand Pounds per acre, and therefore too dear. I asked Mr. L. to inform me if he should hear of any suitable land for sale.

Jan. 10. One of the Orphans, having received half-a-crown from a cousin, gave 1s. 6d. of it towards building the Orphan-House; a sister in the Lord also gave me 3s., a ring, a pair of gold earrings, and a gold brooch.

Jan. 11. To-day I received from a gentleman of Liverpool, who has been staying at Clifton, 5*l.*, and from the sister, through whom this donation was conveyed to me, I received 1*l.* more towards the Building Fund.

Jan. 12. Received a case with ladies' working instruments, to be sold for the Building Fund. Two of the Infant Orphans also gave 6d. and 4d.

Jan. 13. Half-a-crown was given to-day.

Jan. 16. From Bideford 1*l.* 15s.

Jan. 24. The produce of a knitted handkerchief, sold for 2s., was given to-day; also 4s. 6d. by sale of two dolls; and some brethren at Barnstaple sent 12*l.* as a token of their loving interest in this work.

Jan. 26. A sister in the Lord gave 2s. 6d.

Jan. 31. It is now 89 days since I have been daily waiting upon God about the building of an Orphan-House. The time seems to me now near when the Lord will give us a piece of ground, and I told the brethren and sisters so this evening, after our usual Saturday evening prayer meeting at the Orphan-Houses.

Feb. 1. A poor widow sent to-day 10s.

Feb. 2. To-day I heard of suitable and cheap land on Ashley Down.

Feb. 3. Saw the land. It is the most desirable of all I have seen.—There was anonymously put into an Orphan

box at my house a sovereign, in a piece of paper, on which was written, "The New Orphan-House."

Feb. 4. This evening I called on the owner of the land on Ashley Down, about which I had heard on the 2nd, but he was not at home. As I, however, had been informed that I should find him at his house of business I went there, but did not find him there either, as he had *just before* left. I might have called again at his residence at a later hour, having been informed by one of the servants that he would be sure to be at home about eight o'clock; but I did not do so, judging that there was the hand of God in my not finding him at either place: and I judged it best therefore not to force the matter, but to "let patience have her perfect work."

Feb. 5. Saw this morning the owner of the land. He told me that he awoke at three o'clock this morning and could not sleep again till five. While he was thus lying awake, his mind was all the time occupied about the piece of land, respecting which inquiry had been made of him for the building of an Orphan-House, at my request; and he determined with himself, that if I should apply for it, he would not only let me have it, but for 120*l.* per acre, instead of 200*l.*, the price which he had previously asked for it. How good is the Lord! The agreement was made this morning, and I purchased a field of nearly seven acres, at 120*l.* per acre.

Observe the hand of God in my not finding the owner at home last evening! The Lord meant to speak to his servant first about this matter, during a sleepless night, and to lead him *fully* to decide, before I had seen him.

Feb. 6. Two dolls were given for sale, and one of them was sold for 3s.

Feb. 7. Received from two of the Orphans 8d. and 4d. Also one of the labourers in the Orphan-Houses gave 10s., and a poor man 3d.

Feb. 8. I wrote the day before yesterday to the architect, who has offered his help gratuitously.

Feb. 11. Received from a sister in the Lord 5*l.* Received also from the architect the following reply to my letter:

"My dear Sir,

It will afford me a gratification, beyond what I can

communicate by letter, to lend you the helping hand in the labour of love you are engaged in, and I shall esteem it a very great privilege being allowed to exercise my abilities as an architect and surveyor in the erection of the building you propose to erect for the Orphans. I really do mean what I say, and, if all is well, by the blessing of God, I will *gratuitously* furnish you with plans, elevations, and sections; with specification of the work, so that the cost may be accurately estimated. I will also make you an estimate and superintend the works for you *gratuitously, &c.*"

Feb. 12. This afternoon a little parcel was brought to my house, containing ten sovereigns and a little slip of paper, on which was written:

"Dear Sir,—I have sent you ten pounds for the New Orphan-House. It is the Lord's doing. Seek not to know my name."

Feb. 14. There came in 8s. 6d. by sale of articles.

Feb. 15. Received the promise, that on March 25th should be paid to me 500*l.* for the building of the Orphan-House.

Feb. 18. Received 1*l.* from Sunderland.

Feb. 19. The architect kindly came from London. He considers the ground to be most suitable as to situation, drainage, water, &c.—I received also to-day from a sister 5*l.*

Feb. 20. Received from a sister 10s., and from a brother 5*l.* The brother told me that never in his life does he remember to have given any donation with so much real pleasure as this 5*l.* This is of God. I own God's hand in this. He it is that inclines the hearts of his dear children towards this service. May he only be pleased to continue to give me faith and patience, and I shall most assuredly see this building erected to the praise of his name!

Feb. 28. Two of the labourers in the Orphan-Houses gave 1s. each.—To-day the 500*l.*, which had been promised on the 25th, was paid 25 days sooner than promised. I rejoiced in this speed; for I remembered that word: "Whatsoever thy hand findeth to do, do it with thy

might: for there is no work, nor device, nor knowledge, nor wisdom, in the grave, whither thou goest."

March 2. Received 2 rings, 6 brooches, 2 mourning brooches, 3 old silver thimbles, a silver guard, a small gold chain, 4 pairs of earrings, 8 polished stones, a bracelet, 3 waist-buckles, a silver mounting of a horn, and 2 candlestick ornaments.

March 5. From a brother in the Lord 10*l.*

March 6. From Clevedon 10s., and from London 6d.

March 13. From a young sister in the Lord 13s. From a little girl at Bath 2s. 6d.—Also 2 babies' pinafores for sale.—4 little frocks, a pair of socks, and 4 pincushions (also for sale).—Likewise a dozen doilies.

March 15. Anonymously 2*l.* with these lines written in the paper: "Wishing for the privilege of raising a few stones towards erecting the New Orphan-House, the enclosed trifle is sent for that purpose.—There will doubtless be a conspiracy from beneath, to fight against and to hinder the work; nevertheless let us make our prayer unto our God, and set a watch against them day and night."

March 19. By sale of some articles 1*l.* 8s. 4½d.

March 22. From a sister in the Lord 10s.

March 25. A pair of knitted cuffs for sale.

March 28. A lady at Clifton gave 2*l.*

March 31. A brother, having unexpectedly received a sum of money as a dividend from a bankruptcy, gave 10*l.* towards the Building-Fund, as "A thank-offering to the Lord."

April 5. Anonymously 1*l.*

April 7. Four pairs of knitted socks were given for sale; and by a sister in the Lord 10*l.*, as "A thank-offering for mercies received." This 10*l.* comes at a season of a very great trial of faith, on account of a multiplicity of difficulties in which I am just now, and it is another precious earnest to me from God, that he will give me in every way what I need, after he has sufficiently tried my faith and patience.—There were also given 5 little stuffed birds and a pincushion. Also 2 little cups, 2 small shells, a book-mark, and a watch-guard. Also a knitted cloth.

April 27. Anonymously 4s., and by sale of articles 3s. 9d. I received also the following letter from Sunderland:

Sunderland, April 24, 1846.

"Beloved Brother,

A year having now elapsed since our chapel was opened, and our God having signally blessed us in all things, the saints here have been stirred up to present a thank-offering to our Father, and to give it for the New Orphan-Houses. I therefore send you, in their name, the sum of 17*l.* Etc."

May 3. From a sister at Bath 10s.
May 9. By sale of articles 1s. "A widow's mite" 1*l.*
May 11. From a brother 50*l.*
May 21. From Oxford 1*l.*
May 27. From a sister in Bristol 1*l.*
June 2. Through a sister 1s. 3d.
June 4. From Leicestershire 5s., and from a sister in Bristol 2s. 6d.

That which has been stated above concerning the origin of the New Orphan-House on Ashley Down, Bristol, was published in the Ninth Report of the Scriptural Knowledge Institution for Home and Abroad, which was issued in the year 1846. In that Report were added to the above, the following remarks, which I likewise give here again, in order that the reader may have a clear understanding of the whole, and also the full particulars concerning this Orphan Establishment.

1. The total amount, which has been given for the Building-Fund, up to June 4, 1846, is 2710*l.* 3s. 5½d. This is only a small part of what will be needed; but, by the grace of God, I am in perfect peace, being fully assured that God in his own time will send the whole sum which is required. Many and great have already been the exercises of faith and patience since I first began to give myself to prayer about this work, and still greater they may be, before it is accomplished; but God, in the riches of his grace, will help me through them all. It is now (June 4, 1846) 212 days since I first began to pray about this work, and day after day, since then, have I been enabled to continue to wait upon God, and I am more than ever assured that, notwithstanding all my exceeding great unworthiness, God will condescend to use me, to build this House. Had it been the excitement of the moment, the difficulties which have already come upon me in connexion with this work, (and which are not stated here, on

account of their occupying too much room,) would have overwhelmed me; but as God himself, I trust, led me to this work, so he has helped me, and does help me, and, I doubt not, will help me to the end.

2. The house is intended to be built so, as to accommodate 140 Orphan Girls above seven years of age, 80 Orphan Boys above seven, and 80 male and female Orphans from their earliest days, till they are seven years old, together with all the overseers and teachers, etc. that may be needed. The Infants, after having passed the age of seven, will be removed into the different departments for older boys and girls.

3. The plan of the building is, by the help of God, all but completed. Scarcely anything more remains to be altered.

4. The building, however, will not commence till all the money, which is required, has been received.

5. The land and house will be invested in the hands of about ten brethren, as trustees, who shall be persons who are well known and of good report.

6. Only such donations, ordinarily, will be put to the Building-Fund as are expressly given for it. I should only depart from this my usual mode, if the Lord by some very great abundance of means coming in, or in other respects were to point out, that money, not expressly given for the Building-Fund, was to be appropriated to it. It is therefore requested that the donors will kindly state it, if they wish any donation put to the Building-Fund.

Miscellaneous points respecting the Scriptural Knowledge Institution for Home and Abroad, with reference to the period from July 14, 1844, *to May* 26, 1846.

1. During the whole of this period 4 Day-Schools, with 278 children in them, were *entirely* supported by the funds of the Institution. Three Day-Schools besides were *assisted*. The number of the children that were taught in the Day-Schools, entirely supported by the funds of the Institution, from March 5, 1834, to May 26, 1846, amounts to 3983. During the period from July 14, 1844, to May 26, 1846, 628*l.* 19s. 4¼d. was spent on all the Schools, which were either entirely or in part supported by the funds of the Scriptural Knowledge Institution.—Further,

during this period there were also entirely supported a Sunday-School with 80 children, and an Adult-School with 60 persons attending it. The total number of the Adult scholars who received instruction, from the formation of this Institution to May 26, 1846, is 1146.

2. During this period were circulated 269 Bibles, and 171 Testaments; and 5079 Bibles, and 3528 Testaments were circulated from the commencement of the work up to May 26, 1846. 40*l.* 7s. 10d. was expended of the Funds of the Institution on this object, from July 14, 1844, to May 26, 1846.

3. From July 14, 1844, to May 26, 1846, was laid out for Foreign and Home Missions the sum of 595*l.* 7s. 9d. Of this sum was spent for Foreign Missions 447*l.* 17s. 9d., which was divided among 15 brethren and sisters who labour in British Guiana, one brother and sister in Jamaica, 2 brethren in India, one brother in Prussia, and 3 brethren in Switzerland. The remainder, 147*l.* 10s. was divided among 14 brethren who labour in England, without any salary, and in dependance upon the Lord for their temporal supplies. During no period previously was so much of the Funds of this Institution spent on Missionary work, which arose from the fact that, the more I corresponded with brethren who laboured in the word and doctrine in foreign lands, the more I saw how much they stood in need of assistance, and thus, my heart having been led out in prayer to God on their behalf, that he would be pleased to send me means, whereby I might be able to assist them, he was pleased to do so. This led me to the purpose, as God should give me grace, to be still more mindful of them in future, and to seek to be able still more to assist them. The same was the case with regard to those brethren who labour in England, but who have no salary or stipend, but trust in the living God for the supply of their daily necessities; I did long to help such brethren, and had no doubt that God would enable me to do so.

When I now, whilst preparing this fourth part of my Narrative for the press, look back to this period, how greatly has God helped me since then even in this particular; for, of late years, he has enabled me to spend on Missionary objects about *seven times more* than during the period now referred to.

4. There was laid out for the circulation of tracts from July 14, 1844, to May 26, 1846, the sum of 56*l.* 9s. 9½d

for which Fifty-two thousand and three such little publications were bought, which, with 5815 in hand on July 14, 1844, makes 57818, of which number 40565 were circulated. The total number circulated from Nov. 19, 1840, to May 26, 1846, amounts to 99647.

5. There were received into the four Orphan-Houses, from July 14, 1844, to May 26, 1846, 30 Orphans, who, together with those who were in the four Houses on July 14, 1844, make up 151 in all. Of these: 1. One child died. 2. One boy left the Institution secretly just when he was ready to be apprenticed, and went to his relatives. [In going over this account, for the sake of preparing it for the press, I cannot help making a few remarks on this case, for the sake of teachers, guardians, and parents, who are greatly afflicted by the bad behaviour of children or young persons. The boy referred to just now gave us for years much sorrow. All means, to bring him into a different state, seemed entirely lost. At last he was going to be apprenticed. His clothes and outfit for leaving the House were already prepared, when he secretly left and at last reached on foot the dwelling-place of an elder sister, in the North of Devon, who is married to a master of a small vessel, a pious man. His sister and brother-in-law were greatly afflicted by his bad behaviour towards his friends in Bristol. There remained, however, now nothing to be done, but that the lad should go with his brother-in-law to sea. After he had been some time at sea, one night there was a terrific storm, so that all hope of the vessel or crew being saved was gone. This poor lad now remembered the instruction which he had received in the Orphan-House in Bristol, and earnestly prayed to God for mercy, and turned to him. From that time, as the brother-in-law himself told me, this youth was a truly changed character, and proved by his godly deportment for several months afterwards, that he had the grace of God in him; for he continued walking in the fear of God, till about 6 months afterwards, when he was drowned, by falling overboard. May this encourage all who labour among the young, patiently to go on in their service. "They that sow in tears shall reap in joy." Ps. 126, 5.] 3. Six children were taken back by their relatives, who by that time were able to provide for them. 4. Six boys were apprenticed at the expense of the Institution, and five other boys, ready to be apprenticed, were sent to their relatives to be appren-

ticed. 5. Two girls were apprenticed, and eight sent out to service, and one girl was sent to her relatives to serve them.

There were on May 26, 1846, One hundred and twenty-one Orphans in the Four Houses. Besides this, six apprentices were still supported by the Funds of the Institution, so that the total number was 127. The number of the Orphans who were under our care from April 1836, to May 26, 1846, amounts to 213.

I notice further the following points in connexion with the Orphan-Houses.

1. *Without any one having been personally applied to for anything by me,* the sum of 13,275*l.* 6*s.* 9¾*d.* was given to me *as the result of prayer to God,* from the commencement of the work up to May 26, 1846. This sum includes the 2710*l.* 3*s.* 5½*d.* which, up to June 4, 1846, was given towards the Building Fund. (It may be interesting to the reader to know that the total amount which was given as free contributions, for the other objects, from the commencement of the work up to May 26, 1846, amounts to 4833*l.* 18*s.* 10¾*d.*; and that which came in by the sale of Bibles and Tracts, and by the payments of the children in the Day-Schools, amounts to 2097*l.* 18*s.* 2¼*d.*) 2. Besides this, also a great variety and number of articles of clothing, furniture, provisions, etc., were given for the Orphans, as has been stated in the printed Reports. The total expenditure for the Orphans from July 14, 1844, to May 26, 1846, was 2732*l.* 14*s.* 1½*d.*; and for the other objects 1325*l.* 7*s.* 7½*d.*

In conclusion I cannot but mention, to the praise of the Lord, concerning this period, that four of the Sunday-School children were admitted to communion. Likewise three more of the Orphans were received into church fellowship, so that up to that time, altogether 32 of the Orphans had been admitted. I also mention with peculiar joy, and as a matter for thankfulness, that of those who were apprenticed or sent out to service, from July 14, 1844, to May 26, 1846, ten were believers, most of whom had been for several years in fellowship, before they were sent out to service. But whilst we desire to receive these instances as precious encouragements from the Lord to continue our service, we cannot but believe, judging from the many prayers the Lord gives us for the children

and adults under our care and instruction, that that which we *see* is but an earnest of a far larger harvest in the day of Christ's appearing.

Matters connected with my own personal affairs, or the work of the Lord in my hands, not immediately connected with the Scriptural Knowledge Institution, from January 1, 1844, *to May* 26, 1846.

Soon after my return from Germany, where I had been labouring for seven months in 1843, and 1844, of which I have written at length in the third part of this Narrative, I had it laid on my heart to go there again for a season; but, before doing so, I felt called upon to prepare for the press a new edition of the first and second parts, and to write the third part of my Narrative. For this, however, a large sum of money was required, as I purposed to print not less than 4000 copies. As I had no money of my own for this object, I gave myself to prayer, and, after having prayed several months respecting it, I received on December 30, 1844, unasked for, the sum which would be needed to accomplish this object.

Dec. 31, 1844. Since Brother Craik and I came to Bristol, 982 believers have been received into communion, making 1050 with the 68 whom we found in fellowship. Of these, 97 have fallen asleep, 53 are under church discipline, 56 have left us but are still in Bristol, and 176 have removed from Bristol; so that there are only 668 in communion at present. During this year 73 have been received.

The Lord has been pleased to give me during this year—

1, Through anonymous offerings in money, put up in paper, and directed to me, and placed in the boxes for the poor saints, or the rent, at the two chapels .	£117	11	9
2, Through presents in money, from believers in Bristol, not given anonymously	56	0	6
3, Through presents in money, from believers not residing in Bristol	81	14	6
4, In presents in provisions, clothes, etc., worth to us *at least*	12	0	0
	£267	6	9

To this is to be added that for the first two months and six days of this year, my expenses, and those of my dear wife, during our stay in Germany, were met, as also our travelling expenses back, as stated in the third part of my Narrative. Also during the whole of this year a Christian lady gave to our dear child board and schooling without any remuneration, a present worth to us not less than 50*l*. On this point I cannot help making a few remarks:—I had clearly seen it to be the will of God that my daughter should be brought up at school, and not at home. My reasons for it were these: 1, My dear wife, though well qualified, to instruct our daughter, so far as knowledge goes, was unable on account of being engaged as my wife in a variety of things connected with the Lord's service, to give herself uninterruptedly to this work; and to do it partially we judged to be injurious to our daughter. 2, I had seen instances in which a home education, for an only child, had turned out very badly. 3, I judged that the mixing with other children would be beneficial to our daughter, provided that intercourse was under proper oversight; as thus a child is in early life introduced into a little world, and things do not all at once come upon a young person, when at last obliged to leave the parental roof. 4, But that which most of all led me to this decision was, that, as in the Church of Christ the Lord has qualified the members of the body for the performance of certain work, and all have not the same gift and service, so, in the same way, certain believers are called and qualified above others, for instructing children, and give themselves to this particular service, and that, therefore, I ought to make use of the qualifications of such, and of their having given their whole time to this particular service.—These reasons led us to place our daughter at school, instead of educating her at home, and we have never had cause to regret the step we took, but, on the contrary, have had abundant reason to praise God for it. I have purposely made these remarks, as I am fully aware that some believers have different views on this subject, and I desire to serve them with the measure of light and experience I have obtained.

After our daughter had been at school for half a year, I asked for the account, when it was stated to me by the

Christian lady in whose establishment she was, that she had a pleasure in educating her gratuitously. However, as I pressed the matter, I obtained the account. It was paid, but the exact sum was returned to me anonymously, which, of course, I found out at once to be from the Christian sister at whose school my daughter was. From that time I could never more obtain the account, though my dear child was about six years longer at school. I refer to this point for this especial reason: God had laid it on my heart to care about poor destitute Orphans. To this service I had been led to give myself; he, in return, as a recompense even for this life, took care that my own beloved child should have a very good education, free of expense to me. I was able, and well able to pay for her education, and most willing to do so; but the Lord gave it gratuitously; thus also showing how ready he is, abundantly to help me and to supply my wants.

January 6, 1845. To-day I received the most painful information that a false teacher from Switzerland had found his way among the brethren and sisters at Stuttgart, and that through him several, yea almost all, to a greater or less degree had been drawn aside, and shaken as to the very foundations of their faith.

I cannot describe how bitter the trial was to me to see the Lord thus dishonoured, and my painful service for seven months during the previous year, to all appearance, entirely frustrated. The Lord, however, laid these brethren and sisters on my heart in prayer, so that I was day by day enabled to bring them before God, and also to resolve that, as soon as my path was made plain, I would go again to Stuttgart for a season.

May 3, 1845. I have seen it more and more clearly of late, that the time is drawing near, when I shall go again to Germany, to labour there for a time; for the brethren who had fallen into grevious errors are now recovering out of them, but need a helping hand to restore them fully, or at least to confirm them in the truth. In addition to this I purpose to publish some Tracts in German. But though it is now four months, since I have been daily praying respecting this object, I never had been led to ask the Lord to give me means for it, because I felt assured, that, when his time was come for me to go, he would provide the means; and also because I had never

felt myself led to pray about it. To-day, however, I asked the Lord that he would provide the means for all that is necessary in connexion with this service; and I had a secret satisfaction in the feeling that so much was required, *i.e.* means for the journey to and fro, means for our stay there, means for the publication of Tracts, means to be left behind for the work in Bristol, to supply the need at least for a time; for I did not wish to go, unless it were the Lord's will, and if so, he would give the means. Now see how the Lord dealt with me! About a quarter of an hour after I had been in prayer with my dear wife respecting this object, and I had now, for the *first time*, asked him for means to carry it out, though for four months we had daily prayed together respecting spiritual success in this service, I received a letter containing an order for 500*l*. In the letter this was written: "I enclose * * * * 500*l*., which will be more useful in your hands than in mine. I mean it in the first place for all that is needed preparatory to and attendant upon your journey to Germany, and, whatever the surplus may be, you will apply as you find there is need in the different parts of service under your care." Thus the Lord has fully answered our requests for means, and that so speedily!

On July 19th my dear wife and I left Bristol for Stuttgart. As the letters, which I wrote to the church in Bristol, in which I give some account of my labours on the Continent, have been preserved, I give them here, as they will furnish the reader with an outline of the Lord's dealings with me during that period.

Stuttgart, Aug. 16, 1845.

To the Saints, meeting in the name of the Lord Jesus at Bethesda and Salem Chapels, Bristol.

Dear Brethren,

It is to-day four weeks since we left you. As I know that your love to us would like to know how the Lord has been dealing with us since, and as I have abundant reason to speak well of him on account of his goodness and mercy to us since our departure; I gladly relate to you how it has been with us since we left Bristol. It was on Saturday afternoon, July 19th, that

we started for London. On the next day, the Lord's day, I ministered twice in London, as also on Monday evening. I was much helped in doing so, especially on the evening of the Lord's day and on Monday evening, and I could not but recognize the hand of the Lord even in this, with reference to my leaving Bristol for a season. On Monday and Tuesday we were much occupied in procuring our passports, and on Wednesday at twelve o'clock we went on board the steamer for Ostend. The Lord mercifully carried us over the sea, although we were both very sea-sick, and about five o'clock the next morning we went on shore at Ostend. Having in a very little time, without any difficulty, obtained our luggage out of the Custom-house, we left by the first train for Cologne, at half-past six, and travelled all that day, a distance of about 240 miles, and reached Cologne between nine and ten o'clock in the evening. We then travelled either in the Rhine steamers, on the rail-road, or in an omnibus, the four following days also, yet so that we arranged to have time to ourselves, and reached Stuttgart about eight o'clock on Monday evening, July 28th. Of the journey I would mention no more, than that on the last day we travelled with a most lovely and gracious brother, an English clergyman from Sussex, with whom after two or three hours I was so one in heart, that on getting out of the omnibus, in which we travelled together about 30 miles, in order to walk up a long hill, we walked together arm-in-arm. It was most refreshing to our spirits to find so lovely a brother in this dark land. We spent a few hours together at Stuttgart, and then this dear brother left for the neighbourhood of Munich, the capital of the kingdom of Bavaria, where his family is for a season. I had written from Bristol to one of the brethren at Stuttgart, Brother M——, an Englishman, to look out for furnished lodgings for us, and I therefore called on him the next morning, July 29th, to see how far he had succeeded. I now learned that he had made every inquiry for me, and also advertised in the paper, and applied at an intelligence office, but that he had heard only of three apartments, and even these were unfurnished; for all the lodgings which were to be had were occupied by the deputies of the people, a sort of Parliament in Wirtemberg, who have once every three years their assemblies,

and who had now been for the last six months assembled in Stuttgart. This was no small difficulty, as to stay in an hotel would have been very expensive, especially just now, as the assembly of the deputies has also made a great difference in the hotels. However, our comfort was, that as we had come in the name of the Lord, and according to his bidding, and that after having daily prayed about the matter since the latter part of November last year, he would help in this thing also. I now went to the only lodging out of the three which was at all likely to suit; but we found that this was only to be had on Nov. 10th, and not now, a lady having taken a whole floor of seven rooms, and wishing to let two of them. I saw the two rooms which had been offered, found them furnished, and asked to whom they belonged, when I learned that they were in the use of the owner of the house, who had sold the house, but would have the use of these rooms as well as those in which he lived, till Nov. 1st. I now affectionately asked him whether he would not let me have these rooms for a time, offering to pay any price, and give the money before-hand, as I was a stranger to him. He said he would consider it with his wife a few hours. My dear wife and I now gave ourselves to prayer, that, if it were good for us, the Lord would be pleased to incline the hearts of these persons to let us have those two rooms, but I told him at the same time, that I should not now press the matter further, having offered what I had; for after all he might have another place for us, where he wished us to be. After two or three hours I went again, and as we required little as to attendance, and were of quiet habits, and required little alteration to be made in the way of furniture, these persons agreed to let us have those rooms, and that same afternoon we were able to leave the hotel and enter our lodging. And now hear the Lord's goodness in this particular. The dear persons with whom we lodge are both Christians, who are most kind to us, and obliging in every way. Their servant also who waits on us is a most kind person. The house is in a healthy and quiet situation, and not far from our meeting-place, though without the city gates. In a word, we could not have wished better lodgings. And how did we get them? Because all the apartments, usually let out as lodgings

were occupied by these 90 or 100 gentlemen of the Parliament. Moreover, to this house we came, through a mistake having been made; for the rooms we now live in were only intended to be let on Nov. 10th. More, the persons with whom we live are evidently wealthy persons, a surgeon who has retired from his profession, and his wife, and who never had let lodgings. Oh! how kind of the Lord, to let circumstances be as they were, in order that we might, through this very difficulty, obtain such a dwelling-place. Daily we feel the comfort of living with Christians, though these dear persons belong to the State Church. May this little matter lead us all, dear brethren, to leave all our affairs in the hands of our loving Father; he arranges matters so as they are best for us. During the first three or four days in Stuttgart, I was especially poor and needy. I required every particle of courage not to be overwhelmed by the state of things here. Everything seemed most dark. On Tuesday evening when I went to the meeting, there were but eight present, and all I saw and heard gave me the impression of Spiritual desolation, resulting from that false teacher from Switzerland having come among the brethren here. In addition to this, my dear wife was taken very ill during the night from Tuesday to Wednesday, July 29 to 30, so that for two days she kept her bed, and only on the fourth day was pretty well again. It was the result of sea-sickness and the great fatigue of the journey, I think. But the Lord had mercy and brightened the prospect, by increasing my faith. In addition to this, circumstances looked better almost immediately after my arrival, and I was constantly comforted by the knowledge, that only according to the Lord's will we were here, and that he would not have sent us, if he had not some purpose to be accomplished by it. The first thing that occurred was, that, in answer to our many prayers in England, on the journey, and here, and also in answer to your prayers, dear brethren, the police gave me permission to stay here, a thing which, looking at it naturally, could not have been expected. Still, this had always been my hope, because to *Stuttgart* I felt to be my mission. The next thing was, that the moment my arrival became known, the poor scattered sheep were again drawn together, and other persons also,

believers and unbelievers, came to the meetings, so that the first evening that it was known I should hold a meeting, there were about 20 persons present, and since then there have been repeatedly 40 and upwards. This is a small number for England, but large here, and for our position in particular. The next thing was, our landlady told me, that every Monday afternoon a number of pious females met at her house, for two or three hours, to knit stockings for the Moravian missionaries, and requested me to come and speak to them. This I now do every Monday afternoon, expounding the Scriptures to 20 or 25 of these females and our landlord and an aged brother, who has been in the habit of attending these meetings. This is a new field entirely, and something else to show, how the hand of God was in the matter of our lodgings. Still more. On the two last Friday evenings I have attended a meeting, at which about 150 persons, belonging to the State Church, meet together, most of them probably converted, and the others either seeking the Lord, or religiously inclined. To this meeting I have gone for love's sake, to show that I really desire to be united, in spirit, with all who love our Lord Jesus. Now at this meeting also, I have had opportunity to speak both times. In future also, the Lord willing, I purpose to go to this meeting, and to embrace the opportunity which thus I may have of speaking what may be suitable under the circumstances. The character of the meeting is not in every way that which is according to the Holy Scriptures, but these dear brethren must be borne with, in order to help them on. About 8 brethren sit round a table, being more intimately known to each other. They lead the whole meeting as to prayer, giving out a hymn, proposing the portion of the Word of God for consideration, &c. They make remarks on it, and all the other 100 or 200, or more or less, that may be present, listen. As I had called on one of these leading brethren, he asked me to sit at that table, and thus I have the right of speaking, which yet must be used very wisely, as these dear children of God may be able to bear it. But even if I were not to speak at all, my very presence would do good, with God's blessing, as they would see that I am desirous of being united with all who love our Lord Jesus; and I cannot but hope that thus prejudices will wear away, they will come to

our meetings, and will read my book. The Continent is not like England. Every particle of progress one is able to make here, is highly to be prized. The state of things is most interesting here. Infidelity is most awfully showing itself, regardlessly trampling under foot God's word, and shamelessly and most impudently denouncing the whole as a fabrication; but, on the other side, there is evidently an inquiry after truth, and a seeking to know the truth from the Scriptures themselves, and a beginning to be dissatisfied with cold, dead forms.—The Lord also begins to work for us in other respects. The parliament of Wirtemberg has also publicly considered the matter of the brother and sister who would not be married at the State Church, and have recommended to the government of the country to consider the matter once more, and also to grant to us the privilege of being able to marry, without going to the State Church, as they had already granted us "the administration of the Lord's Supper and Baptism," as they call it. Thus, with God's blessing, help will come in that way also; and I cannot but hope that this poor little gathering here, in which the devil has recently made such havoc, will yet be to the praise of the Lord, and to the benefit of his church in the German States.—God has blessed my being here in bringing brother R. out of the errors into which he had fallen, having been led away by that false teacher from Switzerland; but this brother reaps now bitterly the fruit of his want of watchfulness: that dear young sister who was converted while I was here before, his youngest daughter, is among those persons in Switzerland, and another of his daughters is engaged to one of these persons.—Oh! how important, dear brethren, carefully and prayerfully to compare what we hear with the Word of God. Five days following, three times each day, this false teacher held meetings; and thus overpowered these dear saints completely; for they had no time left to consider and to pray over, and compare with the Holy Scriptures, what they heard, as, in addition to three meetings a day, they lasted till after 11 o'clock at night.—I now attend eight meetings every week. Sunday mornings at 9 o'clock, exposition of the Word, and in the afternoon at two we meet for the breaking of bread. The dear brethren have gone back to these unsuitable hours. On Monday after-

noon at three the exposition of the Scriptures to those who meet together to knit for the missionaries, and on Monday and Wednesday evenings from 8 to 10 o'clock, Scripture reading meetings, with the saints only who break bread. On Tuesday and Thursday evenings from eight to half-past nine, public exposition of the Word. And on Friday evening from half-past eight to a quarter before ten, I meet with the brethren who belong to the State Church. Besides this, my time has hitherto been much occupied in seeing brethren and sisters privately, and the rest of my time, besides prayer and meditation, for my own soul and the work, has been occupied in preparing tracts for the press. Five are already finished. I have translated into German: "The love of God to poor sinners," "The Serpent of brass," and "The two thieves;" and I have written myself two tracts, on "Lydia's conversion," and "The conversion of the jailer at Philippi." In this work I purpose to continue, the Lord willing, while I remain here, either writing or translating tracts, and then seeking myself, as much as I can, whilst here, to circulate them.—Oh! help me, beloved brethren, yet more and more with your prayers in all this important service. My position here is more important, and more interesting than ever; for God "who comforteth those who are cast down" has comforted me, after the first three days of trial, and has given me a larger field for service than I had before.—We remember you daily in prayer, and gladly do so, and shall be truly glad to return to you, as soon as we can see it to be the will of the Lord. Farewell, beloved brethren. My dear wife sends to you her love in Christ. Should any of you wish to write to me, I shall be glad to hear from you; but please to write on very thin paper, on account of the heavy postage. The letters may be left at my house.

Your affectionate brother and servant in the Lord,

GEORGE MÜLLER.

Stuttgart, Sept. 13, 1845.

To the Brethren in Christ, meeting in the name of the Lord Jesus at Bethesda and Salem Chapels, Bristol.

My dear brethren,

It is eight weeks to-day since we left Bristol, and we have still abundant reason to say, that goodness a[n]

mercy have followed us every day. This I have in particular also to say in reference to the last four weeks, even since I wrote to you last. As we desire your thanksgiving to the Lord for his goodness to us, and as we earnestly crave the continuance of your prayers, I write again, especially also as I judge that your love will be desirous of knowing further particulars about us and the work of the Lord in my hands. Since I wrote to you, I have continued to attend eight meetings a week, that is three for exposition of the Scriptures at our usual meeting place on Lord's day mornings and Tuesday and Thursday evenings; the breaking of bread on the Lord's day evenings (as we have altered the hour from 2 in the afternoon to 8 in the evening); two Scripture reading meetings on Monday and Wednesday, at which, as well as at all our other meetings, there is given to every brother as much room for prayer, as there may be a desire for it. Then I attend two other meetings a week, among believers or inquirers who are in connexion with the State Church, one on Monday afternoons at the house where I live, which has increased from about ten to about forty. At this meeting I lead entirely, and am the only speaker. Then there is every Friday evening another meeting, at which about 150 persons assemble, which I have continued to attend, and where I have regularly spoken, together with other brethren. The shyness which there was at first is evidently wearing off, and last evening, when I took leave of them, having been there for the last time before our departure, the brethren were quite cordial. In addition to this, the Lord has opened another new and important field. At the house of an elderly lady of title, of one of the ancient noble families of this kingdom, there is a meeting for ladies who work for charitable purposes. This meeting I have also been requested to attend for the purpose of expounding the Scriptures, whilst the ladies work. I was there last Tuesday afternoon and shall be there again, the Lord willing, next Tuesday. To all who attend this meeting I have therefore an opportunity of giving a copy of my Narrative in German, about forty in all, as well as a copy of the eleven tracts which I have published, and thus the truth, with God's blessing, may be carried into the higher circles of this city, if not of this kingdom. Truly, the Lord gave,

at the beginning of my sojourn here, to everything apparently the death-blow, that he might give me a larger field than I had had before. Still it is even now but little, in comparison with England, yet it is much for Germany. Indeed I have now as much work day by day as I can do. Persons from the establishment come to see and converse with me, and I might visit as many as I have time and strength for, and many more, and should be welcome.

Sept. 14. Thus far I had written yesterday morning, when a pious gentleman of rank called on me, who, with his wife, feels the deepest interest about the work of the Lord in Bristol, of which they have gathered information through my Narrative in German. This gentleman has been this morning to our poor meeting place also, and has invited me to his house to meet his friends. Thus a new opening has been given. The remainder of yesterday was spent in seeing visitors, and the evening I spent among brethren belonging to the State Church.—I have now been able to publish eleven different Gospel tracts in German. They are as follows: 1. "The love of God to poor sinners," translation from the English, 4 pages. 2. "The Serpent of brass," translation, 4 pages. 3. "The two thieves," translation, 8 pages. 4. "Lydia, the seller of purple," written by me, 4 pages. 5. "The jailer at Philippi," written by me, 12 pages. 6. "The four most important questions answered," written by me, 12 pages. 7. "Grace," translation, 4 pages. 8. "The poor man's best medicine," translation, 6 pages. 9. "Almost and Altogether," translation, 6 pages. 10. "What is a Christian?" translation, 6 pages. 11. "A just God and a Saviour," translation, 6 pages.—Of each of these tracts twenty thousand copies have been printed, there are therefore two hundred and twenty thousand copies ready to be used by the Lord. I tell you all these particulars, dear brethren, that you may now help me with your prayers, that God may be pleased to use and bless them. The especial intention respecting these tracts is, to state the Gospel in a plain and distinct way. Now one of my particular reasons for leaving you for a season and labouring here was, to publish these tracts, and to circulate myself as many of them as I could. The latter I am now about to do in the following way. I have had a box made wh:

will hold about thirty thousand tracts. This box will be filled and fastened behind the conveyance which I purpose hiring. My portmanteaus and other packages, as much as room permits, will be filled with copies of my German Narrative. Thus stored we purpose to leave on Wednesday or Thursday, Sept. 17 or 18, giving to each person we meet on the road a tract, and giving away in the towns and villages as many as may be wise, without raising a mob around us. In addition to this, as far as opportunity may allow, I purpose to speak with the persons on the road. In this way we purpose to travel on, day after day, giving away tracts, and also my Narrative, so that in every village and town, of a journey of 500 or 600 miles, at least a few copies of my Narrative will be left, besides giving them to passengers on the road, and as many tracts as we can. In order to fill our stores again, I purpose to send to Frankfort a large bale of tracts and books before us, also to Eisleben, where Luther was born, and to Cassel. In this way I hope to be able to give away about 900 copies of my Narrative, and fifty or sixty thousand tracts. In addition to this, I am seeking to place with trustworthy brethren in this country, in Switzerland, and in Prussia, smaller quantities, to be given away as opportunity may occur. My route, as far as I can see at present, will be this: To Heilbronn, Heidelberg, Darmstadt, Frankfort, Fulda, Erfurt, Eisenach, Eisleben. The last place will be the furthest point of my journey. Then I mean to return towards England, by way of Nordhausen, Gottingen, Cassel, Elberfeld, Dusseldorf, and Cologne. The whole tour may take from 20 to 25 days, travelling day after day. All this I write to you, earnestly asking your prayers for us, on account of the following particulars: 1. That the Lord would be pleased so to strengthen us in body, as that we may be able to continue travelling day after day for 20 days or more. 2. That the Lord would be pleased to give us suitable and kind drivers, that we may not have difficulty in our work in that way. 3. That the police may not be permitted to obstruct my service. 4. That our own souls may not suffer through this work, but rather be benefited. 5. That the Lord would be pleased to direct the Tracts and Narratives into the hands of those very persons whom he means to bless by them. 6. That he would also be pleased to allow the weather to

be of that kind, if it seem good to him, that our work may not be hindered.—Great unforeseen hinderances and difficulties we may meet with in this service, yet it has now been with me the subject of prayer for several months, and in the name of the Lord I enter upon it.—The especial reason why I go towards the North of Germany is, because there this service is mostly needed, and there my Narrative is not at all, or scarcely at all known, as the 200 copies which I sent to a beloved brother in those parts for circulation, he could not conscientiously, as he says, circulate; I therefore mean myself to circulate the book there. And further, in those parts public meetings in abundance are held, in which the foundation truths of the Gospel are openly attacked by persons who call themselves "the Friends of Light." There then I mean to distribute among the common people as many thousands of Tracts as I can.—Germany is in great agitation. Light is increasing, there is a shaking in Establishments; but there infidelity is also increasing, as well as democracy in politics. I watch with deep interest the state of things in Germany, and were not my position in Bristol what it is, I should remain longer here; but I judge it well to be back again, if the Lord prosper my way, about the 12th of October. Gladly should I have written many more Tracts, they are also greatly needed, especially on subjects which are more particularly of importance for believers; but I cannot now stay longer, and must leave it to a time when the Lord may honour me again to labour for a season in Germany.

Sept. 15. Yesterday I was again interrupted by visitors, so that I could not finish my letter. The gentleman, who called the day before yesterday, called again also yesterday. He was Professor of Medicine in the University of Moscow in Russia, and President of the Evangelical Consistory in that city. He seems deeply interested in the service in my hands. He was twice yesterday at our poor meeting place, and has invited me this evening to his house to meet some friends of his, clergymen and others. Last evening there were present at the meeting for the breaking of bread about 40 persons; besides those who broke bread. Our departure is now fixed for Thursday, Sept. 18th; but after a dry season for 4 or 5 weeks, the Lord has now sent rain, and we are entirely

in his hands as to the weather, as a rainy season ill suits our intended service; but our Lord, whose work it is, and not ours, will order this matter also as it is for his glory and our welfare. I reckon, beloved brethren, on the continuance of your prayers. We also, by the grace of God, continue to remember you day after day. We shall be glad indeed to behold your faces again, and yet we desire to be happy here, because we are in our Lord's work; and indeed we are happy here also, though so far absent from the hundreds of dear saints whom we have so much reason to love. The little church here consists of 19, of whom 6 do not live in this city, but in two villages at some distance, who can only from time to time come to the breaking of bread. That which they especially now need is, that one or more brethren should labour among them, and I would particularly commend this matter to your prayer, that the Lord would be pleased to appear on their behalf in this particular; for it is not likely that things will go on well among them without pastoral care and without oversight. In some little measure order has now been restored among them, and I hope that the coming of that false teacher among them, nine months since, will finally be used by the Lord for their furtherance. And now, greatly loved brethren, farewell. May the Lord, as we continually pray, give to each of you according to your individual need. My dear wife, who helps me much in the work here in one way or other, sends her love in Christ to you.

Your affectionate brother and servant in our Lord,

GEORGE MÜLLER.

Cassel, Capital of the Electorate of Hesse Cassel,
Oct. 1, 1845.

To the Saints, assembling in the name of the Lord Jesus at Salem and Bethesda Chapels, Bristol.

My very dear brethren,

I long to tell you of the Lord's goodness to us, since last I wrote you, and though this letter may reach you only three or four days before my arrival among you, still I would wish you to help us in praising the Lord for his goodness to us. I now record his kindness in our service, as far as I remember it, from the day where my last letter left off. I think it was on Sept. 15th that my

last letter was finished. On that afternoon I had the last meeting among the working females in my house. It had then increased to at least sixty, from about 10 at the beginning. The evening of that day I spent among gentlemen and ladies of Stuttgart, at the house of a gentleman who had invited me. There the Lord gave me opportunity of testifying for him about 2 hours and a half. The next afternoon I had a meeting at which about 25 ladies were working for charitable purposes, at the house of a lady of title. To these and to their absent friends, I gave a copy of my Narrative, 40 in number, as well as a copy of each of the 11 Tracts which I have published. Thus, with the Lord's blessing, the Narrative and the Tracts may work among the higher or highest classes of the kingdom of Wirtemberg. I simply mention this to show, dear brethren, what open doors the Lord has given me, after the apparent death-blow upon everything at the beginning. How important that we should not be discouraged by appearances in the Lord's service! On the same evening I had the last public meeting among the brethren at Stuttgart, attended by about 80 persons, more than any previous time, either at this or my former visit. Thus also the Lord gave still further encouragement. On the following day, Wednesday, Sept. 17th, I took leave of various believers, not in communion with us; among the rest, of two pious clergymen at Stuttgart, who treated me most kindly. This day was occupied with making all the arrangements for my journey, as I had to send many thousands of tracts before me to several places, not being able to carry in our carriage all the books and tracts, which we hoped to circulate on the journey. In the evening that gentleman called once more to see me, in whose house I had spent the Monday evening, and with whom I had become acquainted a few days before, and who, since then, had attended all our meetings. I think I told you before that he was Professor of Medicine at the Russian University at Moscow, and also President of the Protestant Consistory in that city. This dear brother takes a deep interest in my service, and has offered to circulate 50 copies of my book, and 50 copies of each of the 11 tracts. We parted like old friends.—Our prayer had been for a suitable carriage, and an obliging driver, on which so much of our service depended; but we v

so occupied, that I could only order a carriage on the morning of our departure, Thursday, Sept. 18th, and the Lord most signally answered our prayers; for we obtained a driver who was one of a hundred. He drove us three days, and was most obliging, so that we could not have desired a better driver; the carriage also was as if made for our work. At 10 o'clock on Thursday morning we set out, furnished with many thousands of tracts, and about 24,000 sent before us; also carrying with us about 450 copies of my Narrative, and having to take up 350 copies on the way. About 350 copies I was able to circulate at Stuttgart whilst there. I should also say that I found several brethren with whom I could leave smaller quantities of tracts for circulation at Stuttgart and elsewhere, especially an English brother, Dr. M., who lives at Basle, and who spends his whole time in circulating religious books and tracts, written in German and French. This brother came, three days before our departure, to Stuttgart, so that I could arrange with him. Indeed step by step has the Lord prospered me in my feeble endeavours, mixed with sin as every one of them has been, and made it manifest, that this time also he has sent me to Germany. On Thursday, September 18th, then, we set out, and while yet riding through the city of Stuttgart I began giving away tracts, thus to begin the service at once, lest my hands should be weakened through delay. Whilst going on, we continued offering tracts to the passengers on the road, and giving away now and then a copy of my book, and seeking especially to put some copies of it into every village and town. Thus we went on the first day from Stuttgart to Heilbronn, a distance of about 35 English miles. All went on most quietly. We were able to give away many hundreds of tracts, and about 50 copies of my Narrative, and to a few persons I had the opportunity of speaking a little. The second day's journey was from Heilbronn to Heidelberg. In the large towns I went on most quietly, lest there should be a running together of the people, and the appearance be a political disturbance. On this account I never give away tracts and books in towns, but on the road, or just before I come to towns, or after I have passed through them. Yet now and then I have also given them away in towns in a quiet way; for instance, by going to a baker's shop, and buying

a trifle and then giving a book. The second day from Heilbronn to Heidelberg we went on as before in our service, but in the afternoon we were tried in spirit. We observed a carriage at a distance behind us, with a gentleman in it, and his coachman before. He stopped more than once to converse with the people to whom I had given tracts. At last he obtained sight of my book also. Thus he kept on driving behind us. Our nerves, that I may not say our spirits, were greatly tried by this. By the grace of God we were willing to suffer for his name's sake, even greatly, in this work; yet this matter greatly tried our nerves, not knowing what the result might be. At last the carriage drove before us. Then it stopped, and the gentleman lifted himself up, to have a full look at me, then he ordered his coachman to drive on, and they were soon out of sight. The next thing now to be expected was, that in the next town the police would stop us in our service. However, we continued the work, and at last arrived at Heidelberg, without having been stopped, and having given away more books and tracts than even on the previous day, and our nerves were quieted. The steady even course of service, under all difficulties, without any one's encouragement, and with the discouragement of many, requires not a little faith! We felt how weak our faith was! The third day's journey was from Heidelberg. We continued again our blessed service. I had opportunity this day to put my Narrative and tracts into the hands of ladies and gentlemen as well as poor persons. Our opportunities for service were very many this day, and things went on quietly in the morning. In the afternoon, however, our nerves were even more tried than the day before. We had travelled through Wirtemberg and also the Grand Duchy of Baden, and were now in the country of Hesse-Darmstadt, when I gave some tracts to some lads of a Grammar School, whom I met before a town. But these lads followed us, accompanied the carriage through the whole town, and some distance out of the town, ridiculing us. We sat quiet, saying nothing at all. Then I was addressed by a mail-guard who had seen me give away tracts and books, and who, having stopped the mail, asked for tracts for himself and the passengers, but evidently in a sneering way. This carried the news of my service before us, as the mail went much faster than we, and

therefore our work was known in the next place, and a man ran out on our arrival to ask for books, and in consequence of this the attention of persons was arrested. Nevertheless the Lord helped me to continue the work, though somewhat tried in mind, on account of being aware how much such work is opposed on the Continent. A little while after, a light waggon drove quickly after us, and as I was walking along by the side of the carriage, up a hill, a man got out, joined himself to me, and asked for a tract. He then said: "Who has allowed you to distribute these books?" I replied, "Nobody, but I am a servant of Jesus, and I desire to serve my Lord. If, however, you can show me that what I am now doing is against the laws of the country I will give it up. As far as I am aware it is not." He then asked me, what religion was contained in the tracts. I said not any one in particular, but that there were in them the truths of Christianity, about which alone I cared, as I did not design by these books to increase any particular party. A few words more of this kind passed, and he then left me, drove on before us, and presently turned off from the turnpike road into a little bye road in the wood, where he stopped and read the tract, which I had given him, which was, "The conversion of the jailer at Philippi." I went on as before with the work, not tried in spirit, but yet my nerves were much affected by it. We meant only to have gone that day as far as Darmstadt, the capital of Hesse-Darmstadt, but I engaged the driver 15 miles further, to Frankfort-on-the-Main, in order that we might be out of the dominion of Hesse-Darmstadt, if through the mail-guard, or the last mentioned person, who, to judge from his dress, was a government officer, the matter should be coming before the magistrates. At Frankfort we arrived after ten on Saturday evening, Sept. 20th, having now been able for 3 days to go on with the service. The next day, being the Lord's day, we purposed to rest at Frankfort, which we much needed for body and spirit, especially also for the sake of asking the Lord's blessing upon the work up till then, and to ask guidance for our future steps, and his help and blessing for what remained of our work. We had intended, before we left Stuttgart, to go to Eisleben, such a distance from Frankfort, as would require 4 or 5 days more travelling, and then all the way back to Cologne.

But on account of what had occurred the two previous days, we now began again to consider our steps, whether we should go on still further or not. Nature wished to get back to England at once. Nature shrank greatly from the continuance of this service. But after having strengthened ourselves in God, we came to the conclusion, that our first purpose was of God, and that we ought not to alter our plans, except we saw it most clearly to be the will of God; and we therefore purposed (as we could only look upon the desire of discontinuing our tour as a temptation), to go on with our service, till by the order of the police we were prohibited. Blessed be God who enabled us to triumph over the temptation! But to him is all the praise due; for had he not strengthened us in that hour, we should have been as those who, having put their hand to the plough, draw it back. I now set about making arrangements for the journey, as the carriage and horses, which I had engaged for the three previous days, had to return to Stuttgart. Our prayer was for another suitable driver, upon which so very much depended in our service. In this again we experienced most evidently the Lord's willingness to answer prayer; for in the same inn in which our Stuttgart driver had put up, it happened so, by the ordering of the Lord, that there was a driver from Cassel, the place where I am now writing, who had taken a family to Frankfort, and who was looking out for a job. With this coachman I agreed, to take us to Eisleben, to stop there a day and a half, while I saw brethren in that neighbourhood, and then to take us to Cassel. This engagement was for eight days. It was the more kind of the Lord to allow me to find this person, as I went from place to place in Frankfort to obtain a conveyance, but could not succeed in that large city; and the only one I could have had, would have been nearly twice as expensive as the one which I hired. On Monday morning, then, Sept. 22nd, we left Frankfort, determined by the help of God to pursue our service, and, if need be, to suffer and to endure hardship in it. Many tracts and books also were given away this day, and in the evening we reached Schlüchtern, a small town before Fulda. The next day at Fulda I took up a large bale of tracts and books which I had sent before, and on Tuesday evening we reached Vacha. Up to that time we had had fine weather; but

we reached Vacha in a heavy storm, it having rained heavily for 2 hours, and lightened and thundered exceedingly. All night the rain continued, and in rain we left Vacha for Eisenach. Our service now seemed over; but yet I managed now and then to put a copy of my book out of the carriage, when I saw an opportunity that it could be kept pretty dry. By the time we reached Eisenach, which stands on the foot of the hill on which is the old castle called the Wartburg, where Luther translated the Bible, the rain ceased and we had a fine afternoon, and in a few hours were able to give away more than 50 books and many tracts. In the evening we reached Gotha, capital of the small dukedom of Saxe Gotha. On Thursday, Sept. 28th, we came as far as a small town called Arthern, and on Friday, about 1 o'clock in the afternoon, we reached Eisleben. All these five days and a half we went on quietly in our service, none hindering us, giving away many books and tracts. Here now we stopped two days, had some intercourse with brethren, and then left for Cassel, which we reached in two days and a half, arriving here last evening. This morning I have been writing this letter and doing some other things needful for the journey, whilst my dear wife has been all the morning engaged in putting up tracts for the journey. If we can obtain a suitable conveyance, we purpose to leave this afternoon on our way to Elberfeld, and, if the Lord gives us grace, to pursue our service till we come to the Rhine, and then by way of Ostend to cross the sea for England, so that about 3 or 4 days after this reaches you we may have the joy of seeing you again face to face. It will be joy to us indeed to see you all again. Farewell, beloved brethren. My dear wife sends her love in Christ to you all.

Your affectionate brother and servant in our Lord,

GEORGE MÜLLER.

I add a few remarks respecting this my service on the Continent.

1. For about eight months before I left England, I had seen it to be the Lord's will, that I should go again that year to the Continent for a season, and had made my journey and service, during that period, a daily subject of prayer from Nov. 1844. I left Bristol on July 19th, and returned on Oct. 11th, 1845.

2. I should have greatly preferred to preach the Gospel in the streets or in the market places in Germany; but for that there was no liberty. I did therefore what I could, in spreading about eleven hundred copies of my Narrative, and tens of thousands of tracts. To this I was particularly encouraged by remembering that that great work, at the time of the Reformation, was chiefly accomplished by means of printed publications.

3. We travelled in a hired carriage for 17 days, each day about 40 or 45 miles. I had a box, containing about thirty thousand tracts, made on purpose, behind the carriage, and in the fore-part several portmanteaus filled with tracts and copies of my Narrative in German. As we went on, my dear wife and I looked out for travellers who were coming, or persons on the road side. It was just the time when the potatoes were taken up, and thousands of people were thus either close to the turnpike road, or only a little way from it. The front of our carriage had glass windows, so that we could see all the persons before us, and on each side. As soon as the carriage was near enough, I held the tracts or a copy of my Narrative out to them, and requested them to accept them; or sometimes I beckoned the working people to come up to the carriage, which almost without exception they readily did, and then received a book or tract. In case of genteel persons, whom I sometimes met, I repeatedly ordered the driver to stop, and I got out of the carriage, and handed the books or tracts to them. Often also I walked up a hill, and then conversed with the persons whom I joined, or gave tracts more extensively in this way.

4. The reason why I pursued this plan of travelling was, *a*, that I might myself circulate as many as possible; *b*, that the tracts and Narratives might be scattered over as extensive a tract of country as possible; *c*, that I might be able to accomplish it, *before the police could prevent it.* On the road side, before entering villages and towns, or after I had left them, I gave away freely. Now suppose this came to the ears of the police, as no doubt in many instances it did; before any measures could be taken, I might be at a distance of 5, 10, or 20 miles from the spot; for we travelled, as I said, from 40 to 45 miles daily. This was indeed an expensive way of circulating the tracts, and wearing to body and mind more than can

easily be perceived; but it was a most effectual way, and a precious service to be allowed to be engaged in for the Lord. When we had finished our journey, lasting 23 days, we were completely worn out for the time.

5. At first I sometimes threw down the tracts to persons, out of the carriage, when they were not near enough to have them handed to them. This, however, I discontinued on the second or third day; for I judged that, as I would not throw down Bibles, Testaments, or smaller portions of the Holy Scriptures, so these tracts also, filled with the truth of God, and written for the honour of God, should not be thrown down; and that I would rather not give them at all, than in this way. I purposely notice this, for I know that many Christians are in the habit of throwing tracts out of a carriage, as I did at first. I might put them secretly in drawers, or on the table, or under the table-cover in inns, or elsewhere, where they afterwards might be found; but I could not feel any longer happy in not treating them with all reverence, because they contain the truth of God.

6. Perhaps the reader may ask: What has been the result of this labour in Germany? My reply is: God only knows. The day of Christ will declare it. Judging from the constant labour in prayer during 8 months before I went the second time, and day by day while I was on the Continent, and day by day for a long time after my return, I am warranted to expect fruit, and I do expect it. I expect abundant fruit in the day of Christ's appearing. In the meantime my comfort is, that 220,000 tracts have been circulated, many of which through the providence of God found their way not only into the darkest places of the Continent of Europe, but went also to America and Australia. Further, the 4000 copies of my Narrative in German, are almost all circulated. And again, the publishing of my Narrative in German, led me to do the same in French, which was accomplished about three years later. Further, these tracts were reprinted at Hamburg and at Cologne, and are circulated by other Christians; in addition to which, my having published them in Germany led me to get them stereotyped in England, and they continue to be circulated in many countries.

7. I only add, we continued our service in a similar way, after we had left Cassel, from whence I wrote my last

letter to the church in Bristol; and in many respects it was the most interesting part of the service.

December 31, 1845. There have been received into communion 53 during this year, and 1055 since the commencement of our coming to Bristol, which, with 68 whom we found in fellowship, makes 1123. Of these 115 have fallen asleep, 65 have been excluded, 57 left us, and 193 left Bristol; so that there are only 693 brethren and sisters in fellowship at present.

During this year the Lord has been pleased to give to me—

1. Through anonymous donations in money, put up in paper and directed to me, and placed in the boxes for the poor saints and the rent, at the two chapels .	£166	15	10½
2. Through presents in money, from believers in Bristol, not given anonymously	102	18	11½
3. Through presents in money, from believers not residing in Bristol . .	138	0	7
4. Through presents in provisions, clothes, etc., worth to us *at least* . . .	26	3	9
Altogether	£433	19	1¾

To this is to be added, that my dear child had again during the whole of this year her education free at a boarding-school, as stated at the close of the last year, whereby I saved about 50*l.* Also my travelling expenses to and from Germany, and other expenses, connected with my service in Germany, were paid out of the 500*l.* to which reference has been made. Adding these two items to 433*l.*, I had at least 500*l.*

Esteemed reader, what do you think of this? Is it not a pleasant thing, in the end, even for this life, really to trust in God? Verily, thus I have found it to be, and thus I do find it to be, the longer I live. Only there must be *real* trust in God, and it must be more than merely using words. If we trust in God, we look to him *alone*, we deal with him *alone*, and we are satisfied with *his* knowing about our need. Two things I add, as I write my experience and the Lord's dealings with me for the profit of the saints:

1. During the last year I resolved, that, by God's help, I would seek to be more than ever a channel for the communication of God's bounties, and to communicate to those in need, or to give to the work of God. I acted according to the light which God gave me, and he condescended to make me his steward in one way or another far more abundantly than ever before. Would we wish to have means intrusted to us by the Lord, or to succeed in our trade, business, profession, etc., we must be truly desirous of being his *stewards*, and *only* his stewards. Read what I have written at length on this subject within the last twenty pages of the third part of this my Narrative; and, if you have read it before, read it yet again.

2. In looking over my journal, I find that during this year also I was more than once without a shilling, yea without a penny, though my income was about 500*l.*

April 29, 1846. To-day my beloved wife and myself had the inexpressibly great joy of receiving a letter from our beloved daughter, while we are staying in the Lord's service at Chippenham, in which she writes that she has now found peace in the Lord Jesus. Thus our prayers are turned into praises.

About 18 months before this I began especially to pray for the conversion of my dear child, and the Lord soon after seems to have begun to work in her heart. I knew little of her state of mind before receiving her letter, for I did not wish to force anything upon her of a spiritual character, but leave her to be attracted by the loveliness of the things of God. After hearing from her in April, 1846, she was not received at once to communion, but, being so young, I judged it desirable to watch the work in her soul. Towards the end of the year, however, my fellow-labourers being fully satisfied, she was baptized and received into communion, when she was 14 years and 3 months old.

Supplies for the School—Bible—Missionary and Tract Fund, sent in answer to prayer, from May 26, 1846, *to May* 26, 1848.

During no period from the commencement of the operations of this Institution up to May 26, 1846, was I intrusted by the Lord with such large sums, as during

the one to which this chapter refers. I had never had more need of pecuniary supplies than during those two years, on account of the many pressing calls; but, at the same time, I had the exceeding great joy and privilege of being able to respond to them in such a way as I had never before been allowed to do. These remarks apply to all the various objects of the Institution, but especially to the supplies for brethren who labour at Home and Abroad in word and doctrine, without being connected with any society, or without having any regular salary for preaching the word.

On May 26, 1846, after the accounts had been closed, a check for 100*l.* was given to me, the application of which was left to my disposal. I put half of the amount to the fund for these objects, and half to the Orphan-Fund. When the accounts were closed, there was 91*l.* 4s. 11¼d. in hand for these objects, to which this 50*l.* was added; therefore I began this period with more means than I had had in hand at any time previously at the beginning of a fresh period; and as was its beginning so was the continuance. It has often struck me that one especial reason why, on the whole, I was allowed to have so little trial with regard to means for the work during those two years, in comparison with former times, may have been, that thereby the Lord would say that he was willing to give what would be needed, when once the New Orphan-House should be built, though the expenses would be about two thousand five hundred pounds a year more than they were before. Another reason also may have been, because in many *other* ways trials of faith and patience came upon me in connexion with the Institution during those two years, that therefore the Lord may not have exercised me so much by the want of pecuniary means as before. But especially also one reason, why the Lord generally gave me so great an abundance during those two years, seems to me this, that it might be seen, not only how he can help us day by day when we are poor, but also how able and willing he is to cause us to abound, when this is for his honour and for our profit.

June 4, 1846. To-day was given to me, *just when I rose from my knees*, after having asked the Lord for more means, especially for missionary purposes, the sum of 150*l.*, with the request to use of it 50*l.* for the Orphans,

50*l.* for labourers in England, and 50*l.* for labourers abroad.

July 6. Besides several small donations which came in since June 4, I received to-day 50*l.*, of which one half is intended by the donor for the Orphans, the other half for these objects.

July 16. To-day I received One Hundred Pounds from a donor who had lost about one half of his property, and who gives this donation as "A thank-offering to God for having left to him as much as he has." I put one half of this donation to the funds for these objects, and the other half to the Orphan Fund.

Aug. 1. About 24*l.* more has come in since July 16th. During the last two days I have sent 110*l.* to Foreign labourers, and 15*l.* to brethren who labour in England; and having thus begun to reduce our Missionary Fund, the Lord gives fresh supplies. The evening before last was sent to me 5*l.* from Ludlow. To-day I received 5*l.* from Scarborough, of which 4*l.* is for Missionary objects, and 1*l.* for the Orphans. Thus the Lord gives me the desire of my heart to help more and more the dear brethren who labour in word and doctrine, either in this country or in foreign lands.

From the commencement of this Institution on March 5th, 1834, it had been my desire to employ part of the funds, with which I might be intrusted, in aiding missionary brethren in foreign lands, who are not supported by any regular salary; and for several years I had likewise had the desire to assist brethren, labouring in similar circumstances, in Great Britain and Ireland. The Lord also had given me the great privilege to assist such brethren more or less during the time that this Institution had been in operation; but especially he began during the two years, to which this chapter refers, to allow me to do so in a far greater degree than before. I knew it to be a fact that many brethren who preach the word, without having any salary for doing so, or property to live upon, were in need. Now it might be said that such brethren ought to trust in God; that, if they preach Jesus as the only hope for the salvation of sinners, they ought to set them a good example by trusting themselves in God for the supply of their temporal necessities, in order that unconverted persons thereby might be led to trust in the

Lord Jesus alone for the salvation of their souls. This is true, quite true. Preachers of the precious good news of salvation to every sinner who puts his trust in the merits of the Lord Jesus, ought indeed themselves to depend upon God, their Lord and Father, for the supply of their temporal necessities; but I also felt that I, as their brother, ought to seek to help them as far as lay in me. To this I set myself more than ever after the beginning of the year 1846, as I knew, that, from particular causes, there was an especial call to help such brethren; and as my own means would go but a little way, I gave myself to more earnest prayer than ever for such brethren. The result was, that, during the two years of this period, the Lord so answered my *daily* supplications with regard to this particular, that I was honoured to send nearly three times as much to Home and Foreign labourers, as during any previous period of the same length. 1,559*l.* 11s. 6d. was spent in this way, by which twenty-one brethren were assisted who laboured in Foreign lands, and nineteen who laboured in Great Britain and Ireland. Large as this sum is, in comparison with what I had been able to do in this particular in former years, yet it is small, very small, in comparison with what my heart desired to be able to do for these forty brethren. It has frequently, yea almost always, so happened, that the assistance which God has allowed me to send to such brethren, has come to them *at a time of great need.* Sometimes *they had no money at all left.* Sometimes *even their last provisions were almost consumed,* when I sent them supplies. Some of them are fathers of large families, or have sickly wives and children; some were once well off in this world, but for Christ's sake have become poor; and some have had for Christ's sake their all taken from them. Is it not an honour to help such brethren? I could fill hundreds of pages by giving extracts from the letters of the dear brethren to whom I have sent help, and they would be greatly to the edification of the reader; but I do not feel free to do so.—As I have not only been labouring for these brethren in prayer that God would intrust me with means and allow me the privilege of helping them, but as I also have asked God to direct me especially to send to those who might be in particular need, in case I could not help them all; and as I have sought by an encouraging word to strengthen the-

hands in God; I have great reason to believe that these dear brethren have not only been helped by these pecuniary supplies in a temporal point of view, but also that the fact, of God sending them help in their extremity, has tended to refresh and strengthen their hearts, and to lead them more and more to trust in him.

Sept. 4. 38*l.* more has come in since Aug. 1st for these objects, and to-day there was given to me 305*l.* 17s. 3d. for Home and Foreign labourers, for present use for the Orphans, and for the other parts of the work. Thus I have again the desire of my heart given to me in being able to assist a number of dear brethren at home and abroad, to whom I desired to send help. Of this sum I took 205*l.* 17s. 3d. for these objects, and 100*l.* for the Orphans.

Sept. 9. Since the 4th I have sent out about 60*l.* already for brethren who labour in England and Foreign lands. This morning I received from C. W. 25*l.* more for missionary objects.

Oct. 22. This morning's post had brought no means. Whilst walking in my little garden for meditation and prayer, I said to myself—"Though the post has brought no means, yet the Lord can send even this day rich supplies." It was not two minutes after this, when a letter was handed over to me, which had been brought that moment, containing two Fifty Pound Notes and these words: "My little children, let us not love in *word*, neither in *tongue;* but in *deed* and in *truth*."—40*l.* for missionaries; Demerara and others, dependant on God for supplies. 10*l.* for Home missionaries, dependant on God for their support. 10*l.* for the Orphans. 10*l.* for the poor of Bethesda and Salem Church. 10*l.* for Mr. Müller. 10*l.* for Mr. Craik. 5*l.* for Bibles and Testaments. 5*l.* for rent, &c. of chapels."—Thus I had a fresh answer to my prayers, which had been again brought before the Lord this morning, that the Lord would enable me still more to help the dear brethren who labour at home and abroad in dependance upon him for supplies.

Dec. 22. During the last two months about 70*l.* more has come in, chiefly for Missionary purposes. Of these donations, about eighty in number, I only mention that there was given on Nov. 5, the sum of 6*l.* 14s., being the tenth part of profits arising from shares which a brother

has in coal mines.—Now to-day, Dec. 22, I received 175*l.* more for these funds, which I took as a further precious answer to my supplications to God, for help for home and foreign labourers, and for means to procure a fresh stock of tracts.

March 7, 1847. Often of late have I besought the Lord that he would be pleased to give me more means for these objects. For more than nine months we have on the whole abounded more than at any time during the thirteen years since this work first began; but now there was only 15*l.* left for the support of six day schools, two Sunday schools, an adult school, and the circulation of Bibles and Tracts. Often also of late had I entreated the Lord, that he would be pleased to condescend to use me still further as a steward, in allowing me to send help to the many dear brethren whom I know labouring at home and abroad without any salary, the need of many of whom I knew. Under these circumstances I received this morning 150*l.* with the following lines:

"Dear brother,

I have pleasure in sending you 100*l.* on account of labourers in the Lord's vineyard at home and abroad, and 50*l.* for other work in your hands.

Yours very affectionately,

* *."

Thus my request was in a measure answered with regard to home and foreign labourers; and by taking half of the 50*l.* for the schools and the circulation of Bibles and Tracts, I had also something for these objects. The other 25*l.* I put to the Orphan Fund.

March 12. The 100*l.* for home and foreign labourers was soon portioned out. The difficulty was not to spend it, but how to make it do, so that all, who seemed to me to need, might get a little. On this account I prayed still further during the last four days for means for home and foreign labourers, and now this morning, when I arose from my knees, after having again asked the Lord about this matter, I received a letter in which C. W. sent me 30*l.* for missionaries.

April 5. I have been praying day by day, ever since I was able during the last month to send about 130*l.* to

home and foreign labourers, that the Lord would be pleased soon again to give me means for them, on account of their great need; indeed, all our means were so exhausted, that I had only just enough, for to-morrow evening to meet the weekly expenses connected with the six day schools, when this morning I received 125*l.* for these objects. What a precious help! How is my heart refreshed by this seasonable answer to prayer!—Almost immediately after this donation had been given to me, I received a letter from Demerara about the great need among the brethren who labour there, by which intelligence the seasonable help, just received, has become still more precious to me.

Thirteen other small donations came in between April 5th and May 13th, and on May 13th I received 100*l.* for missionary purposes.

On June 8th was given 100*l.* for missionary purposes.

June 30. For the whole period since the accounts were last closed, more than 13 months since, we have not been so poor with regard to these funds, as to-day. Last evening I paid out the last money to the brethren who labour in the day schools, in giving them their weekly salary. Under these circumstances a brother in the Lord, who resides about 200 miles from this, and who had been staying in my house two days, gave me 30*l.* to dispose of as I thought best, only that missionary brethren should be remembered. I took therefore 15*l.* for Missions, and the other 15*l.* for the School—Bible and Tract Fund. What a seasonable help!

July 16. To-day was given to me, when now again the money received on June 30th for the schools, &c., had been all but entirely expended (as only little had come in since), the sum of 110*l.* for these objects.

Aug. 25. Great had been my desire to send fresh supplies to the home and foreign labourers. Day by day had I been again praying for means for them since July 16th. Now also I had nothing in hand for the Bible and Tract Fund; and as to the schools, *there was not nearly enough to pay the weekly salaries to the teachers next Tuesday evening*, when I received this evening 120*l.* for these objects.

Aug. 26. This morning I received still further from C. W. 20*l.* for home and foreign labourers.

Sept. 14. Day by day I am bringing before the Lord the necessities of the home and foreign labourers, whom I seek to help, especially as I found in what great need some brethren were, when a short time since they received the help which the Lord allowed me to send them. Now this afternoon I received from Norwich 5*l.* 6s. for missionary purposes, and also 2 rings, a cornelian necklace, an amber necklace, and a pair of amber bracelets.

Oct. 4. I have now been again praying much for many days for means for home and foreign labourers, as well as for means for the other objects, having very little in hand, and having reason to believe that several of the brethren whom I seek to help are in great need. This evening I received from a brother, as the first fruits of his salary, a sovereign for home and foreign labourers. I take this as an earnest out of the hands of God that he will soon send me more.—Received also 5s.

Oct. 5. This morning I received the following letter, *at the very moment while I was on my knees, waiting still further upon the Lord for help* for the various objects, and especially also for means for home and foreign labourers.

* * * *, Oct. 3, 1847.

"Beloved Brother,

The enclosed sum of 30*l.* is in my hands, and it does not appear that the Lord has need of it here, either for my own wants, or others under my notice. It seems likely that he may have need of it for the help of missionary labourers, who are depending on himself. Would you kindly dispense it, as you may see good, to any who are labouring in the word at home and abroad; or if you see *other* pressing need for it among the saints or for the Orphans, use it rather for them, &c."

I took the whole of this donation for these objects, *as evidently coming in answer to prayer for them.*

Oct. 12. The very great need of some of the dear brethren who labour in the word, and whom I seek to assist, had led me again day by day to bring their cases before God. I also needed help for the School—Bible and Tract Fund. Now this evening the Lord has once more helped me by a donation of 180*l.*, of which I took

40*l.* for the Orphans, 100*l.* for home and foreign labourers, and 40*l.* for the School—Bible and Tract Fund. How seasonable and how precious this help! How precious to me as the fruit of many prayers, and how seasonable to many who are in need, and who will be thus assisted! Moreover, I am just now in deep sorrow and great trial, the cause of which I will not mention here; and thus God himself cheers and refreshes my heart, and tells me by this fresh precious and manifest answer to prayer, that he is mindful of his poor unworthy servant, and of the work in which he is engaged.—There came in five small donations besides to-day.

Dec. 30. When in the greatest need, so that I should not have been able to pay the weekly salaries of the teachers of the day schools next Tuesday, I received to-day from C. W. 10*l.*, the disposal of which being left to me, I took half of it for the school fund and half for the Orphans.

Dec. 31. The year closes under the smiles of our Heavenly Father upon this work, in giving us another proof that he is indeed mindful of our need and attentive to our supplications. I received to-day 100*l.*, to be used as most needed. I took of it 50*l.* for these objects and 50*l.* for the Orphans. I scarcely ever received a donation more seasonably; for there are only means enough for next week for the teachers, Bibles and tracts are needed, and I have been long waiting upon God for means for home and foreign labourers. But this donation only furnishes me with means for present necessities for the schools, and to order some tracts. As to ordering Bibles and sending help to foreign and home labourers, I must still further wait upon God.

Jan. 1, 1848. To-day I received still further, for the benefit of the day schools, the sum of 10*l.*

Jan. 6. Only 1*l.* 5s. has come in since the first. This evening 120*l.* was given to me, of which the donor intends 20*l.* for home and foreign labourers. The other 100*l.* was left at my disposal. I took therefore of it 70*l.* for the Orphans, 10*l.* for the various schools, 10*l.* for the circulation of the Holy Scriptures, and 10*l.* for the circulation of tracts.

Feb. 10. There came in about 65*l.* more for missionary purposes during the month of January, and to-day was

given to me a donation of 100*l.*, the disposal of which being left to me, I took half of it for these objects, and half for the Orphans; and thus I am able, after much waiting upon God for it, to send a little more help to brethren who labour in the word.

April 13. This is only the second time since May 26, 1846, that the means for these objects have been completely exhausted, though we have been two or three times besides brought very low in funds. The last money there was in hand was spent in paying the weekly salaries of the teachers the day before yesterday. There was therefore nothing for this purpose for next week, nor were there any means for the circulation of Bibles and tracts, and for aiding missionary efforts. Under these circumstances prayer and faith were again resorted to. For my *universal remedy in need of any kind* is, to make known my requests unto God, and then I seek to believe that God has heard me for his dear Son's sake, and *I look out for answers to my petitions*, and *fully expect them*. I had also particularly requested four brethren, masters of the boys' day schools, to help me with their prayers, as I should not be able to pay them their weekly salary, next week, except the Lord were pleased to send in means.—Thus situated, I received this morning, as the fruit of many supplications, the sum of 90*l.*, which was a great refreshment to my spirit.—It being left to me to use this money as needed, I put 50*l.* of it to the funds for these objects, and 40*l.* to the Orphan Fund. Thus we are once more helped, and my heart is encouraged more and more to trust in God.

April 29. One of the labourers gave 10*l.* for missionary purposes, whereby at least one of the most needy among the brethren who labour in the word could be helped.—It has pleased God not to allow me, during the last five months, to have the honour of helping the dear brethren, who labour in the word, to the same extent as the eighteen months before. I confess that I am not worthy to be used any longer by the Lord as a steward, to assist these his servants; still my heart craves after it, and still prays that God would count me worthy for his dear Son's sake to supply me with means for them, as I know they are in great need, and many of them, through particular circumstances, in far greater need than ever.

May 26, 1848. By the Lord's faithful love I have been enabled to meet all the heavy expenses connected with *these objects* during the last two years, amounting to nearly Two Thousand and Six Hundred Pounds, and at the same time owe no one anything, and have a balance of 5*l.* 19s. 7¼d. left in hand.

Supplies for the support of the Orphans, sent in answer to prayer, from May 26, 1846, *to May* 26, 1848.

May 26, 1846. Scarcely ever had we so much in hand, and certainly not for the last eight years, when the accounts were closed, as at this time. This evening I received 100*l.* It being left to me to apply this sum as I felt led, and as it might be needed, I put half of it to the Orphan Fund, and the other half to the fund for the other objects.

June 4. To-day I received 50*l.* for the Orphans together with 100*l.* for the other objects. This money came the instant after I had risen from my knees, to ask the Lord for more means, as, on account of needing about 75*l.* for the printing of the Report, 23*l.* for oatmeal, 19*l.* for fittings, 25*l.* for rent, and 26*l.* for the sisters who labour in the Orphan-Houses (which sums are shortly to be paid), we shall soon again need more.

Jan. 20, 1847. For the whole of this period since May 26, 1846, therefore nearly eight months, when the accounts were closed, we have had always an abundance of means, and for the greater part of the time about 200*l.* in hand. The sum of One Thousand Sixty-Five Pounds has come in for the Orphans in less than eight months, to which is to be added the balance of 85*l.* 4s. 9¼d. in hand when the accounts were closed. Invariably I have thus been able to give to the Matrons of the four Orphan-Houses the money in advance, which was required for the necessities of one week. But now, after having paid away last evening 45*l.* 5s. for the house-keeping of a week in advance and for other expenses, the money which remains in hand is needed for rent, and oatmeal, which has been ordered from Scotland. This morning therefore I gave myself particularly to prayer with regard to means for present use for the Orphans. How blessed to have the living God to go to! Particularly precious to know him in these days of wide spread distress! Potatoes are too

dear for food for the Orphans at this time. The rice, which we have substituted instead of them, is twice as dear as usual; the oatmeal more than twice as dear; and the bread one-half dearer than usual. But the riches of God are as great as ever. He knows that our expenses are great. He knows that a little will not do in these days, when provisions are so dear, as there are about 150 persons to be provided for, including teachers and apprentices. My soul is at peace.—*Evening.* About noon I received from a pious physician the following note, with a check for 5*l.*

"My dear sir, I send you something towards buying bread for the Orphans. The dearness of food must be felt by many; but the Lord in judgment is nevertheless gracious. He will sustain. I am your sincere friend and well-wisher,

* * * *."

From Maidenhead I received still further this evening 5s.

Jan. 21. Having had to pay out this morning 5*l.* 2s. 6d. for oatmeal for present use, before the arrival of the larger quantity of a ton and a half ordered from Scotland, there was again only 2s. 6d. left of the money which had come in yesterday. About one o'clock this afternoon I received 1*l.* through a Christian lady of Bristol from "a poor gardener." There came in also still further 1s. by sale of Reports and 1*l.* 2s. 6d. from London.

Jan. 22. A brother from Devonshire came here on business, to obtain some money which was owed to him. He did not obtain it; but God used him as an instrument to bring me some money, for he gave me 10s. for the Orphans. There came in still further by sale of trinkets and old silver 12*l.* 8s. 5d.

Jan. 23. By sale of books and some music 2*l.* 10s.

Jan. 24. Profits from the sale of ladies' bags 1*l.*— During this period also two sisters kindly made some ladies' bags and baskets, and gave the profits arising from the sale for the benefit of the Orphans.

On the 25th and 26th came in still further 2*l.* 4s. 1½d., so that, when in the evening of the 26th at our usual weekly meeting for prayer and conference I met with the

brethren and sisters who labour in the various day schools and Orphan-Houses (then seventeen in number), I was again able, by means of the 26*l.* 1s. 0½d. which the Lord had sent in during the week, to give to the four matrons of the Orphan-Houses all the needful supplies for the coming week. That which remained was put by towards the rent of the houses. Our prayer now was, that the Lord would be pleased again to send in fresh supplies, that we might have at the next meeting all that might be needed for the week after.

Feb. 2, Tuesday. When we met this evening for prayer and conference, it was found that, whilst there had been nothing left in hand after our meeting this day week (except money put by for oatmeal and rent), there had come in altogether during the week 29*l.* 18s. 10½d. The way in which the Lord supplied us with these means was as follows: On the 26th and 27th I received 10s., and 10s. as profits from the sale of ladies' bags. On the 27th from London 3*l.*, and also 5s. From C. C. 2*l.* From Braunton a purse with 6s. From Barnstaple 1*l.* On the 28th anonymously from London, from J. W. A., 5*l.* with these words: "From the giver of all, through one of his stewards." On the 29th from Sodbury 2s. 6d. On the 30th from Droitwich 5s. 6d. Also anonymously by post 5s. worth of postages with these words: "A sip of milk and a crust of bread for a poor Orphan." Also from C. C. 10s. On the 31st: An old shilling and sixpence, a small silver pencil case, and a pair of small ear-drops.—Feb. 1. This morning before breakfast I took a direction in my usual morning's walk, in which I had not been for many weeks, feeling myself drawn in that direction, just as if God had an intention in leading me in that way, and I said so to myself. When I was returning home I met a Christian gentleman whom formerly I used to meet almost every morning, but whom I had not met for many weeks, because I had not been walking in that direction. He stopped me and gave me 2*l.* for the Orphans. Then I knew why I had been led thus; for there is not yet enough in hand, to supply the matrons to-morrow evening with the necessary means for housekeeping during another week.—There came in still further to-day for needlework done by the Orphans 1*l.* 17s. 7d. Also 4s. 5d., the contents of an Orphan box.—On Feb. 2nd came in

2*l.* 5s. 11d., by sale of a Report 4d., and by sale of stockings 9s. 3d.—On Jan. 30th a box came from London. It contained 4 brooches, a small gold chain, 2 pairs of earrings, 2 gold watch hooks, a locket, a ring, 2 parts of gold chains, a rich silk dress, a silk cloak, a glass bottle, some music, 39 books, 18 knitted doilies, and a pair of wooden knitting pins. Some of these articles were to-day, Feb. 2, sold for 8*l.* 2s. 3d.—There came in further by sale of articles and Reports 4s. 1d., by the boxes in the Orphan-Houses and at my house 1*l.* 2s., and anonymously was sent 5s. worth of postages. Here then, dear reader, you have a specimen how the Lord does week after week supply us.—I said 29*l.* 18s. 10½d. had come in during the week. As, however, I was informed that the arrival of the oatmeal from Scotland had been announced, and that it was much dearer than I had expected, *i.e.* nearly three times as dear as formerly, I found that there had not been sufficient money put by, and I took therefore in the first place what was yet needed for that. In consequence of this I had only 10*l.* 14s. left for housekeeping, which I divided among the matrons, being fully assured that the Lord would again send in means, before that was spent. I went home in great peace, though all the money I possessed for present use for the Orphans was only three half-farthings.

Feb. 4. Yesterday nothing had come in. This morning, just before I was going to give myself to prayer about the Orphans, a sister in the Lord sent a sovereign, which she had received, as she writes, "From a friend who had met the Orphan Boys, and was particularly pleased with their neat and orderly appearance." After having received this 1*l.*, I prayed for means for present use, though not confining my prayers to that. About a quarter of an hour after I had risen from my knees, I received a letter with an order for 5*l.* The donor writes, that it is "the proceeds of a strip of land, sold to the railway company." What various means does the Lord employ to send us help, in answer to our prayers!—About half an hour after having received this 5*l.*, there was sent 10s., being the profits from the sale of ladies' bags. This evening I received still further by the sale of some trinkets 1*l.* 18s. Thus I am able to send all the remainder

of the money, which is yet needed for housekeeping up to Tuesday, Feb. 9th. The Lord's holy name be praised for this fresh precious help!

Feb. 5. 1*l.* 4s. 10d. has come in to-day.

Feb. 7. Lord's day. Yesterday nothing had come in. In two days again about 20*l.* will be needed for housekeeping, and there was only about the tenth part in hand. But I was not in the least disturbed about this. There are also new clothes to be found for the 32 Orphans in the Boys' Orphan-House, which likewise will cost many pounds. That expense also, I believed, God would help me to meet. Now observe the Lord's kindness! When I returned this morning from the meeting, I found the following letter containing 50*l.*

"* * * *, Feb. 6, 1847.

"Beloved Brother,

Having been led, during the past year, to see the unscripturalness of life insurance, which I had been carrying on for some years previously, I now enclose you the sum which I received from the office, on returning to them my policy, viz. 22*l.* 8s., and the payment due about this time, eleven guineas, as a thank-offering to the Lord for having, chiefly by means of the work in which you are engaged in Bristol, opened my eyes in some little measure to his will with regard to his pilgrim people here. I ask your prayers on my behalf, dearest brother, amongst the many who must be on your heart, for singleness of eye, to walk with God by faith, that 'the whole body may be full of light,' and that I may not be permitted to darken the little light I have, by serving any other master.

I add also ten pounds, which you will kindly apply to the help of those who are labouring in the Gospel abroad, or, if more urgent, at home. Also will you oblige me by accepting six pounds for your own use.

Of several Reports (which you sent me for distribution) I have received payment for three, for which I enclose one shilling. The first items please apply for the use of the Orphan-Houses, as you may see best," &c.

Thus the Lord has given by one donation 34*l.* for the Orphans.—I had also in this another answer, in receiving

10*l.* for missionary brethren, for whom I had of late been especially seeking help from the Lord.—This evening I received still further from C. C. 1*l.* 10s. 0½d.

Feb. 9. There was received to-day by sale of articles 3*l.* 9s. 8d. When I met again this evening with my fellow labourers for prayer and conference at one of the Orphan-Houses, it was found that 48*l.* 12s. 6½d. had come in for present use for the Orphans during the past week, which commenced with three half-farthings in my hands; so that I had enough for all the expenses connected with the housekeeping of the coming week, and the rest was put by for the rent, the apprentices, and the boys' clothes; and as to the necessities of this day week, when again fresh supplies will need to be given to the matrons, I am looking to the Lord.

Feb. 10. This evening I have received already a little towards the expenses of the coming week. A brother gave me 10*l.*, of which 5*l.* are for the poor Irish and 5*l.* for the Orphans. Also 7s. 1d. from the Orphan-box of a sister.

Feb. 11. Anonymously 2s. 6d. From Nottingham 1*l.* 15s.

Feb. 12. Anonymously, from a lady, 2*l.* to buy coals for the four Orphan-Houses.

Feb. 13. Anonymously from Islington a half sovereign. By sale of Reports 8d.

Feb. 14. Through a sister 5s., from C. C. 8s. 3d., and anonymously 2s. 6d.

Feb. 15. From a Scotch sister 1*l.*, by sale of stockings, Reports, and articles 7*l.* 0s. 4d., from an Orphan-box 3s. 0½d., from Nice 1*l.*, anonymously 10s., from Cork 5s. 2d., and several shillings besides in small donations, &c.—Thus there had come in again by this Tuesday evening, Feb. 16th, 21*l.* 4s. 2d. during the past week. As, however, I had to put by some money for the boys' clothes and rent, I could only leave 12*l.* 4s. with the matrons, quite sufficient for a few days; and my hope in God is, that he will send more, before this is gone.

Feb. 17. From the neighbourhood of Bridgewater 10s. 6d., and 1s. 1d. came in besides. On the 18th came in 1*l.* more.

Feb. 19. This morning I gave myself again to prayer, importuning the Lord that he would be pleased to send

more means, as only so little had come in during the last two days. Almost immediately, after I had risen from my knees, I received from Doncaster 3*l.* 3s. At the same time I received from Bromyard 5s., and 4s. from Aberystwith. About an hour later came from a sister in the neighbourhood of Wotton-under-Edge 12s. 6d., a lady's bag, and a knitted bread-basket cloth. Thus, with the 12*l.* 4s. already given to the matrons, we are supplied till next Tuesday evening, the 23rd of February.

Feb. 20. To-day came in from the neighbourhood of Castle Cary 10s., by sale of Reports 2*l.* 6d., and by sale of articles 10s. 6d. Also anonymously a parcel from Tetbury, containing 2 shillings, a very small gold coin, a small silver coin, 2 small copper coins, a brass coin, 4 gilt brooches, 2 silver brooches, 3 gold brooches, 5 collars, a waistcoat, a pair of boots, 2 little cloaks, and a shawl.

Feb. 21. From C. C. 14s., and 5*l.* with these words: "Your Heavenly Father knoweth that ye have need of these things," and Philip. iv. 19. How true! My Heavenly Father knew that I had need of this, and therefore put it into the heart of this donor to give this 5*l.*; for in two days I shall again require many pounds more than I had this morning. Also how truly is again fulfilled in my experience at this time Philip iv. 19.

Feb. 22. From Westmoreland a half sovereign and 1s. in postages.

Feb. 23. Anonymously a half sovereign. By sale of articles and Reports 3*l.* 16s. 0½d., and through an Orphan-box in my house 2s. A lady who met the Orphans to-day in the fields, gave to one of the girls 2s. *Evening.* Tuesday. By what the Lord has been pleased to send in during the past week, I have enough to supply the matrons with all that which is needed during the coming week and 14s. left.

Feb. 24. From a poor brother 6s.; the produce of an Orphan-box 1s. 7½d. and a shilling bank token.—Feb. 26. From Bath 2s. 6d., and from Droitwich 9s. 4d.

Feb. 27. Saturday evening. Only these few shillings have come in since Tuesday evening, so that, having had to pay away several small sums besides the housekeeping expenses, since Tuesday, nothing is in hand towards supplying the matrons with housekeeping money next Tuesday.—Received this evening from C. C. 5*l.* 6s. 6d.,

and anonymously from Totness 1s. 6d. worth of postages.

Feb. 28. To-day came in still further from the Hotwells 3s. 6d., and 10*l.* as the profits of shares which the donor has in a certain concern. How kind of the Lord to help us thus so seasonably in our poverty!

March 1. By work and knitting of the Orphans 1*l.* 4s. 8d. and from E. N. 10s.

March 2. By sale of articles 8*l.* 10s. 6d., and by sale of a Report 4d. From H. C. as "A thank-offering to the Lord" 1*l.* From Manchester 1*l.* From London 13s. From Staffordshire 1s.—Thus by this evening the Lord has again sent in during the past week 29*l.* 8s. 11½d., whereby I had enough to advance the housekeeping expenses to the matrons of the four Orphan-Houses for the coming week, and to meet some other expenses.

March 3. Received 6s. 7d.—March 4. 1*l.* from the neighbourhood of Stroud, as "A thank-offering to God for partial recovery from sickness."—Also from Bath 5*l.*—A gentleman gave anonymously to the governess of the Infant Orphans 2*l.*—I also received the following letter to-day: "Dear Sir, when my dear brother John died he had one shilling and fourpence halfpenny owing to him, which he intended for the Orphans. As I received it to-day, I now send it to you. He said 'Jesus will never forsake the Orphans.' M. W." The paper contained 1s. 7¾d. and a quarter of a gilder. This little legacy came from a dear boy who I hear died in the faith. March 5. From Clevedon 2s. 6d.—March 6. The proceeds of an Orphan-box 7s. 1d.

March 7. Only 8*l.* 17s. 9¾d. had come in since the 2nd, and the day after to-morrow fresh supplies will need to be given to the matrons for housekeeping. Under these circumstances I received this morning 150*l.*, of which the donor intends 100*l.* for labourers in the Lord's vineyard at home and abroad, and 50*l.* for other work in my hands. Of this 50*l.* I took 25*l.* for the Orphans, and 25*l.* for the School—Bible—and Tract Fund. Thus we are helped afresh.—There came in besides from C. C. 6s., from a lady 1*l.*, and anonymously 1s. 4d.

March 8. This morning I received still further from Falmouth a bank order for 4*l.* from a brother "As a thank-offering to the Lord for bringing him safely back to his native land," 2*l.* of this amount is for the Orphans

1*l.* for Brother Craik, and 1*l.* for my own personal necessities.—Also 10s. from an Orphan-Box, and 10s. from a sister.

March 9. By sale of articles and Reports 4*l.* 13s. 2d., from a poor brother 6d., and through the boxes in my house 1*l.* 1s. 6d.—This evening, Tuesday, I find that since last Tuesday evening again 44*l.* 1s. 6¼d. has come in. Thus I have the means to meet all the housekeeping expenses during the coming week, and something will be left to put by towards the rent, the current expenses for the apprentices, &c. How good is the Lord in helping me week after week through the heavy expenses, especially in this season of deep distress and dearness of provisions! To his praise I can say we have lacked nothing all this winter.

Whilst preparing these extracts from my journal for the press, I remember to have heard the following remarks made with reference to the time about which I am just now writing, I mean the season of dearth during the winter of 1846-7: "I wonder how it is now with the Orphans? If Mr. Müller is now able to provide for them as he has, we will say nothing." When I heard such like remarks I said nothing except this: "We lack nothing:" or, "God helps us." Should this fall into the hands of any who have had such thoughts, let them remember that it is the very time for *faith* to work, when *sight* ceases. The greater the difficulties, the easier for *faith*. As long as there remain certain natural prospects, faith does not get on even as easily (if I may say so), as when all natural prospects fail. It is true that during the time of the dearth our expenses were considerably greater than usual; it is also true that many persons, who otherwise might have given, were unable to do so, or had their surplus directed into other channels, such as Ireland, &c.; but the gold and silver are the Lord's. To him we made our prayer. In him we put our trust. And he did not forsake us. *For we went as easily through that winter as through any winter since the work had been in existence.* Nor could it be otherwise; for God had at this very time an especial opportunity of showing the blessedness of trusting in him. Seek, dear reader, more and more to put your trust in him for every thing, and you will even concerning this life find it most precious so to do.

March 10. I was able, last evening, to meet most comfortably all the expenses for the coming week, yet we had then nothing left, as I put by the rest of the money, that we might not get into debt with regard to the rent, the expenses of the apprentices, &c. When now there was again nothing left for future housekeeping expenses, a Christian lady at a considerable distance informed me by this morning's post, that she has paid into the hands of Messrs. Stuckey and Co. of Bristol, my bankers, the sum of 100*l.* for my use, for the benefit of the Orphans. By the same post I have received also 10s. from Droitwich. The Lord's holy name be praised for this seasonable help! I have now all the rent for next quarter day, am able to purchase two pieces of calico which were needed, a fresh supply of rice and soap, and to meet other heavy expenses in the way of certain alterations and improvements to be made in the four houses, about which I had repeatedly asked the Lord.

May 1. From March 10th up to this day came in the sum of 132*l.* 10s. 5¾d. Before the means in hand were expended, the Lord always gave a fresh supply. This evening, Saturday May 1st, I gave myself especially to prayer for means, as we were now again very poor, there being no means to meet the housekeeping expenses on next Tuesday evening, when fresh supplies are to be given to the matrons. About half an hour after I had risen from my knees, I received from a Friend to the Institution a letter, containing 10*l.* Of this sum 8s. 5d. is from twenty poor Orphans under his care, who, having read one of my Reports, desired him to send to the Orphans in Bristol their little donations, each having contributed from 2d. to 8d. 5s. 6d. is from an aged Christian, 10s. from a servant of the donor, and 8*l.* 16s. 1d. from himself, to make up the 10*l.*

May 2. There came in still further from C. C. 1*l.*, from a Christian lady 10s., from a Christian servant 5s., and anonymously 10s.

May 4. To-day was received for articles and Reports 1*l.* 16s. 1d., and through the boxes at the Orphan-Houses 16s. 8½d. Thus I was able this evening, by what had come in since Saturday evening, May 1, to meet the housekeeping expenses of the coming week.

May 11. Another week is gone by. This evening

also I have been able to meet all the expenses connected with housekeeping during the coming week, through what has come in since May 4th, but at the same time I have nothing left. Hitherto the children have lacked nothing. Never were provisions nearly so dear since the commencement of the work, as they are now. The bread is almost twice as much as eighteen months ago, the oatmeal nearly three times as much as formerly, the rice more than double the usual price, and no potatoes can be used, on account of the exceeding high price. But though I have now returned from the Orphan-Houses, without any means being left in my hands for further supplies, yet my heart is in peace, in great peace, being sure that the Lord will help.

May 12. The Lord is beginning to help already. This evening I have received 4*l.* from Scarborough.

May 13. This morning I received 6s. from the neighbourhood of Bideford. This afternoon was given to me 50*l.*, being left to my disposal, as it might be most needed. Being so exceedingly poor as to means for the Orphans, and having heavy expenses to meet, I put this 50*l.* to the Orphan-Fund for present use. Thus I am able to order oatmeal from Scotland, which is nearly out, put by money for the rent, pay for medical attendance for the children, &c. How good is the Lord, in helping us so seasonably in this time of great dearness of provisions!—There came in still further to-day 5s.—On May 14th from O. 1s., "through walking a short distance instead of riding."—On May 16th from C. C. 13s. 1d. From O. 3s., being "the first fruits of increase of wages." From the Isle of Wight 17s. 9d., from Hayle 2*l.*, from Plymouth 15s.—On May 17th from a Christian lady 5s., from E. A. B. 13s. 6d., and from C. B. 13s. 10½d.—On May 18th by sale of articles and Reports 2*l.* 6s. 4d. Though thus since last Tuesday evening, May 11th, about 63*l.* has come in, yet as I have had heavy extra expenses to meet in the course of the week, besides the usual amount required for housekeeping for the coming week, and as I need to put by about 20*l.* for oatmeal which I have ordered from Scotland, we are again without any thing in hand.

May 19th. This morning the Lord has again begun to send in a little. I received from Bath 1*l.*, and from a

Colonel in the Presidency of Madras 2*l.*—May 20th. From Worcester 1*l.*, and from a sick little boy 6d.—May 23rd. From C. C. 5*l.* 2s. 4d. Also a stranger called at the Infant Orphan-House, bought books to the amount of 8s. 1d., and gave a sovereign for them.

May 24th. By sale of articles came in 3*l.* 19s. 2d.

May 25th. From Shirehampton 2s.

The boxes in the Orphan-Houses contained 1*l.* 10s. 1d. Also an individual from Taunton gave 10s. Lastly, there came in by sale of Reports 6d. and from M. W. 6d.—Thus the Lord has again sent in since last Tuesday evening about 16*l.* This, however, not being nearly enough to meet the housekeeping expenses of the coming week, I could only give a part of what was needed, hoping in God to give me more, before that which is in the hands of the matrons shall have been spent.

May 26th. A lady gave 10s.—May 27th. By sale of books, given for the purpose, came in 1*l.* 11s. 6d., and through an Orphan-box 8s. 6d. This 2*l.* 10s. received yesterday and to-day I sent off to the Orphan-Houses.

May 28th. By sale of Reports 1s., the proceeds of an Orphan-box at Street 2s., from Guernsey 1*l.*—May 29th. The 1*l.* 3s. which came in yesterday was enough for to-day, Saturday; for only the addition of 1*l.* was required to help us till Monday morning, and therefore the Lord had sent 3s. more than was needed. *Evening.* There has come in this day still further 1*l.* 9s. 7d. by sale of some little trinkets, almost all of which had been given some time since, and which now our poverty led me to pack up and send out for sale. This money likewise was divided among the matrons.

May 30th. Lord's day morning. I have just now received, in this our great need, when there was not sufficient in hand to meet the necessities of to-morrow, 6*l.* 6s. from a Christian gentleman of title at Zurich in Switzerland, a distance of about one thousand miles. What a most seasonable help! Thus I am able to send all the remainder of the supplies, which are needed till Tuesday evening.

In these days of straitness the question would naturally arise, If, when you have only to care for 130 Orphans, you are so poor, what will you do when there are 300, for whom you are just on the point of building a house?

And further, Is it not an indication not to increase the work, seeing you are now so poor with only about one-third of the number of Orphans which you purpose to receive into the New Orphan-House?—I am not tried, however, with such thoughts; for I know that 1, Only for the trial of my faith, as heretofore, the Lord allows me now again to be poor. Never at any time have the expenses been so great for the work, as from May 26, 1846, to May 26, 1847; but also never has so much come in in the same space of time during any other period of this work. 2, It is for the profit of the church at large that I have now again to pass through these days of poverty. 3, I know that it is as easy for the Lord to supply me with all the means that the work will require when once the New Orphan-House is opened, as it is for him to give me what I need now, though the expenses in all likelihood will then be Two Thousand Five Hundred Pounds a year more than they are at present.

Evening: Received 10s. more, anonymously.

June 1. Tuesday. 8*l.* 9s. 0½d. more has come in since May 30th, of which however only 4*l.* 9s. 7½d. remained for housekeeping expenses during the coming week. This was all I could leave with the matrons, hoping in God to send in more, before this is gone.

June 2. This morning I received the following anonymous note from Teignmouth, enclosing two half-sovereigns;

"My dear Brother,

I send you with much pleasure the enclosed trifle, to be disposed of as you judge to be best. Also this precious text, "*Only believe,*" once spoken by the lips of our blessed glorified Head, now above.

Ever yours in Him."

Thus the Lord has already sent me a little help towards what may be needed to-morrow. His name be praised! How true that word: "*Only believe.*"—*Evening.* This afternoon the Lord has shown afresh in my experience the truth of that word: "*Only believe.*" I received a letter, containg 40*l.*, of which 10*l.* are for Brother Craik and myself, 10*l.* for Home and Foreign labourers, and 20*l.* for present use for the Orphans. Thus I am en-

abled to send the money required for housekeeping for this week, till Tuesday the 8th. Oh, how kind of the Lord to help us again and again!

June 8. There was only about 6*l.* in hand towards the housekeeping expenses of the coming week, as comparatively little had come in since June 2. In addition to the house-keeping, other expenses needed to be met. Under these circumstances 50*l.* was given to me this morning, to be laid out as most needed, which I took for the support of the Orphans. Thus we are again helped for the present moment.

June 17. Only 12*l.* 16s. 0½d. has come in during the last 9 days. After having advanced on the 15th the money for one week's housekeeping expenses, and paid also 13*l.* 10s. for apprentices, all our money was again expended, except that which had been put by for rent and oatmeal, which has been ordered. When we were thus once more quite poor, I received to-day from a Christian gentleman at Edinburgh, whom God has repeatedly used to help us in times of need, a bank-order for 35*l.* Of this amount 5*l.* had been given to him by a lady for the Orphans, 25*l.* were from himself for the Orphans, and 5*l.* he kindly intended for my own personal necessities. Oh, how precious thus continually to see the hand of God stretched out on our behalf! Will you not, dear reader, taste and see that the Lord is good, and that it is a blessed thing to put our trust in him? Whatever your position in life, though you may not be called by the Lord to establish Orphan-Houses and Day-Schools for poor children; or to trust in him for means for circulating Tracts and Copies of his Holy Word: yet all children of God, whatever their position in the world or in the church, ought to put their trust in God for every thing connected with their body, their soul, their business, their family, their church position, their service for God, &c. And it is impossible to do so, without enjoying the blessedness which results from it, even first that peace which keeps the heart and mind like a garrison, and secondly true liberty with regard to circumstances, times, places and persons.

June 29. Tuesday Evening. Having had nearly 50*l.* coming in since this day fortnight, I have had the means of meeting all the expenses of these two weeks; but now

having paid out what was required for housekeeping for the coming week, all is again gone.

June 30. This morning when, as stated, there was again nothing in hand, I received from Devonshire 20*l.* for the Orphans.

July 1. This morning I received still further from a Bristol donor 10*l.*, and 5*l.* from M. R. These three donations of yesterday and to-day came in most seasonably, not only because they came when there was nothing in hand, but also because, the Lord willing, I am on the point of leaving Bristol for a few weeks, and am thus able to leave some money behind.

I was absent from Bristol from July 1st to August 2nd. During this time 133*l.* 11s. 4½d. was received, and the sums came in so seasonably, that there was not any difficulty at all experienced with regard to means, because there was always a sufficient amount of money in hand, to furnish the housekeeping expenses each week in advance, besides meeting all other current expenses. At the same time I might say that almost every one of the donations came in most seasonably to help us on, if not from day to day, at least from week to week; and if it were not on account of its taking up too much space I should mention every one of the donations which form the total amount referred to, but I shall only refer to the following.

July 13. The proceeds of an Orphan box from Stafford 4*l.* 7s. 6d. The friend who sent the money wished to know whether it arrived in a time of need. I have had many similar requests, to which I can reply nothing, or say at the most that the answer may be learnt from the next Report. It will be easily perceived, on reflection, that if I said, it came seasonably, that would imply we had little or nothing at all in hand, and what would that again mean but this, "As our expenses are so great, that which you have now sent will be soon gone again, and therefore send us some more, or get some friend to help us." But by this very thing the chief object of this work, "*To show how blessed it is to deal with God alone, and how blessed to trust in him in the darkest moments,*" would be hindered. It is also for this very reason that I do not publish the accounts very frequently, for instance quarterly, as I have been requested to do; but I am de-

lighted to wait a year, or eighteen months, or two years, or more; and even then I do not publish them for the sake of obtaining money (though unquestionably God has used the Reports as instruments to procure us means), but for the benefit of the Church of God, to refresh, encourage, exhort, and instruct my brethren in Christ; and also because it is needful that from time to time I should give a public account of the way in which the considerable sums, with which I have been intrusted, have been spent.

Of the donations which came in between Aug. 2nd and and 14th (in amount 51*l.* 16s. 3½d.), I only refer to the following.—Aug. 9th. A brother, being some time ago, through a particular circumstance, in danger of losing *all his property*, dedicated to the Lord 50*l.*, if he would be pleased to help him out of the difficulty. Now to-day I received from that brother, with his explanation of this, 10*l.* for the Orphans and 5*l.* for my own personal necessities, being a part of that 50*l.*, as the Lord, in answer to prayer, has delivered him out of the danger.

Aug. 14. *Saturday evening.* This evening I found that there was only as much money in hand for present use for the Orphans (*i. e.* 44*l.*), as there were liabilities upon me for rent, &c. On this account I gave myself particularly to prayer for means for housekeeping expenses, as on Tuesday evening I shall have to give fresh supplies to the matrons. About one hour, after I had risen from my knees, two sovereigns were given to me, which a sister had brought from Ilfracombe.

Aug. 15. To-day came in further: From Barnstaple 5s., anonymously 5*l.*, from C. C. 5s. 4d., from a sister in Bristol 1*l.*, from Clifton 4s., and anonymously 2s. 6d. and 3s. 6d.—Thus the Lord has been pleased to give me already within twenty-four hours, after I had sought more especially his help for means, the sum of 9*l.* 0s. 4d. My eyes are now looking to him for more.

Aug. 16. By sale of articles came in 1*l.* 19s. 10d.

Aug. 17. Tuesday evening. No more having come in, I have not been able to give to the matrons the housekeeping expenses for the whole week; I hope, however, that the Lord will send more before all is expended which I was able to give, and which will last about three or four days.

Aug. 18. This morning I received from Droitwich a half sovereign, and from Yorkshire 3*l.* Thus the Lord has already given 3*l.* 10s.—There was also left at my house this afternoon, anonymously, a pair of silver spectacles; and at the Girls' Orphan-House No. II, were left 3 rings, a brooch, and a pair of mourning ear-rings.—There was also given 2s. 6d.

Aug. 21. To-day more money was needed for housekeeping; but having received nothing yesterday, and having sent off what had come in on the 18th, I gave myself to prayer. And now see the precious answer. By the first delivery this morning a letter came from Birmingham, signed W. R., which contained a half sovereign, of which the anonymous donor wished 7s. 6d. to be used for the Orphans, and 2s. 6d. for Missions. I also received through two Orphan-boxes 7s. 8d. There came also to hand three small parcels from Plymouth, of which one contained an old silver watch for the benefit of the Orphans, from a blind Orphan; the other contained two shillings and a franc piece; the third a pair of mourning ear-rings, a mourning brooch, a fourpenny piece, half a franc piece, and an old sixpence.—About half an hour, after I had received these three little parcels, a gentleman, who did not give his name, left at my house two sovereigns and one shilling. About half an hour after that, a lady called and wished to put some money into the box at my house. Her name is not known to me. But God knows her, and influenced her in answer to my supplications. May his blessing rest upon her and the unknown gentleman who left the 2*l.* 1s.! When the box was opened, it contained a paper with half a sovereign. Thus the Lord so kindly in this remarkable manner has helped us in this our time of need, and we have now again all we need for the present.—*Evening.* Still further help. About two o'clock this afternoon a lady from London, who about a year ago had read the Narrative of the Lord's dealings with me, in passing through Bristol left a sovereign at my house for the Orphans, feeling that she could not go on without doing so.—This evening also I received a letter from Scarborough with five pounds. Also 1*l.* came in by sale of articles this evening, and 2s. 6d. as a donation.

Aug. 22. I have received still further to-day from C. C.

2*l.* 3s. 3d., from Wolverhampton 10s., and from a brother in Bristol 1*l.* 1s.. Thus altogether 14*l.* 5s. 3d. has come in during these two days.

All who have spiritual eyes to see cannot but observe in reading these facts—1st, the *reality* of dealing with God himself directly; 2, the *blessedness* of trusting in him; and 3, his *most particular* providence.

Aug. 23. I prayed still further for means, as I shall need to give a fresh supply to the matrons for housekeeping to-morrow evening, besides meeting other expenses. This afternoon I received from a sister in the Lord a sovereign, half of which she wished me to use for my own temporal necessities, and half for the Orphans. Likewise 10s. as profits from the sale of ladies' baskets.

Aug. 24. To-day came in by sale of articles and Reports 2*l.* 15s. 10½d.

Aug. 25. *Wednesday.* Last evening I was able to advance only a part of the week's housekeeping expenses to the matrons. To-day when I had nothing in hand, a sister in the Lord brought her Orphan-box, which contained 10s. 6¾d. in donations, and likewise 9s. 4d. as the proceeds from the sale of musk plants, reared and sold by her for the benefit of the Orphans. The box contained also a small Spanish silver coin. *Evening.* Precious and encouraging as it was to receive those little sums this afternoon, still, as they came in when no money was in hand, they were only an encouragement to look to the Lord for further supplies, but were not enough to supply our need. However the Lord, in his faithful, loving care over the work, and in his readiness to answer prayer, helped further this evening. There came in 150*l.*, of which I took 30*l.* for the Orphans, and 120*l.* for the other objects.

Sept. 6. Since Augst 25th only 20*l.* 17s. 0½d. had come in. On this account there was only 3*l.* 15s. 5½d in hand, and to-morrow evening I have again to supply the matrons with housekeeping expenses. In this need, whilst walking in my little garden, I lifted up my heart to God for means, when, *in less than five minutes after*, I received a letter from Jersey, containing Five Pounds for the Orphans.—This evening I received still further: from a little girl 3s., from Margate 10d., anonymously 3s., and 3 dollars from a poor missionary brother in Demerara.

Sept. 7. Further: by sale of articles 3*l.* 1s. 3d.; through the boxes in my house 2s. 6d.; and through the boxes in the Orphan-houses, which our need led me to open, 1*l.* 6s. and a medal. Thus I had for the need of the coming week, at our usual prayer meeting this evening, 14*l.* 1s. 6¾d., which I divided to the last farthing, with the firm persuasion and hope in God that, by the time it was expended, he would give more; for it was not enough to meet all the demands of this week.

Sept. 8. The Lord has already sent in a little. I received from Weymouth 2*l.* 10s.

Sept. 10. From a dentist in Bristol 10s.

Sept. 11. From a Christian brother, about 200 miles from Bristol, whom the Lord has repeatedly used to help us in time of need, I received 20*l.* What a precious help! We have now all we require for this week, and a little towards the expenses of the next.—There came in also from Droitwich 5s.

Sept. 12. Further: From C. C. 10s. 1½d, from Clevedon 5s., from Clifton 5s., anonymously 2s., ditto 1s. 5½d.

Sept. 13. Monday morning. As there will be again money needed for housekeeping to-morrow evening, and as I have not enough in hand to advance for the expenses of a whole week, which I generally now seek to do, I gave myself again to prayer for means, and, WHILE I WAS ON MY KNEES IN PRAYER, there came a letter from Yorkshire, containing 5*l.* for the Orphans. There was received also by sale of stockings at the Boys' Orphan-house 7s. 7d.

Sept. 14. By sale of articles and stockings came in 3*l.* 10s. 0½d. From Norwich 1*l.*, and also 2s. 6d. *Evening.* By these sums we have received altogether since last Tuesday evening 34*l.* 8s. 5½d. Thus I have been able to supply the matrons this evening with what they need for the coming week, and that which was left I put by for the rent and current expenses connected with the apprentices, and am now looking out for fresh supplies, as I have again nothing left towards the need of the following week.

My dear reader, if you are tired of going on with this account of the Lord's gracious interpositions for us week after week, or day after day, I beseech you to lay it aside for the present. Take it up at another time. This Nar-

rative is not of an ordinary character. It does not contain anecdotes for amusement; it relates no embellished tales; it gives *facts* in which the hand of God is seen stretched out on our behalf, as the result of prayer and faith. Seek to admire God, dear reader, in this simple Narrative of Facts, which are related to his praise, and to allure your heart more and more for him, and which are brought before you in all simplicity to encourage you and to stir you up, if it may please God so to use his servant, to put your whole trust in him. I judge that it will be the more profitable way to read this account *by little and little.*

Sept. 15. A brother who is staying at my house gave me a silver table spoon and two silver dessert spoons. This is the beginning of fresh supplies from God.

Sept. 16. From the neighbourhood of Glastonbury 5s. Also 5s. worth of postages from Derby.

Sept. 17. A Christian lady at Richmond, having received a copy of my Narrative, read aloud in the hearing of another lady the account about A. L. (page 158 to 162 of part I.) The lady who heard it read was so touched by it, that she sent 10*l.* for the Orphans. God moved her heart to send me this donation at a time when I had only a few shillings in hand for the use of the Orphans!—There came in still further from Clifton 10s., and from Taunton 5s.

Sept. 19. From C. C. 19s.—Sept 21. Anonymously from Barnstaple 5s. worth of postages. This anonymous donor has many times sent his donations thus. It may be that twenty or thirty times the same amount has been forwarded in the same way.—Also by sale of articles 1*l.* 8s. 8d. By the boxes in my house 1*l.* 0s. 6d. *Evening:* I was able to supply the matrons only with means for housekeeping for three or four days, being fully assured that, by the time more is needed, the Lord will send further supplies.

Sept. 24. Friday. After I had paid away on Tuesday evening to the last penny what I had in hand for present use for the Orphans, there came in a pair of small ear-rings from Norwich; also 1s. 6d. besides. On Wednesday and Thursday nothing came in; but it was needful that I should send more means to the matrons to-day. Thus situated I received this morning from Barnstaple 19s. 4

and 17s. About three hours after came in by sale of the 3 silver spoons (given on the 15th), an old silver punch ladle, and a few trinkets lately given, 6*l.* 14s. 7d. Thus we are once more helped, and I have been able to send all that which was yet needed for house-keeping till Tuesday evening. The Lord be praised for his seasonable help!—Observe, dear reader, we may be poor, very poor; we may have to wait upon God, even again and again we may have to make known our requests to him; but he helps, always helps.

Sept. 25. From C. C. 1*l.*—Sept. 27. From a Christian lady 1*l.*—Sept. 28. 8s. 4d. came in, also 1*l.* from Scotland, and 1*l.* 6s. 4½d. by sale of articles. Also from Wellington an old half-crown, an old shilling, and an old sixpence. 3s. 10d. came in besides. *Evening.* So little having come in, I was able to give to the matrons only as much as would last for about two days for provisions.

Sept. 29. A young man called this morning at my house and gave 2s. 6d. A brother called and put 2s. 6d. into an Orphan-box in my house. Mrs. W. C. gave 1*l.* Also Mrs. K. 5s. These donations came in to-day, after I had twice given myself especially to prayer for means, as we are now in so much need.

Sept. 30. Nothing more having come in, we were in great need to-day. On this account the boxes in the Orphan-Houses were opened, which contained 1*l.* 4s. 2d. This evening sister C. gave me 18s. 9½d., being the contents of her Orphan-box. Also 15s. 11d. came in by knitting of stockings. Thus we were helped for the present.

Oct. 2, Saturday. As to-day more money was needed, and nothing had come in, one of the labourers supplied the present need till Monday morning, which took 3*l.*—*Evening.* This afternoon, when there was nothing at all in my hands for the work, I received from a little boy 1s. This evening a box arrived from Norwich, filled by the contributions of many believers. It contained in money 1*l.* 10s., and the following articles: 6 brass and copper coins, a gold pin, 5 gold brooches, 3 pairs of earrings, 3 pairs of silver clasps, a gold clasp, a gold locket, 2 rings, a pair of silver studs, a small broken silver tooth-pick, 4 gilt bracelets, a silver mounted eye-glass, 5 braid watch-guards, a silver washed watch-guard, 4 waist buckles, a

pair of gilt ear-rings, 3 mourning necklaces and a pair of ear-rings, a mourning ring set with pearls, 2 brass brooches, a mother-o'-pearl cross and clasps, a silver fruit knife, a pair of coral bracelets, 2 bead necklaces, a snuff-box, 2 little baskets, 12 worked mats, 24 ladies' bags of various kinds, 4 cephalines, 13 book-marks, 8 purses, 5 shells, 45 pin-cushions of various kinds, 17 needle-cases, 9 pairs of babies' shoes, 2 babies' hoods, 3 neck ties, 2 knitted cloths, 2 netted mats, 4 pairs of watch pockets, 3 pairs of cuffs, 3 little scarfs, 2 collars, a pair of socks, a night-cap, some knitted fringe, some work and lace, 2 silk winders, 3 waistbands, 5 handkerchiefs, ¼ lb. of tea, 2 pen-wipers, some little playthings, 2 combs, some slate pencils, 3 chimney ornaments, 4 paintings, 3 books, 16 pamphlets, a fan, a little box, 13 chemises, 2 shirts, a frock and cape, a shawl border, 3 bodkin cases, 2½ yards of print, a gown, and a few other little things.—Great indeed was my joy in receiving this box, for it was a fresh proof to me in this our present great poverty, that the Lord hears our prayers and is mindful of us.

Oct. 3. Lord's day. To-day I received from C. C. 10s. 10d.; from a sister 3*l.*, being the produce of a piece of work done for the Orphans, and anonymously 2s. 6d. By these donations we are supplied till Tuesday evening.

Oct. 4. From a Christian gentleman I received to-day 1*l.*; from a brother, as the first fruits of his salary, 2*l.*, of which 1*l.* is for the Orphans, and 1*l.* for home and foreign labourers; from another brother 2s. 6d.; from a sister 5s.

Oct. 5. By sale of articles 1*l.* 10s. 4½d. This evening I had only means enough to give to the matrons supplies for one or two days. When I came home from our prayer meeting, I found unexpectedly another demand made upon me for 5*l.*, in connexion with the house-keeping expenses, towards which I had nothing, but which it was desirable to meet as soon as it could be.

Oct. 6. This morning I received the following letter from Kennington, containing a post-office order for 5*l.*

* * * *, Kennington, Surrey.

"Beloved and honoured brother in our Lord,

I am permitted to be the unworthy instrument in the Lord's hand of transmitting to you the enclosed p

office order for 5*l.*, to be applied either for the Orphans or your own use, as may be most required at this time, &c.

Your affectionate sister in our Lord,

Oct. 5, 1847. * * * *."

I am now able to send off the 5*l.* about the need of which I was informed late last evening, and am again thus graciously helped at this time also by Him who hears the cries of his children. Do you not discern his hand, dear reader, in this instance?

Oct. 8. To-day 10s. more was required towards house-keeping expenses; but nothing had come in since the 6th. One of the labourers was able of his own means to give the amount required.

Oct. 9. *Saturday.* Yesterday, when there was nothing at all in hand, were given half-a-crown, 2 little silk handkerchiefs, 3 pinafores, a baby's shirt, a frock, and 2 children's work-bags.—This morning I found in the boxes at my house 1s. I knew that several pounds would be needed to-day for provisions, and therefore my eyes were directed to the Lord for help. I received *accordingly* 13s. 6d. "from a London Postman," and from Cumberland 1*l.* Thus I had 1*l.* 17s., but as this was still not enough, one of the labourers added 1*l.* 3s. of his own, as 3*l.* was needed. Thus we have enough for house-keeping expenses till Monday morning.

Oct. 11. Monday. Yesterday came in from a sister 10s., ditto 4s., anonymously 2s., through an Orphan-box 8s., and from a sister 2s. 6d. Thus we have enough for to-day's necessities, and 1s. 6d. left.

Oct. 12. There came in yesterday afternoon through the boxes at the Orphan-Houses 5s. 0½d., and through those at my house 1s. Also by sale of Reports 2s. This morning I received through sister Ch. 1*l.* 5s. 5d. These donations were very refreshing to my spirit in this time of great need, and though not nearly enough for all we require to-day, they are nevertheless a precious earnest that the Lord will help us further.—By the first delivery this morning I received an anonymous letter, containing 5*l.* with these words:

"It is requested that half of the enclosed sum may be expended on Brother Müller's own necessities, the other

half as he thinks fit, in furtherance of his Christian schemes: and may the blessing of the 'Giver of all good' attend him! Oct. 7, 1847."

I put the half of this 5*l.* to the Orphan-Fund.—There came in still further by sale of articles and Reports 1*l.* 12s. 6d. Thus we have all that is needed for the present moment.—*Afternoon.* This afternoon a person from the neighbourhood of Chepstow called and left a half sovereign. There came in also through needlework, done by the Orphans, 2*l.* 5s. 4d. Thus we are still further helped for the present moment. But all this is not enough. Larger sums are needed, as oatmeal is to be ordered from Scotland, and several other heavy expenses, besides those for house-keeping, are to be met. Nevertheless the precious proofs, which I have had again to-day of our Father's loving care over the work, lead me to expect further help.—*Evening.* This evening at a quarter to ten o'clock I received 180*l.* Of this sum I put 100*l.* to the Missionary Fund, 40*l.* to the School—Bible and Tract Fund, and 40*l.* to the Orphan Fund for present use. How good is the Lord! How precious this help! How much needed and how seasonable!

From the 13th to the 19th of October came in 8*l.* 6s. 1½d.

On Oct. 19th I left Bristol with my dear wife, partly, because both of us much needed change of air, and partly, because I had a great desire to labour in the word for a few weeks in Westmoreland and Cumberland. I was not able to leave more means than enough for about three days for house-keeping expenses. But I could not have stayed in Bristol, though there had been nothing at all in hand; my hope was that God would help during my absence. During all the time of my stay at Bowness in Westmoreland, from Oct. 20th to Nov. 20th, there was day by day, with the exception of the first three days, after my departure, need to wait upon God for daily supplies for the Orphans. In consequence of this, *every donation, without exception, which was received during my absence, came in most seasonably.* Partly on account of my health, and partly on account of opportunities for service in Westmoreland and elsewhere, I did not feel it right to return to Bristol sooner than I did, though there was such great poverty; nor could I have done anything in Bristol which I could not do in Westmoreland, a-

regards procuring means, since prayer and faith are all the means I make use of to obtain supplies when we are in need. For the encouragement of the reader, and also that those, whom God used at that time to enable us day by day to supply the Orphans with what they needed, may *see how they were used by him to help us*, I mention here every one of the donations which came in during my absence, with the exception of the articles.

Oct. 21, 1847. From some poor sisters near Kingsbridge 4s. 6d., in small donations through Brother F. in Bristol 7s. 5d.—Oct. 22. Anonymously from Walsall 5*l.*, of which 2*l.* is intended for missions, 1*l.* for the Building Fund, and 2*l.* for present use for the Orphans.—From Bath anonymously 10s. with a lace cape.—Oct. 24th. I received while at Bowness 10s., also 1s. and 2s. This 13s. I forwarded at once to Bristol by an order. There was also received in Bristol from Droitwich 10s. and from London 2s. 6d.—Oct. 25th. By sale of articles and Reports 2*l.* From C. C. 1*l.* From Wolverhampton 10s.—Oct. 26. Through the boxes in the Orphan-Houses 1*l.* 14s. 6d., our need having caused them to be opened.—Oct. 28. By sale of Reports 2s. 4d. Orphan-box in my house 10s. From a Christian gentleman near Crediton 5*l.*—Oct. 30. By sale of Reports 2s. 6d. By sale of an improved Rendering 9d. From London 10s.—Nov. 1. By sale of articles, stockings, and Reports 1*l.* 13s. 4d.—Nov. 2. Through a brother at Clevedon 5s. Through the boxes at the Orphan-Houses 3*l.* 8s. 6d. By sale of a Report and Rendering 10d. From one of the labourers 3s.—Nov. 4. From a sister near Wotton-under-Edge 1*l.*—Nov. 5. From two donors in the neighbourhood of Droitwich 5s. each.—Nov. 6. From sister B. in Bristol 4s. From C. C. 1*l.* 2s. 5½d.—Nov. 8. Anonymously by post 5*l.*—From sister H. C. 3s.—There was also given to me at Kendal, where I had been labouring, by a brother 10s., and by a poor sister 4d. This I sent at once to Bristol by an order.—Nov. 9. From a donor in Bristol 1*l.* From Switzerland 1*l.* 4s. 4d. From London 5s. By sale of articles 5*l.* 14s. 4½d. —Nov. 11. A lady from Ireland visited the Orphan-Houses and gave 1*l.*—By sale of a Report 4d.—Proceeds of an Orphan-box from the neighbourhood of Launceston 1*l.* 3s. 9d.—Through an Orphan-box in my house 5s.—Nov. 13. Through the boxes in

the Orphan-Houses 10s. 2d. Through Mrs. T.'s Orphan-box 2s. 1½d.—Nov. 14. From C. C. 5*l.*—Anonymously 2s. 6d.—Nov. 16. By sale of articles and stockings 2*l.* 11s. 6d.—Nov. 17. By sale of Reports 1s. Through a box in my house 2s. 6d. By needlework and knitting of the Orphans 1*l.* 6s. From sister C. 10s. From one of the labourers in the work 5*l.*—Nov. 19. From P. 2s. 6d. —On Nov. 20th I left Bowness for Keswick in Cumberland. The day before I left I received at Bowness 5s., 5s., and 1*l.*, also from Kendal 2s. 6d. This 1*l.* 12s. 6d. I sent off at once to Bristol by an order, as I knew that it was needed.—Nov. 21. From C. C. 3*l.*—Nov. 22. Through the boxes in the Orphan-Houses 7s.—Nov. 23. By sale of articles and stockings 2*l.* 5s. 9d. From one of the labourers 3*l.*—Nov. 24. By sale of Reports 3s. 3d. From F. L. in Ireland 1*l.* From Richmond 1*l.* 10s.—From Nov. 20th to 24th I stayed at Keswick. Whilst there I received 10s., 2s., and 1s. 6d. for the Orphans. This 13s. 6d. was at once sent off to Bristol, by an order, as we were still very poor, with regard to means for housekeeping expenses for the Orphan-Houses. But notwithstanding all this great poverty in Bristol, which required that we should day by day wait upon God, for our daily supplies, I did not feel at all led to return home, but had an especial drawing to go to Sunderland to labour there for a little while among the brethren assembling at "Bethesda Free Chapel." I therefore left Keswick on Nov. 24th for Sunderland.—Nov. 26th came in by sale of articles 2s., through the boxes at my house 1*l.* 2s. 6d., and from Dublin 1*l.*—Nov. 27. Through a box 8d., by sale of articles 7s., and 2*l.* from London.—Nov. 28th. From C. C. 10s. 8d., and by sale of Reports 8d.—Nov. 30. By sale of stockings and articles 1*l.* 13s. 6½d. From one of the labourers 1*l.* 10s. By sale of articles 1s. 11d. —Dec. 1. From one of the labourers in the work 10s.—Dec. 2. From sister F. 5s. By sale of articles 1*l.* From Newbury 10s. 6d.—Dec. 3. By sale of articles 5s. By profits from the sale of ladies' bags 1*l.* 19s. 6d. From Kingstown, Ireland, 1*l.* By sale of a Report 4d.—Dec. 5. From C. C. 1*l.* Through the boxes in the Orphan-Houses 3s. 10d. By knitting of the Orphans 8s. 6d. From Glasgow 5s.—Dec 7. By sale of articles and stockings 3*l.* 7s. 11d. From one of the labourers 2*l.* From Thorn-

bury 4s.—Dec. 8. From a village near Keswick 10s. and by sale of articles 6d. From one of the labourers 10s. From a donor in Ayrshire 2*l.*—In the evening of Dec. 8th I returned to Bristol from Sunderland. Day by day while I was at Sunderland also, the Orphan-Fund was very low, but God helped day by day, by sending in the means which have been mentioned; and when I returned there was 1s. 11d. in hand, and 2*l.* came in that same evening from Plymouth.

Dec. 9. From the neighbourhood of Pershore came in this morning most seasonably 5*l.*, as the need for house-keeping expenses to-day was 4*l.*, and there was only 2*l.* 1s. 11d. in hand. This 5*l.* came in about an hour before the 4*l.* was needed. There was received further to-day from Bath, anonymously, 10s., and by sale of articles 2s. 6d..—Will you not, dear reader, unite with me in admiring and praising the Lord who so seasonably helped all the time that I was away from the work, engaged in his service in another way! Do you not see how precious it is to have God to go to, and to find him ever willing to help those who trust in him, wherever they be? Do you not also see again the hand of God so manifestly stretched out on our behalf this day Dec. 9th? 4*l.* was needed, but only 2*l.* 1s. 11d. in hand, and, an hour before the 4*l.* was called for from the Orphan-Houses for house-keeping expenses, the Lord sent that 5*l.* from Pershore.

Dec. 10. To-day I received information, in answer to my inquiry, that 10s., which had been sent to me at Sunderland, were intended for the Orphans. These 10s., together with 3*l.* 14s. 5d. left in hand yesterday, are sufficient for this day, as the need of to-day is only 3*l.* 10s. for house-keeping.

Dec. 11. This morning came in 1*l.* from the neighbourhood of Cockermouth; thus we had, with the 14s. 5d. left yesterday, 1*l.* 14s. 5d., which is enough for to-day.

Dec. 13. Monday. Yesterday I received from C. C. 1*l.* 10s., from another person 2s., as profit from the sale of ladies' bags 1*l.*, and this morning from Burford 2s. 6d. Thus we have again enough for the house-keeping expenses of to-day.

Dec. 14. Yesterday we had enough, but nothing over. When there was again nothing at all remaining in my hands, there was yesterday afternoon 1s. put into a box

at my house. In the evening came in by sale of stockings and articles 2*l.* 6s. 6d, and by a donation 10s.—In the evening also a sister from Norwich brought 10s., 2s. 6d., 6d., and 3s. She also brought the following articles, to be sold for the benefit of the Orphans: A bottle of extract of spring flowers, a small box of scent bottles, a smelling bottle, 8 common seals, a thimble case, a box of wafers; a china box containing two rings, a mourning brooch, and a bead watch-guard; a pin-cushion, a pair of little cuffs, and a little box. Another parcel containing a pair of worked slippers, 2 little bags, 2 books, 2 aprons, a knitted cloth, 3 pincushions, a Shetland shawl, and a pair of card-racks. Further: 2 pairs of cuffs and a neck-tie. Further: a child's silver rattle, 3 rings, 3 pairs of earrings, and 2 necklaces.—There was also a parcel sent from Langport, containing two toilette cushions, a pair of worked slippers, 2 fans, 2 children's caps, some gold lace, a pair of silver clasps, 3 brooches, a silver thimble, a brass clasp, and some bits of gold. This morning I received a letter from the neighbourhood of Exeter containing a post-office order for 8s. with these words:

"I had hoped to have accumulated a larger sum in my box for the Orphans, than I have of late been enabled to obtain. I now, however, send it to you, though the amount is small, and should be thankful if it should prove useful for present need, it having been upon my mind for the last day or two that I ought to forward it to you without further delay. I therefore send an order for 8s., &c."

Thus we were supplied for the need of this day. This last 8s. was needed to make up the amount required.

Dec. 15. Yesterday afternoon I received 3*l.* more, of which 2*l.* was from Madeira, and 1*l.* from the brother through whom the 2*l.* was remitted. This 3*l.* was paid away at once, though not needed for house-keeping, so that I had still nothing for the need of to-day, when this day began.—My prayer last evening and this morning had been especially, that the Lord would not only be pleased to send me some money for the house-keeping expenses of to-day, but also enable me to give at least a little money to eight of the sisters who labour in the four Orphan-Houses, who have not had any money for their

own personal necessities for several months. This desire was granted to me, for I received this morning a letter from Wakefield with 20*l.*, in which the donor writes: "I hasten to enclose 20*l.*, which I leave to your disposal; but if the varied funds are so situated as to give no material preponderance of need to any one, I should divide it as under, viz. 10*l.* to the Orphans, 5*l.* to yourself and colleague, and 5*l.* for the Bibles, &c." I took all this 20*l.* for the Orphans, and have thus the joy of being able to send at least 16*l.* to those eight sisters, and am also supplied with house-keeping money for to-day; and as for to-morrow, "my eyes are upon the Lord." The Lord be praised for this precious and seasonable help!

Dec. 16. Yesterday afternoon a brother in the Lord gave 5*l.* for the Orphans. By this money I was able to defray the expenses of to-day, and the rest I put away for the rent, so that again we have to look to the Lord for supplies for to-morrow. Yesterday also a person gave half-a-crown to one of the teachers of the Orphans, whilst she was walking out with the children.

Dec. 17. Yesterday afternoon came in 12s. and 5s.—Also a lady and gentleman called at the Girls' Orphan-House No. II. and gave 10s. for a copy of my Narrative. Thus we had a little towards the need of to-day, but not nearly enough. Before, however, I was called on for money, I received from Worcester 1*l.* 10s. Thus we were supplied for the need of to-day.

Dec. 18. Saturday. I had reason to believe that our need for house-keeping to day would be about 5*l.*, and I therefore *waited upon God* for means, and *looked out* for help. Yesterday afternoon, *accordingly*, came in by sale of trinkets 1*l.* 8s. This morning I received from Westmoreland 10*l.* Also a letter from Edinburgh, containing 15*l.*, with the following lines without name.

"Dear brother in Christ, I enclose 'in the name of Jesus' 15*l.* 5*l.* for dear brother Craik, 5*l.* for dear brother and sister Müller, for their personal or family expenses, 3*l.* for the Orphans, and 2*l.* for the Christian Knowledge Institution. May the peace of God, which passeth all understahding, keep your hearts and minds through Jesus Christ our Lord."

There came in also at the same time by sale of Reports 10s. Thus I was able to meet all the house-keeping expenses of to-day, being 4*l.* 15s. 0d., and the rest I was obliged to put by for the rent and the expenses connected with the apprentices, so that we have yet again to wait upon the Lord for further supplies for next Monday. However, we are brought to the close of another week in this service, and He who has helped us thus far will surely help us further.

Monday, Dec. 20. Only 9s. and a small gold pin and ring from Stowmarket having come in since Saturday morning, we had not enough for house-keeping expenses to-day, which are 2*l.*; but one of the labourers was able of his own to give 1*l.* 11s. 0d., to supply the deficiency.

Dec. 21. Yesterday afternoon a brother sent 2*l.* for the Orphans. In the evening a sister gave 2s. 6d. This morning came in, through two Orphan-boxes, 14s. 10d.; from Droitwich 10s.; and by sale of articles, Reports, and stockings 1*l.* 7s. 9d. Thus we have all that is needed for to-day, the demand being only 3*l.* 5s. The rest I put by for rent and the apprentices, and wait upon God for help for to-morrow.

Dec. 22. Yesterday evening came in by sale of Reports 8d., from Plymouth 1s., and from a sister 5s. Our need also led me to open the boxes in the Orphan-Houses, which contained 15s. 2¼d. By sale of articles 2s. 6d. This was all I was able to send this morning to the Orphan-Houses, waiting upon the Lord for more.

Dec. 23. The need of to-day was 11*l.*, having several expenses to meet besides those of house-keeping, which amounted to 4*l.* for to-day. This sum the Lord gave me thus: last evening I received 1*l.*, together with a pair of trousers and gaiters, and a remnant of fustian for the Orphans. But as I knew how much there would be needed to-day, I waited further upon the Lord this morning for help, and, in ONE MINUTE after I had risen from my knees, I received a letter from Liverpool with 10*l.* for the Orphans. The donor writes: "I have had the enclosed Ten Pound Note in my drawer for some time, intending to send it to you for the Orphans; but my time is so occupied that, at a suitable time, when at my desk I have overlooked it. I now, however, enclose it," &c.— How seasonable this help! How exactly *to the very s*

ling what is needed to-day! How remarkable that *just now* this donor in Liverpool is led to send the Ten Pounds which had been, according to his own words, for some time in his drawer for the purpose of sending it! All this abundantly proves *the most minute* and *particular providence* of God, and his readiness to answer the supplications of his children—I am now looking out again for supplies for to-morrow.

Dec. 24. Last evening came in from Mrs. O. 1*l.*, by knitting 1s. 10d., by sale of stockings 2*l.* 5s., by four half sovereigns given to the matrons of the four Orphan-Houses, of which three of them gave their part to the funds, 30s., and by sale of trinkets 1*l.* 2s. Thus we are supplied till next Monday, *i.e.* for Christmas Day (Saturday) and the Lord's Day.

Dec. 27. Monday. Before I was called on for fresh supplies, the Lord in his great kindness had given me the means requisite for to-day. On Christmas Day was brought to me a parcel from Hereford, in which I received from A. and Z. 3s., also a little box, a small silver vinaigrette, and half-a-crown. Yesterday, Lord's Day, I received from Kendal, 5*l.* 10s. Also from Stoke Bishop 10s.—Thus I have been again able to meet all the expenses of to-day.

Dec. 28. Yesterday came in by sale of Reports from Bath 2s. 6d., ditto from Street 1s., by the proceeds of an Orphan-box from Street 3s., and anonymously 5s.—To-day I received by sale of articles and stockings 1*l.* 11s. 8d. As this was not quite enough for the necessities of to-day, the boxes in the Orphan-Houses were opened, and 2*l.* 1s. 0½d. found in them. Thus we had again more than four pounds for house-keeping to-day, and are supplied with all we need.

Dec. 29. Yesterday evening I met at our usual weekly prayer meeting with all the labourers in the Schools and Orphan-Houses, to seek the Lord's blessing upon the work, and upon the children under our care in particular. Among other points the state of the funds also was a subject for prayer, on account of the great need in every way. For we need money for the schools, as I shall not be able next week to pay to the teachers in the Day Schools their usual weekly salary, except means should come in for them. The stock of tracts and Bibles is also

becoming very small. Also for eleven weeks I have scarcely at all been able to send help to home and foreign labourers. This especially we prayed about. And as to the Orphans, I had again only 9d. in hand for house-keeping expenses, which had come in at the meeting. However, my heart, by God's goodness, was at peace, and as I had now with my fellow-labourers been again able to bring all our necessities before the Lord, I was looking out for help. After the meeting one of the teachers gave me 1s. 6d. for the Orphans, saying, the Lord will give you more to-morrow morning. This I expected myself: FOR *we were in need for house-keeping expenses for to-day* and *we had been waiting upon God for means. Accordingly* this morning, when I had only 2s. 3d. in hand, I received from Devonshire 15*l.* for the Orphans.—How good is the Lord! How seasonable again this supply! I had been just again in prayer about the work, and about this day's necessities, and AT THE VERY MOMENT that I rose from my knees this letter was given to me.—There was also another letter from Essex, containing 1*l.* 5s. for the Orphans. Thus I was again abundantly supplied for this day, and was able to put by the rest for rent and the expenses connected with the apprentices, trusting in the Lord for fresh supplies for to-morrow.

Dec. 30. When this day began, I was without anything for the necessities of the day, though I had reason to believe that several pounds would again be required. I was therefore again looking out for fresh supplies. ACCORDINGLY, about ten o'clock this morning, a brother in the Lord, who had come last evening to stay for a night in my house, gave me 10*l.*, to be used as it might be most needed. To be noticed in connexion with this donation is: 1, I had, not long since, received a donation from him. 2, This brother had generally stated how he wished his donations to be appropriated, and they had been chiefly for missionary purposes; but this time he left it to me to use this money, as most needed, and therefore I could take of it what was needed for the Orphans. 3, I was now extremely poor also with regard to the funds for all the other objects, so that I was obliged to tell the teachers of the Day Schools last Tuesday evening, 28th, that if no fresh supplies came in, I should not be able to give them their weekly salaries, as usual, next Tuesday evenir

being now poorer in this particular than I had been for years. How kind therefore of the Lord, not only to give me this money through this brother at this time, but also to dispose his heart to leave the application of it to me as most needed. I took half of it for this day's house-keeping expenses for the Orphans, and half for the School Fund, for the weekly salaries of the teachers next Tuesday.—I also received further this morning a half sovereign from Droitwich.—The little that was left, after the house-keeping expenses were met, was put by for rent and the expenses for the apprentices, and I was again, without a penny, looking out for fresh supplies for to-morrow.

Dec. 31, 1847. The last day of another year had now come. Great and many had been the mercies of God to me this year in every way, particularly also in connexion with the Orphans; but now I had again nothing for to-day, except two shillings which are in one of the boxes in my house. I was, however, by God's grace, able to look out for supplies for this last day of another year also, being fully assured that the Lord would not confound me. And thus it has been, acccording to my expectation; for, before I was called on for money, I received 100*l.*, which was left to me to apply to any part of the Lord's service where there seemed the most need. At the same time I received 5*l.* for the Orphans from Teignmouth. Of the 100*l.* I took half for the Orphans and half for the other objects. It was indeed a most seasonable help! I am thus able to meet all the expenses for house-keeping for to-day, all the present expenses connected with the apprentices, and am able to give 16*l.* to eight of the sisters who labour in the Orphan-Houses, for their own personal necessities. How good is the Lord! How can I sufficiently praise him for this seasonable help!—*Evening.* Received still further 3s., and from Banbury 17s., and the proceeds of an Orphan-box, being 1*l.* 2s. 6d. Thus the year closes in blessing and under the manifest help of God.

Jan. 1, 1848. As the old year ended, so the new begins. Early this morning was sent to me 1*l.* 12s. 0d., being the proceeds of an Orphan-box.—A little later I received from Worcester 1*l.*, and from Scotland 3*l.*

Jan. 6. On the second and three following days came

in many pounds more; but though so much had been received during the last seven days, I sent again to-day the last money to the Orphan-Houses for house-keeping, as our expenses have been exceedingly heavy during the last few days; and I am therefore again penniless with regard to the necessities of to-morrow.—*Evening.* The Lord has been again exceedingly kind, and has again helped in his faithful love. This evening I received a check for 120*l.*, of which 20*l.* is intended by the donor for missionary purposes, and the other 100*l.* is left to my disposal, either for the Orphans or the other part of the work. I took therefore 70*l.* for the Orphans, and 30*l.* for the Day Schools, and the circulation of Bibles and Tracts. I received likewise from D. D. 5*l.*

Jan. 25. Besides the seventy-five pounds, that had come in on the 6th, the sum of 53*l.* 18s. 0½d. more came in up to this day.—Now, after having paid this evening for the house-keeping expenses for one week in advance, all the money in my hands for the Orphans is again gone; yet by the Lord's goodness we have our stores pretty well supplied, and besides this the matrons have the current house-keeping expenses for one week in hand. May the Lord in his faithful love send fresh supplies for the coming week!

Jan. 27. This afternoon, when I had nothing in hand, I received from Guernsey 2*l.*

Jan. 28. Received from Plymouth 5*l.* Also 5s. 6d. from the neighbourhood of Exeter, and 2s. besides. From the neighbourhood of Nottingham 5s.

Jan. 30. By profits from the sale of ladies' baskets 2s.

Jan. 31. One of the labourers in the work gave 10*l.*, and a brother on his way to Ireland 1*l.*

Feb. 1. By sale of articles and stockings 3*l.* 19s. 7½d., anonymously 2d., from sister F. 10s., proceeds of an Orphan-box 12s 6¼d., by sale of stockings 8s. 5d., and by the boxes at the Orphan-Houses 16s. 9d.—When I went this evening to the Orphan-Houses for our usual prayer meeting on Tuesday evenings, I found that altogether since last Tuesday evening 25*l.* 2s. 0½d. had come in; but as I had had many extra expenses to meet during the week, there was only actually in hand 8*l.* 8s. 4½d. Of this I gave to each of the matrons 2*l.* 2s. 1d., being only a part of what would be needed during the week, an

had then one farthing left, "like the handful of meal in the barrel."

Feb. 2. This morning on my usual walk before breakfast I felt myself led out of my usual track, into a direction in which I had not gone for some months. In stepping over a stile I said to myself: "Perhaps God has a reason even in this." About five minutes afterwards I met a Christian gentleman who gave me two sovereigns for the Orphans, and then I knew the reason, why I had been led this way. Thus the farthing which remained last evening has been already multiplied.—*Evening.* This afternoon I received still further from a brother 1*l.* 1s., also a letter from Portsea containing 1*l.* 10s. The letter from Portsea contained these words: "Please accept it as another token of the Lord's watchful care for you and yours." *How true! How exemplified in this very donation at this time!*

Feb. 3. This morning I received by the first delivery three letters, each containing further supplies. The first, from Sherborne, enclosed a post-office order for 1*l.* 15s., of which 1*l.* is for missionary purposes, and 15s. for the Orphans. The second, from Yorkshire, contained two half Five Pound Notes, which 10*l.* is left to my disposal, yet it is requested that a part of it should go to the destitute Irish. I put therefore 5*l.* to the relief of the Irish, and 5*l.* to the Orphan Fund. The third letter, from Marlborough, contained 1*l.* for the Orphans.—Thus I have now all that is needed in the way of housekeeping money for the remainder of this week; but I am now waiting upon God for about 25*l.* to provide each of the 32 Orphan Boys above seven years old with a new suit of clothes.

The reader might say, "*You are continually in need. No sooner is the one demand met, than another comes. Do you not find it a trying life, and are you not tired of it?*" My reply is, It is true I am more or less continually in need in connexion with this work. And if I were to tell out all my heart to the reader concerning it, he would have still more reason to say that I am continually in need. For what I have here written is almost exclusively about the way in which God has been pleased to supply me with *money* for carrying on the work; but I do deliberately state that this, much as it might appear to one or the other, is by no means the chief thing that I stand

in need of from day to day. I will just hint at a few other things. Sickness among the children, very difficult and tedious cases, in which, notwithstanding all the means which are used month after month, yea year after year, the children remain ill. Nothing remains but either to keep them, or to send them to the Parish Union to which they belong, as they have no relatives able to provide for them. The very fact of having cared for them and watched over them for years, only endears them the more to us, and would make it the more trying to send them back to their parish. This is a "need" which brings me to God. Here is prayer required, not only for means which such sick children call for, but for guidance and wisdom from on High.—Sometimes children are to be placed out as servants or apprentices. A suitable place is needed, or else they had better remain under our care. The obtaining of this suitable place is a "need" indeed. It is more difficult to be obtained than money. Sometimes for many weeks have I had to wait upon God, to have this "need" supplied; but he has always at last helped.—Sometimes great has been my "need" of wisdom and guidance in order to know how certain children ought to be treated under particular circumstances; and especially how to behave towards certain apprentices or servants who were formerly in the Orphan-Houses. A "need" in this respect is no small thing; though I have found that in this and in all other matters, concerning which I was in "need," I have been helped, provided I was indeed able to wait patiently upon God. That word, "godliness is profitable unto all things, having promise of the life that now is, and of that which is to come" (1 Tim. iv. 8), I have in times almost without number found to be true in my own experience.—Further, when one or the other of the labourers needed to leave the work on account of health, or for other reasons, I have been at such times in far greater "need" than when I required money for the various objects of the Institution. I could only have such "need" supplied by waiting upon God. I could do nothing but speak to my heavenly Father about this matter, and he has always helped. One of the greatest difficulties connected with this work is, to obtain suitable godly persons for it. So many things are to be taken into the account. Suitable age, health, gift, experience, love f

children, true godliness, a ready mind to serve God in the work and not themselves, a ready mind to bear with the many trials and difficulties connected with it, a manifest purpose to labour not for the sake of the remuneration, but to serve God in their work; surely, to obtain godly persons, in whom these qualifications even in some measure are found combined, is not an easy matter. Not that any one will suppose me to mean that I am looking out for perfect fellow-labourers. Not that any one will suppose that my fellow-labourers are referred to by me, as if they were without weaknesses, deficiencies, and failings. I am myself far, very far from being without weaknesses, deficiencies, and failings. Moreover, I never expect to find fellow-labourers for this work, who have not their weaknesses; but *this I do mean to say*, that the work of God in my hands is of that character, and, by God's grace, is really carried on with such a true purpose to serve God thereby (however much I and my fellow-labourers may fail), that it is with me a matter of deep moment to find truly suitable individuals for it, in whom, as much as possible, the above qualifications should be found united. And, however much there may be wanting, this is more and more my aim, that I may obtain *such* helpers; and hence it can be easily perceived how great my "need" must be again and again on this very account. I do here especially advise, that if any should apply in future for situations in connexion with this work, they would keep these remarks before them; for, by God's grace, it is my purpose never to give to any persons a situation in connexion with the Institution, if they are not suitable for it according to the light which God gives me.—Further, that the labourers work happily together among themselves, and that I go on happily in service with them; that I be their servant, on the one hand, and yet, on the other, maintain the place which God has given me in this work; surely, if any one carefully looks at this, he will at once see, that there is a difficulty and a "need" far greater than any that is connected with *money*. Oh, how these matters lead one to call upon God! How they continually make one sensible of one's "need!" Truly, I am in need, in continual need. I might refer to many more points, in connexion with this work, in which I am more or less continually in "need;" but I will only

mention one. It is now many years since I have made my boast in the living God in so public a manner by my publications. On this account Satan unquestionably is waiting for my halting, and if I were left to myself I should fall a prey to him. Pride, unbelief, or other sins would be my ruin, and lead me to bring a most awful disgrace upon the name of Jesus. Here is then a "need," a great "need." I do feel myself in "need," in great "need," even to be upheld by God; for I cannot stand for a moment, if left to myself. Oh, that none of my dear readers might admire me, and be astonished at my faith, and think of me as if I were beyond unbelief! Oh, that none of my dear readers might think, that I could not be puffed up by pride, or in other respects most awfully dishonour God, and thus at last, though God has used me in blessing hitherto to so many, become a beacon to the church of Christ! No, I am as weak as ever. I need as much as ever to be upheld as to faith, and every other grace. I am therefore in "need," in great "need;" and therefore help me, dear Christian reader, with your prayers.

I allow, then, most fully that I am in continual "need." This is the case with regard to money matters, because the work is now so large. A few hundred pounds go but a little way. There have been often weeks, when my demands have been several hundred pounds a week, and it can therefore easily be supposed that even if large donations come in, they do not last long. But whilst I allow this, I desire that the Christian reader may keep in mind that there are other necessities, and even greater ones than those connected with *money*.—Should, however, the reader say that he thinks "*I must find this a very trying life, and that I must be tired of it*," I beg to state, that he is entirely mistaken. I do not find the life in connexion with this work a trying life, but a very happy one. It is impossible to describe the abundance of peace and heavenly joy that often has flowed into my soul by means of the fresh answers which I have obtained from God, after waiting upon him for help and blessing; and the longer I have had to wait upon him, or the greater my need was, the greater the enjoyment when at last the answer came, which has often been in a very remarkable way, in order to make the hand of God the more manifest. I do therefore solemnly declare that I do not find this life a trying life, but a very happy one, and

am consequently not in the least tired of it. Straits and difficulties I expected from the very beginning. Before I began this service I expected them; nay, the chief object of it was, that the church at large might be strengthened in faith, and be led more simply, habitually, and unreservedly to trust in the living God, by seeing his hand stretched out in my behalf in the hour of need. I did, therefore, expect trials, great trials and straits; but cheerfully, for the glory of God, and the profit of God's dear children, did I desire to pass through them, if only the saints might be benefited by the dealings of God with me. The longer I go on in this service, the greater the trials of one kind or another become; but at the same time the happier I am in this my service, and the more I am assured, that I am engaged as the Lord would have me to be. How then could I be tired of carrying on the work of God on such principles as I do?

I now return to the extracts from my journal.

Feb. 4, 1848. Yesterday came in still further: from Norwich 1*l.* and from Devonshire 1*l.*

Feb. 5. From a brother at Hereford 5*l.*—Feb. 6. From "Friends to Orphans" 2*l.*, and from D.D. 12s. 2½d. —Feb. 8. By sale of articles 2*l.* 6s. 4d. *Evening.* Since this day week, when I had only one farthing left, the Lord has been pleased to send in for the Orphans 23*l.* 16s. 8½d.; but as I have had to pay away more than 10*l.*, besides making up the remainder of what was needed for housekeeping expenses for the past week, I had only 6*l.* 10s. 10¾d. for the expenses of the coming week, whilst nearly three times as much was required by the four matrons. I divided this little, however, among them, in the full assurance that, by the time it was consumed, the Lord would send more.

Feb. 9. To-day only 2s. 4d. has come in. We are supplied for the present moment, and shall have enough till to-morrow evening for housekeeping expenses; but there is about 25*l.* needed for boys' clothes, and I greatly desire to give some money to the sisters who labour in the Orphan-Houses.

Feb. 10. This morning was given to me the sum of One Hundred Pounds, which being entirely left to my disposal, I took of it 50*l.* for the Orphans, and 50*l.* for the School—Bible—Tract—and Missionary Fund.—The

Lord be praised for this most seasonable help! I am thus helped for the present for all the various parts of the work, and have especially two precious answers to my prayers concerning the Orphan work, in that I am able to get a new suit of clothes for all the boys, and give some money to the sisters who labour in the Orphan-Houses for their own personal necessities.

From Feb. 10th to 22nd came in 21*l.* 0s. 1½d. more.

Feb. 25. All money was now again expended. This afternoon I had paid away the last. About an hour after I received from a brother the contents of his Orphan-box, being 2s. 6d., and a gold watch-key. In the evening was given to me 10*l.*, being the half-yearly profits arising from shares in a certain company. How kind of the Lord thus to help again so soon! As soon as the last money was disbursed, he sent more.

Feb. 29. 4*l.* 18s. 0d. more has come in since the 25th. This evening I paid away for housekeeping all the money I had, being 12*l.* 10s. 7d., and returned home with an empty purse, trusting in the Lord to give me again fresh supplies. I shall shortly need again many pounds.

March 1. This morning I received anonymously by post from P. L. A. ten shillings. *Evening.* This afternoon a check for 25*l.* was left at my house for the benefit of the Orphans.—Thus we are again supplied for a week for what we need for housekeeping, &c. Oh, how good it is to depend on the faithful love of our heavenly Father, who never forsakes his children who put their trust in him!

March 17. Since the first of this month there has come in, besides the 25*l.* given on the 1st., altogether 36*l.* 0s. 3½d. Now to-day all means were again gone, when a brother in the Lord from Gloucestershire called at the Orphan-Houses and bought some tracts and an "Improved Rendering" for 2s. 6d., and gave 17s. 6d. for the Orphans. This afternoon came in further, by sale of articles, 2*l.* 12s. 9d.

March 18. This morning I received from Chelsea 4*l.*, from Tewkesbury 10d., and this evening from D. D. 5s. 2d., and by sale of articles 5s. There was also 1*l.* left anonymously at my house.—Thus we are again supplied for 2 or 3 days.

March 21. Tuesday. As during the last three da[y]-

only 1*l.* 15s. had come in, I had only 2*l.* this evening towards the housekeeping expenses of the coming week; but finding that one of the teachers had 5*l.* in hand for knitting and needlework, done by the children, I added this to the 2*l.*, and we are thus supplied for 2 or 3 days with provisions.

March 23. Evening. When there was now again no money at all in hand, and when I had the prospect of needing fresh supplies to-morrow or the day after, a brother from Switzerland arrived at my house, who brought me 4*l.*, which some brethren at Vevey, in Switzerland, had contributed towards the support of the Orphans. He also was the bearer of 15s. from London. What a variety of ways the Lord uses to supply our need! How remarkable that these Swiss brethren, who are just now in so much trial, should be led to send help towards this work! A few minutes after I had received this 4*l.* 15s., there came also to hand a letter from Stafford, containing 4*l.*, of which the donor wished me to take one-half for the Orphans, and the other half for my own personal expenses.

March 24. This morning I received still further from the Swiss brother, who had arrived yesterday afternoon, 18 francs, being a donation from the pupils of a boarding school in Switzerland, and 10 francs from a German brother.—Also from Norwich 13s. 8d. and 2s. 4d.

March 25. This morning I received from C. W. a letter with 20*l.*, which the donor wished me to apply to the help of those labouring in the Gospel, and to the Orphans, if in present need.—I took half of this for the Orphans, and half for Home and Foreign labourers. We are thus supplied for the Orphans for about three days.

March 28. On the 26th came in anonymously 3s., ditto 10s., ditto 2s. 6d., ditto 1s. 10d.; and 2*l.* 7s. besides. This evening I had again to give to the matrons fresh supplies for the coming week, towards which I had only a few pounds, when I received this morning 20*l.* from a distance of about 200 miles.

Between March 28th and April 12th I received, besides the 20*l.* referred to, 24*l.* 0s. 7d.

April 13. Thursday. On Tuesday evening I had given out for housekeeping all the money I had in hand, being 11*l.* This was enough for three or four days. To-

day I was now looking out for more, having requested the Lord to look upon our necessities; for to-morrow, or at the latest the day after to-morrow, fresh supplies will be needed. Now think, my dear reader, of the Lord's goodness, when I tell you that this very morning I received 90*l.* for the Lord's work in my hands, the disposal of which sum was entirely left with me. I took of this sum 40*l.* for the Orphans, and 50*l.* for the School—Bible—Missionary—and Tract Fund.

April 26. Only 18*l.* 19s. 8½d. had come in since the 13th. As the income during these thirteen days had been so small, our means were again reduced to 16s., after I had supplied the day before yesterday the means for the housekeeping expenses for this week. To-day I received information, that to a sister in Switzerland had been given Fifty Francs for the Orphans. Thus the Lord is in every way showing that he is mindful of us.

April 29. Saturday. The expenses of to-day, in addition to those for housekeeping, which had been met last Tuesday evening for a whole week in advance, reduced our little stock of means to only a few shillings. In addition to this, Tuesday is approaching, when again about 20*l.* will be needed. And now see, dear reader, how seasonably the Lord helped us again, and that from most unexpected quarters. This morning I received One Hundred Pounds from a brother, who is himself depending upon God for daily supplies whilst labouring in word and doctrine, but who has lately come into the possession of this sum, and who does not think it right to lay up treasure upon earth. Of this 100*l.* he wishes me to take 10*l.* for my own personal necessities, to give to brother Craik 10*l.*, and to take 80*l.* for the Orphans. Of this 80*l.* the sum of 50*l.* has been put to the Building Fund, and 30*l.* has been taken for present use for the Orphans.—But this was not all. There was paid to me to-day the legacy of 19*l.* 19s. left to me for the benefit of the Orphans by the late Mrs. B., an individual whom I do not remember ever to have seen in my life, and whom I only know by name. Observe this particular providence! At a time of need, of great need of means, this legacy comes in. The will may have been made years ago, and the testator has been dead several months; but just at this time, when not only the 20*l.* are needed next Tuesday for housekee

ing, but other expenses of about 30*l.* more are to be met in a few days, this legacy comes in.—To-day also I have received besides, 10*l.* from Wiltshire, 1*l.* 4s. from Cumberland, 10s. from Birmingham, and 1*l.* from a donor in Bristol. Thus in one day, in a time of great need, 62*l.* 13s. has come in, besides 50*l.* for the Building Fund.

May 11. 10*l.* 2s. has come in since April 29th. This morning I received from a lady at a considerable distance 16*l.*, and from Wandsworth 5*l.* These two donations came in especially in answer to prayer, not so much for immediate need as it regards housekeeping, but on account of other heavy expenses which are shortly to be met. I have also repeatedly asked the Lord of late, if it may please him to send in considerable means, before the accounts are closed on the 26th, so that there might not be *even the appearance*, as if I wrote another Report, because I could get on no longer without it.

May 26, 1848. On this day the accounts were closed. The total sum which has come in from the 12th to this day, is 40*l.* 3s. 7d. Thus the Lord closes this period under his manifest help! I have been able to meet all the expenses connected with the support of the four Orphan-Houses during the last two years, amounting to 3,228*l.* 5s. 11d., owe no one anything, and have on this 26th of May, 1848, 1*l.* 10s. 3¾d. left in hand.

Further account of the New Orphan-House, on Ashley Down, Bristol, from May 26, 1846, *to May* 26, 1848.

Those who have read the former chapter on this subject, will remember, how I was obliged to think of building an Orphan-House, and how, when once led to this, I felt myself also led to build it large enough for Three Hundred Orphans; and how the Lord, in his great kindness, most manifestly in answer to prayer, gave me a field of about seven acres for the purpose; and how, by various donations, 2,710*l.* 3s. 5½d. had been already received on May 26, 1846. I shall now give a further account of the Lord's dealings with me, concerning the New Orphan-House, yet so, that, for the sake of brevity, only a few of the donations will be referred to, and chiefly those which seem more particularly to mark the finger of God.

July 4, 1846. For about three months my faith and

patience have been exceedingly tried about the field, which I have purchased for the building of the Orphan-House, as the greatest difficulties arose about my possessing the land after all; but, by God's grace, my heart was kept in peace, being fully assured, that, if the Lord were to take this piece of land from me, *it would be only for the purpose of giving me a still better one; for our Heavenly Father never takes any earthly thing from his children, except he means to give them something better instead.* But in the midst of all this great trial of faith, I could not but think, judging from the way in which God so manifestly had given me this piece of land, that the difficulties were only allowed *for the trial of my faith and patience.* And thus it was. Last evening I received a letter by which all the difficulties were removed, and now, with the blessing of God, in a few days the conveyance will be made out.

July 6. The reason why, for several months, there had come in so little for the Building Fund, appeared to me this, that we did not need the money at present; and that, when it was needed, and when my faith and patience had been sufficiently tried, the Lord would send more means. And thus it has proved; for to-day was given to me the sum of Two Thousand and Fifty Pounds, of which Two Thousand Pounds is for the Building Fund, and Fifty Pounds for present necessities, of which latter sum I took one half for present use for the Orphans, and the other half for the School—Bible—Tract—and Missionary Fund. This is the largest donation I have yet had at one time for the work; but I expect still larger ones, in order that more and more it may be manifest to the children of God, that there is no *happier*, no *easier*, and no *better* way for the obtaining of pecuniary means or anything else in connexion with the work of God, than to deal directly with the Lord himself.

It is impossible to describe my joy in God when I received this donation. I was neither excited nor surprised; for *I look out* for answers to my prayers. *I believe that God hears me.* Yet my heart was so full of joy, that I could only *sit* before God, and admire him, like David in 2 Samuel vii. At last I cast myself flat down upon my face, and burst forth in thanksgiving to God, and in surrendering my heart afresh to him for his blessed service.

There came in still further to-day 2s. 6d.

July 10. Received 120*l.*, of which 100*l.* is intended by the donor for the Building Fund, and 20*l.* for present use in the work, as most needed. I took of this 20*l.* one half for the Orphans, and the other half for the other objects of the Institution.

July 11. By sale of articles, given for the Building Fund, came in 5s. 6d.

July 15. From a sister in the Lord 1*l.*, from a Christian gentleman 5*l.*, from a sister 3s., and from another sister an old silver pencil case and 2s.

July 17. From the neighbourhood of Oxford 1*l.*

July 21. This morning a gentleman from Devonshire, on his way to London, called on me. When he came I was just in prayer, having, among other matters, brought also before the Lord the following points: 1, I had been asking him for some supplies for my own temporal necessities, being in need. 2, I had asked him for more means for the Building Fund, and besought him to hasten the matter, on account of the inhabitants in Wilson Street, on account of the welfare of the children and those who have the oversight of them in the Orphan-Houses, and lastly, that I might be able to admit more Orphans, the number of applications being so great. 3, I had also asked the Lord for means for present use for the Orphans, as the outgoings are so great. 4, I had asked for means for the other objects.—When I saw this gentleman from Devonshire, he gave me 20*l.*, of which 10*l.* is to be used for the Building Fund, 5*l.* for present use for the Orphans, 2*l.* for brother Craik and myself, and the remaining 3*l.* were left to my disposal, which I applied to the other objects of the Scriptural Knowledge Institution. Thus I received, AT THE VERY MOMENT THAT I HAD BEEN ASKING GOD, FOUR answers to my prayers.

Sept. 7. From a friend, who has many times helped the Orphans almost from the commencement, I received 50*l.*

Sept. 9. "Let patience have her perfect work, &c.," must be still my motto concerning this service. Our position in Wilson Street, where the Orphan-Houses are now, remains as it was; I also see more and more the desirableness of commencing the building soon, both on account of the Orphans, and their teachers and overseers;

particularly also, because so very many applications are made for the admission of very destitute Orphans, and I am unable, at present, to receive all who are applied for; and yet the Lord is delaying to send the full amount of means which are required. I am also asked, when the Building is likely to commence, to which I can only answer, I do not know. Now this morning I had again, after family prayer, my usual season for prayer about this work, when I brought all these matters in simplicity before the Lord. Immediately after I had risen from my knees, the following letter was handed to me, containing 60*l.*

* * * *, Sept. 8th, 1846.

"My dear Brother,

I send Sixty Pounds out of the abundance which the Lord has given to me, and of which it seems to me that he has need in the work you are engaged in. If you think proper, would you kindly take 25*l.* for the Building Fund of the Orphan Asylum, 25*l.* for missionary labourers, 5*l.* for the present use of the Orphans, and 5*l.* for your own purse; and may our good Lord bless your labours of love, and give the increase a hundred fold.

Your unworthy brother,

* * * *"

Thus the Lord encourages me, day by day, to continue to wait on him. His time is not yet come; but when it is, all that is needed will be given. By God's grace my faith is unshaken. I am as certain that I shall have every shilling needed for the work, as if I had it already in actual possession; and I am as certain that this house of mercy will be built, as if it were already standing before me.

Oct. 18. To-day the Lord has much refreshed my heart by sending from B. B. 5s.—from a young sister 2s. 6d.—and through an order on a Bristol Bank 120*l.*

Oct. 19. While I was this morning in the very act of praising the Lord for his goodness, in giving me yesterday the above mentioned donations, and whilst I was again bringing my arguments before him, why he would be pleased soon to give me the whole sum which is requisite, I received an order for 200*l.*, which was doubly precious, because it was accompanied with an affectionate and encouraging letter.

Oct. 29. This morning I had been again bringing the case of the Building before the Lord in prayer, entreating him to hasten the matter, if it might be, when, *the very instant I rose from my knees*, there was handed over to me a letter with an order for 300*l.*—About an hour after I received from a sister in the neighbourhood of Wotton-under-Edge 10s. 6d.—"From Saints in the neighbourhood of Kingsbridge" 1*l.* 5s.—From a sister an old silver thimble.

Nov. 14. By sale of articles 12s.—This evening I received a small morocco case, containing a gold chain, a pair of gold ear-rings, and a gold brooch (being a set), with the following letter enclosed:

"Beloved Brother in Jesus,

The contents of the accompanying casket being in my unconverted days a wedding gift from a very dear husband, has, as you may suppose, been hitherto preserved as beyond price. But since God in his great mercy revealed to my soul his exceeding riches in Christ, and gave to it more (Oh, how much more!) than he has taken away, they seemed as the Babylonish garment or wedge of gold, which ought not to be in the Israelites' possession. I therefore give up that which the flesh would fain keep, and still prize; but which the spirit rejects, as unworthy a follower of Jesus. Accept then, dear Brother, those toys, once the pride of life, and the food of folly; and use them for the building of the Orphan-House, in which I feel it a privilege to lay one stone; and may the Lord recompense you a hundred fold, yea, a thousand fold, in this your great labour of love, is the prayer of yours affectionately in the best of bonds.

—— November 1846. A Sister and a Widow."

The gift was precious to me as a proof of the continued readiness of my Heavenly Father to help me in this work; but doubly so, on account of the circumstances under which it was given, and on account of the state of mind in which the anonymous donor had given these ornaments.

Nov. 19. I am now led more and more to importune the Lord to send me the means, which are requisite in order that I may be able to commence the building. Because 1, It has been for some time past publicly stated

in print, that I consider it is not without ground that some of the inhabitants of Wilson Street consider themselves inconvenienced by the Orphan-Houses being in that street, and I long therefore to be able to remove the Orphans from thence, as soon as possible. 2, I become more and more convinced, that it would be greatly for the benefit of the children, both physically and morally, with God's blessing, to be in such a position as they are intended to occupy, when the New Orphan-House is built. And 3, Because the number of very poor and destitute Orphans, that are waiting for admission, is so great, and there are constantly fresh applications made.—Now whilst, by God's grace, I would not wish the building to be begun one single day sooner than it is his will; and whilst I firmly believe, that he will give me, in his own time, every shilling which I need; yet I also know, that he delights in being earnestly entreated, and that he takes pleasure in the continuance in prayer, and in the importuning him, which so clearly is to be seen from the parable of the widow and the unjust judge. Luke xviii. 1—8. For these reasons I gave myself again particularly to prayer last evening, that the Lord would send further means, being also especially led to do so, in addition to the above reasons, because there had come in but little, comparatively, since the 29th of last month. This morning between five and six o'clock I prayed again, among other points, about the Building Fund, and then had a long season for the reading of the word of God. In the course of my reading I came to Mark xi. 24, "What things soever ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them." The importance of the truth contained in this portion I have often felt and spoken about; but this morning I felt it again most particularly, and, applying it to the New Orphan-House, said to the Lord: "Lord I believe that thou wilt give me all I need for this work. I am sure that I shall have all, because I believe that I receive in answer to my prayer." Thus, with the heart full of peace concerning this work, I went on to the other part of the chapter, and to the next chapter. After family prayer I had again my usual season for prayer with regard to all the many parts of the work, and the various necessities thereof, asking also blessings upon my fellow-labourers, upon the circulation

of Bibles and Tracts, and upon the precious souls in the Adult School, the Sunday Schools, the six Day Schools, and the four Orphan-Houses. Amidst all the many things I again made my requests about means for the Building. And now observe: About five minutes after I had risen from my knees, there was given to me a registered letter, containing a check for 300*l.*, of which 280*l.* are for the Building Fund, 10*l.* for my own personal expenses, and 10*l.* for Brother Craik. The Lord's holy name be praised for this precious encouragement, by which the Building Fund is now increased to more than six thousand pounds.

Dec. 9. It is now Four Hundred Days, since day after day, I have been waiting upon God for help with regard to the building of the Orphan-House; but as yet he keeps me still in the trial of faith and patience. He is still saying, as it were, "Mine hour is not yet come." Yet he does sustain me in continuing to wait upon him. By his grace my faith is not in the least shaken; but I am quite sure that he, in his own time, will give me every thing which I need concerning this work. *How* I shall be supplied with the means which are yet requisite, and *when*, I know not; but I am sure that God will help me in his own time and way. In the mean time I have abundant reason to praise God, that I am not waiting on him in vain; for since this day twelvemonth he has given me, in answer to prayer, a most suitable piece of ground, and 6,304*l.* for the Building Fund, and about 2,700*l.* for present use for the work, so that altogether I have received, since this day twelvemonth, solely in answer to prayer, the sum of Nine Thousand Pounds. Surely, I am not waiting upon the Lord in vain! By his help, then, I am resolved to continue this course unto the end.

Dec. 22. To-day I have again a precious proof that *continuing* to wait upon the Lord is not in vain. During this month comparatively little had come in for the Building Fund; yet, by God's grace, I had been enabled, as before, yea, even with more earnestness perhaps than before, to make known my requests unto God, being more and more convinced that I ought to seek by earnest prayer soon to be able to begin the building. In addition to this I had also especially besought the Lord to

give me means for missionary brethren, and also for brethren who labour in the word in various parts of England and Ireland; as all my means for them were now gone. I had also been waiting upon God for means to order a fresh stock of tracts. I had lastly again and again besought the Lord to give me means for the poor saints in Bristol, of whom there are many, and whose need is now particularly great. Now to-day the Lord has granted me precious answers to my requests concerning these various objects, for I received this morning One Thousand Pounds with these words: "I send you some money, part of which you can apply to the Orphans and the other objects of your Institution, according to their need, and the rest you can put to the Building Fund. At the present price of provisions your expenses must be large for the Orphans. Please also take 25*l.* for your own need." As I have about 80*l.* in hand for the Orphans, I took nothing for present use for them, but took 175*l.* for the other objects, in order thus to be able to send some help to Home and Foreign labourers, and to order a fresh stock of tracts; and 800*l.* I took for the Building Fund. I should have taken less for the Building Fund, and more for present use, did it not appear to me the will of God, that with my might I ought to give myself to this part of the work.

Jan. 5, 1847. We have just now much sickness in the four Orphan-houses, on account of which we are much tried for want of room, and for want of proper ventilation, the houses having been originally built for private families. This has again most practically shown me the desirableness of having the Orphans as soon as possible removed to a house built on purpose for them; and my heart says, "Lord, how long?" and importunes him the more, without yet, by his grace, being impatient, but willing to wait his time, which in the end is always found to be the best.

Jan. 9. From a professional Christian gentleman 10*l.*, which I received from him in paying him his account to-day.

Jan. 10. From a brother in the Lord 80*l.*—From C. C. 8s. 2½d.

Jan. 11. From a lady at Bedminster 3*l.* 10s.

Jan. 25. The season of the year is now approaching, when building may be begun. Therefore with increased

earnestness I have given myself unto prayer, importuning the Lord that he would be pleased to appear on our behalf, and speedily send the remainder of the amount which is required, and I have increasingly, of late, felt that the time is drawing near, when the Lord will give me all that which is requisite for commencing the Building. All the various arguments which I have often brought before God, I brought also again this morning before him. It is now 14 months and 3 weeks, since day by day I have uttered my petitions to God on behalf of this work. I rose from my knees this morning in full confidence, not only that God *could*, but also *would*, send the means, and that soon. Never, during all these 14 months and 3 weeks, have I had the least doubt, that I should have all that which is requisite.—And now, dear believing reader, rejoice and praise with me. About an hour after I had prayed thus, there was given to me the sum of Two Thousand Pounds for the Building Fund. Thus I have received altogether 9285*l.* 3s. 9½d. towards this work.—I cannot describe the joy I had in God when I received this donation. It must be known from experience, in order to be felt. 447 days I have had day by day to wait upon God, before the sum reached the above amount. How great is the blessing which the soul obtains by *trusting in God* and *by waiting patiently*. Is it not manifest how precious it is to carry on God's work in this way, even with regard to the obtaining of means? From December 10, 1845, to January 25, 1847, being thirteen months and a half, I have received solely in answer to prayer, Nine Thousand Two Hundred and Eighty-five Pounds. Add to this what came in during that time for present use for the various objects of the Institution, and the total is about Twelve Thousand and Five Hundred Pounds, entirely the fruit of prayer to God. Can it be said, therefore, with good ground, that this way of carrying on the work of God may do very well in a limited and small way, but it would not do on a large scale? The fact brought out here contradicts such statements.

June 23. This day the Lord in his great goodness, by a donation of One Thousand Pounds for the Building Fund, has again encouraged my heart abundantly to trust in him for all that which I shall yet need, to meet the remainder of the expenses connected with the fitting up and furnishing the New Orphan House, &c.

Jan. 23, 1848. To-day I received 350*l.*, concerning which the donor expressed it as his especial wish that I should take 50*l.* for myself, 50*l.* should be for brother Craik, 50*l.* for the Employment Fund, and the remaining 200*l.* as I pleased. I put this 200*l.* to the Building Fund, as the donor had not given to this object before, having been prevented through circumstances, and I knew he would like to contribute towards it.

Jan. 30. I received from D. D. 35*l.*, of which 30*l.* are intended for the Building Fund, and 5*l.* for the School—Bible—Tract and Missionary Fund.

March 19. From Scotland 10*l.*

March 21. From the neighbourhood of Dudley 9s. 8d.

March 28. "A thank-offering to the Lord from the Church, assembling at Bethesda Free Chapel, Sunderland, for Church mercies during the past year." The amount is 21*l.* 10s. 10d.

April 29. From Cornwall 50*l.*, from a most unexpected quarter, whereby the hand of God is the more abundantly made manifest.

In the Report, published in 1848, the following account was given respecting the New Orphan House, which, except a few verbal alterations, is here reprinted

1, The total amount, which I have received for the Building Fund, amounts to 11,062*l.* 4s. 11½d. This sum enables me to meet all the expenses connected with the purchase of the piece of land and with the erection of the house. I stated before, that I did not mean to commence the Building until I had all the means requisite for it, and this intention was carried out. It was not until I had a sufficient amount of means to meet all the sums required for the various contractors, that a single thing was done; but when I once had as much as was required for them, I did not consider it right to delay any longer, though I saw then clearly, and have since seen still more clearly, that I should need yet a considerable sum to complete the work. For whilst in every respect the Building will be most plain and inexpensive, yet it being intended to be the abode of Three Hundred Orphans, with all their teachers and overseers, it necessarily must be a very large building, and was therefore found to be even somewhat more expensive than I had thought, as the whole (including fittings and furniture) cannot be accomplished

for less than Fourteen Thousand Five Hundred Pounds, towards which the Lord has already given me, as stated, Eleven Thousand and Sixty-two Pounds Four Shillings and Eleven Pence Halfpenny. The sum still needed is required for all the ordinary fittings, the heating apparatus, the gas fittings, the furnishing the whole house, making three large play-grounds and a small road, and for some additional work which could not be brought into the contracts. I did not think it needful to delay commencing the Building, though several thousand pounds more would be required, as all these expenses needed not to be met till many months after the beginning of the Building.

2, The work of the Building commenced on July 5, 1847, and has been going on steadily ever since, under the manifest blessing and help of God.—Six hundred and seven days I sought the help of God day by day, before we came so far as to be able to commence the Building; yet at last he gave me the desire of my heart.—The work is now so far advanced, with the blessing of God, that a considerable part of the Buildings have been already roofed in, and the remainder will be ready for being roofed in a few weeks, that is, in July, 1848.

3, The New Orphan-House has been placed into the hands of eleven trustees, brethren in the Lord well known to me, whom I have chosen, that they might watch over the work and care for it, should the Lord Jesus tarry and and take me to himself. The deeds have been enrolled in Chancery.

4, The New Orphan-House is intended to accommodate 140 Orphan Girls above seven years, 80 Orphan Boys above seven years, and 80 male and female Orphans from their earliest days, till they are seven or eight years of age, together with all the overseers, teachers, and assistants that may be needed. The Infants after having passed the age of seven or eight years, will be removed into the different departments for older boys and girls.

Miscellaneous points respecting the Scriptural Knowledge Institution for Home and Abroad, with reference to the period from May 26, 1846 *to May* 26, 1848.

1, During the whole of this period six Day Schools,

with 330 children, were supported by the funds of the Institution; two Sunday Schools were entirely supported by it, and a third one was occasionally assisted. Again four from among the Sunday School children were during these two years received into Church Fellowship. The total number of the children who received instruction in the Day Schools of the Institution, from its commencement up to May 26, 1848, amounted to 4519. The number of the Adult Scholars, who were instructed during this period in the Adult School, which was supported by the funds of the Institution, amounted to 292; and the total number of adults who had instruction from March 5, 1834, to May 26, 1848, was 1438. The total of the expenses connected with all these schools, during these two years, amounted to 886*l.* 1s. 11½d.

2, During this period were circulated 649 Bibles and 232 New Testaments. There were circulated from March 5, 1834 up to May 26, 1848, 5746 Bibles and 3760 New Testaments. 74*l.* 9s. 10d. was expended of the Funds of the Institution, during this period, on this object.

3, From May 26, 1846 to May 26, 1848 was expended of the Funds of the Institution on Missionary objects, 1559*l.* 11s. 6d., whereby 43 labourers in the Gospel, at Home and Abroad, were assisted.

4, During this period 64,021 Tracts were circulated, and the sum of 63*l.* 1s. 5d. was expended on this object of the funds of the Institution. The total number of Tracts, which was circulated from Nov. 19, 1840 to May 26, 1848, amounted to 163,668.

5, There were received into the four Orphan-Houses, from May 26, 1846, to May 26, 1848, Fifty-one Orphans, who, together with those who were in the four Houses on May 26, 1846, made up 172 in all. Of these: 1. Five children died, two as decided believers, one not without some hope, and two as infants. This was the greatest number of deaths we had had for many years; and yet how small is even the number of five out of 172 within two years, if it be remembered that we received children as young as two years old; and if it be further remembered that the very fact of such young children being bereaved of BOTH parents is, generally, a plain proof that their parents were very sickly and unhealthy persons, as indeed has generally been the case, since the greater part

of the parents of these children died in consumption, which I learn from the certificates of their death. 2. One of the Orphans, who had been above ten years in the house, left the Institution without leave, and went to her friends for two or three days; and for an example to the other children was not taken back again, when her friends wished her to return. 3. Three of the elder girls, who had been several years in the house, were taken back to their relatives, and not suffered to remain any longer, because of improper behaviour towards their teacher. All three, however, were of an age to go to service, and would have been shortly placed out, had they behaved better. 4. Four of the children were dismissed because of malignant skin or other diseases, remedies having failed; and in these cases, for the sake of the other children, we were obliged to send them back to their relatives till they might be cured. 5. Seven children were taken back by their relatives, who by that time were able to provide for them, after they had been for several years in the Orphan-Houses. Some of them were able to earn their own bread by that time, and were of use to their relatives. I always act on the principle of at once giving up the Orphans, to their relatives, if they say that they are able to provide for them; for I have continually a considerable number of very destitute Orphans waiting for admission. 6. Nine boys were apprenticed. 7. Twenty-one girls were sent out to service, eight of whom had been for some time believers.

There were on May 26, 1848, One Hundred and Twenty-two Orphans in the Four Houses. The number of the Orphans who were under our care from April 1836 to May 26, 1848, was 264. The total amount of expenditure in connexion with the support of the Orphans from May 26, 1846 to May 26, 1848, was 3228*l.* 5s. 11d.

I notice further the following points in connexion with the Orphan-Houses.

1. *Without any one having been personally applied to for anything by me,* the sum of 24,771*l.* 19s. 8¾d. was given to me *as the result of prayer to God* from the commencement of the work up to May 26, 1848. This sum includes the 11,062*l.* 4s. 11⅓d., which up to May 26, 1848 had been given towards the Building Fund. (It may be interesting to the reader to know that the total amount

which was given as free contributions, for the other objects, from the commencement of the work, up to May 26, 1848 was 7,060*l.* 14s. 1¼d.; and that which came in by the sale of Bibles and Tracts, and by the payment of the children in the day-schools, amounted to 2,373*l.* 3s. 7½d.) 2. Besides this, also a great variety and number of articles of clothing, furniture, provisions, &c. were given for the use of the Orphans.

Matters connected with my own personal affairs, or the work of the Lord in my hands, not immediately connected with the Scriptural Knowledge Institution, from May 26, 1846 *to May* 26, 1848.

July 21, 1846. *In very great need* respecting my own personal expenses, *and immediately after I had prayed* respecting it, I received from a Christian gentleman of Torquay 1*l.*

July 23. *Immediately after prayer* for my own personal expenses, being in need, I received from the neighbourhood of Leeds 2*l.*

July 25. While I was on my knees in prayer, asking the Lord for means for myself, 1*l.* came to me from Bath.

Aug. 5. Being still much in need, and having asked the Lord for means, I received yesterday evening 1*l.* 0s. 3d., being some money due to me, and to-day from Teignmouth 1*l.* as a present.

Dec. 31, 1846. During this year there have been received into Fellowship 66.

The Lord has been pleased to give me during this year

1, Through the boxes	£165	15	1½
2, Through believers in Bristol, not anonymously	81	13	1½
3, Through believers not residing in Bristol	136	14	8
4, Through presents in articles, worth *at least*	15	0	0
	£399	2	11

To this is again to be added, what I have enlarged on in a former chapter, that during the whole of this year also my daughter was, free of all expenses, at a boarding school, worth about 50*l.*

In November, 1847, I had a most remarkable deliverance, which to the praise of the Lord is here recorded, as it is a further illustration of how the Lord watches over his children.

I was labouring for a little while at Bowness and Keswick in the ministry of the word in October and November. When at Keswick, I stayed with my dear wife in a large boarding-house, in which, however, we were then alone, except a single gentleman. Just before we left Keswick, on the morning of Nov. 24th, I heard that the gentleman, lodging in the same house, had shot himself during the night, but was not quite dead. We had not heard the report of the pistol, it being a very stormy night, and the house large. Two days after, I received from a Christian brother at Keswick the following information respecting the transaction.

Keswick, Nov. 25, 1847.

"Dear Mr. Müller,

The tender and Almighty care of our loving Father was never more over *you*, and indeed over all of us, than in your stay at Mrs. . . . .'s. Mr. . . . . was quite deranged for two or three days before you left. Without any control, he had been walking about his room for the last two days and nights, with loaded pistols in his hands. Furthermore he had taken into his head that you were going to kill him. How gracious of God, that he spread his wings over you, and over dear Mrs. Müller, so that Satan could not break through the fence, to hurt even a hair of your heads. Speaking after the manner of men, there was nothing to have hindered him coming into the room, where we were all at tea,* and of firing amongst us; but the Lord was our refuge and fortress, and preserved us from danger, which we knew not of. He shot himself in the neck and the breast, but is not dead. He has a strait-waistcoat on. I assisted in cutting his clothes off, and in other little offices, needed at such a time, and told him of Christ's love in dying for poor sinners. 'I know it' he said. He shot himself

* The evening before my departure I had invited a number of believers to tea, to spend some time together in prayer, reading the Holy Scriptures, and in intercourse on spiritual subjects.

the first time about three o'clock in the morning, and again about seven. What a scene his room presented. Pistols lying in gore. Bloody knives, lancets, and razors strewed about the floor." Ect.

I add an extract from a second letter, written by the same Christian brother, because it shows still further, how very merciful the Lord was to us at that time, in protecting us.

"Mr. ——— is still alive, and has been removed by his friends into Yorkshire. It appears, insanity is in his family, his father being at this time in an asylum. It is evident that he had the pistols in his pockets, but of this no one knew until after the occurrence took place. I do not know what time of night you went to bed: but I judge it was about ten. If so, it was at ten o'clock Mr. ——— came down from his bedroom, after having been there six hours. It was a mercy you did not meet him, as it is plain that he had loaded pistols on his person."

Dec. 31, 1847. There have been received into Fellowship, during this year, 39: and altogether, since Mr. Craik and I began labouring in Bristol, 1157, besides the 68 whom we found in Fellowship. Of these 1225, 143 have fallen asleep, 70 are under church discipline, 78 have left us, and 259 have left Bristol; so that there are only 675 actually in communion.

During this year the Lord has been pleased to give me

1, Through the boxes	£140	6	11½
2, Through believers in Bristol, not anonymously	57	3	6
3, Through believers, not residing in Bristol	127	3	6
4, By a legacy of £100. Stock . .	73	4	9
5, Through presents in articles, worth to us *at least*	15	0	0
	£412	18	8½

To this is again to be added the free education of my dear daughter, at a boarding school, worth to us at least 50*l.*

In April, 1848, I was enabled, by the help of the Lord, to complete all the arrangements for the publication of

the Narrative of the Lord's Dealings with me in the French language; and about September of the same year the book appeared under the following title: Exposé de quelques-unes des dispensations de Dieu envers Georges Müller. Paris, librairie Protestante, Rue Tronchet, 2.

Supplies for the School—Bible—Missionary and Tract Fund, sent in answer to prayer, from May 26, 1848, *to May* 26, 1850.

When this period of the work commenced, I had for these various objects 5*l.* 19s. 7¼d. in hand, a sum so small, that, without the help of God, I could not have gone on even for a few days; for during this period our average expenditure for one single day, merely for this part of the work, was as much as the whole balance left in hand. Now see how God carried me through, in meeting the expenditure of the thousands of pounds which were laid out for these objects, irrespective of the Orphan work, from May 26, 1848 to May 26, 1850.

On the very next day, after the accounts were closed, May 27, 1848, I received from Westmoreland 5*l.*, being the first donation during this period towards this part of the work, of which sum one half was intended by the donor for the current expenses of the Orphans, and the other half for these objects. On the following day, May 28, was anonymously put into the Chapel boxes for missions 1s. 6d. and 2d. Now it happened so that all the expenses, connected with these objects, during the first two days amounted only to about 3*l.*, which I was able to meet by what had come in and the balance left in hand; and on May 29th I received 100*l.* As the application of this sum was left to me, I took one half of it for the Orphans, and the other half for these objects.—Thus I was supplied with means to meet the expenses which came on me the following day, May 30th, when I had to pay the weekly salaries of the teachers in the Day Schools.

June 9. Great has been my desire, and many have been my prayers to God, that he would be pleased to condescend to use me still further, in allowing me the privilege of helping brethren who labour in the word and doctrine, at home and abroad, without any salary, as I have been able to do but very little for them comparatively

during the last four months. Now at last, in answer to my prayers, I have received this morning 160*l.* for home and foreign labourers.—The Lord may see it needful, for the trial of our faith, to seem for a season not to regard our supplications; yet, if we patiently and believingly continue to wait upon him, it will be manifest in his own time and way, that we did not call upon him in vain.

July 12. My soul has been longing for further supplies for home and foreign labourers, to whom I have sent of late all I could. Almost all the letters which I have received from the brethren, to whom I have sent money, have shown to me their great need. Some were in the greatest necessity when my remittances were received by them. Under these circumstances a donation of 117*l.* 2s. 7d. came in this morning, of which I took 50*l.* for these objects, and 67*l.* 2s. 7d. for the Orphans.

Aug. 19. To-day all the means for home and foreign labourers were again gone. Also for the support of the various schools and the circulation of the Holy Scriptures and Tracts, scarcely any thing remained, *i. e.* while about 48*l.* were in hand, yet, considering the liabilities for rent, &c., not more than 5*l.* of this sum at most could I consider available. When I had, therefore, so little, there came in 267*l.* Thus my heart is made glad, for I am able to send help to many brethren in these days of peculiar distress.

Oct. 26. This evening there was given to me anonymously at Salem Chapel a sealed paper, which contained two sovereigns and these words: "For what most needs." I took this donation for these objects, as I have now scarcely any money left towards paying the weekly salaries of the teachers in the Day Schools next Tuesday, Oct. 31st. We have not been so poor with regard to these objects since the accounts were closed. But I hope in God.

Oct. 28. I received from Calne 2*l.*

Oct. 30. Received from Bath 1*l.*

Oct. 31. There having come in this 5*l.*, and 1*l.* 10s. 9d. besides, by the sale of Tracts, I had enough to pay the weekly salaries of the teachers.

Nov. 4. Saturday. There were now again only a few shillings in hand towards paying next Tuesday the weekly salaries of the teachers in the Day Schools, when

I received this morning from the neighbourhood of Leeds 5*l*.

Nov. 5. There was put into the boxes at Bethesda 2s. 6d.

Nov. 6. Received 1*l*. 0s. 6½d.

Nov. 7. This evening I found that, by what had come in during the 4th, 5th and 6th in the way of donations, and by the sale of Tracts during this week, I had more than enough to pay the weekly salaries.

Nov. 9. Only a few shillings were left in my hands on Tuesday evening, the 7th instant, towards the weekly salaries of the teachers, for the coming week. Also almost all the Tracts are again gone, and it is nearly four weeks, since I paid out the last money I had in hand for missionary objects. As to this latter point, my heart had been especially longing to be able to send again help to home and foreign labourers, knowing how very great the need of many is. Thus I was situated with regard to means, when I received to-day 1000*l*., of which sum I took 300*l*. for these objects, 100*l*. for the support of the Orphans, and 600*l*. for the Building-Fund. The Lord be praised for this most precious help, which is doubly precious on account of the seasonable time in which it comes!

Nov. 16. Yesterday and to-day I have sent out more than one hundred pounds to brethren who labour at home and abroad, and the Lord has sent again further supplies; for I received to-day from C. W. 40*l*. for home and foreign labourers.

Jan. 15, 1849. The means for the circulation of Bibles and Tracts, and for all the various Schools, and for helping missionary efforts had now been reduced to 15*l*. It had been during the last days especially my prayer, that the Lord would be pleased to give me fresh supplies for brethren who labour in the word and doctrine at home and abroad, as I had not been able to do any thing for any of them during the last fortnight, for want of means. I desired also more means for the circulation of Bibles and Tracts, as several thousands of Tracts had been going out during the last few days, and as also quite recently there had been many openings found for the circulation of the Holy Scriptures among very poor persons. Now the Lord has again given me a precious answer of prayer. I received this morning a donation of 200*l*., to be used

as any of the objects of the Scriptural Knowledge Institution might need help. The donor, however, kindly wished me to take 25*l.* for myself. I took this 175*l.* for these objects, and thus I am again supplied with means for the various Schools, for the circulation of Bibles and Tracts, and have something for aiding brethren who labour in the word and doctrine, as I purpose to use 100*l.* for them. The Lord be praised for this precious help!

I have received still further to-day for missions 23*l.* 5s.

Jan 17. To-day I have received still further help from the Lord in a donation of 125*l.* for these objects. How manifest it is by all these sums, large and small, which I receive from God in answer to prayer, that he does not allow me to call upon him in vain!

Feb. 19. A brother in the Lord, who had sold his earthly possession, for the purpose of spending the proceeds of it for the Lord, sent me 120*l.* as a part, of which he wished me to use 100*l.* for missions, 5*l.* for the Orphans, 10*l.* for another object not to be mentioned, to give 2*l.* 10s. to brother Craik, and to take 2*l.* 10s. for myself.

Feb. 20. To-day I have received still further 200*l.*, of which I took 100*l.* for these objects, and 100*l.* for the Orphans, as the disposal of this sum was entirely left to me.—I do especially rejoice in all these considerable donations, partly, because they enable me to assist so many faithful servants of Jesus Christ, who labour for him in dependance upon him for their temporal supplies; and, partly, because they prove that the work of God may be carried on in dependance upon him alone for pecuniary means, not merely on a *small* but also on a *large* scale. See! dear Christian reader, without making any effort whatever, simply in answer to prayer, without personal application to any one, all these sums come in. And thus it has now been going on for more than sixteen years, [was written in 1850]. Persons said to me fifteen years ago, that it was impossible to carry on such a work for any length of time, without regular subscriptions; for the interest which was taken in it at first, would wear off. I never believed such statements. I was assured in my inmost soul that, if the work of God was carried on in God's way, that was the best pledge that it would be provided by God with pecuniary means. Thus I have found it ever since March 5, 1834, when this work com-

menced. For since that time I have received above Forty-four Thousand Pounds altogether, [up to May 26, 1850 only]; and so has the Lord enlarged the work and helped me, that during the last three years I have had the privilege of paying away in his service, in connexion with this work, about Twenty-five Thousand Pounds; nor have I had during this period in any one instance to meet a payment, without being previously provided by the Lord with means for it. If it pleased the Lord to condescend to use me further in this way, he could so order it that even a still larger field of labour were intrusted to me, which would require still greater sums. Truly, it must be manifest to all simple hearted children of God, who will carefully read the accounts respecting this Institution, that he is most willing to attend to the supplications of his children who in their need cry to him; and to make this manifest is the great object I aim at, through the means of this Institution.

March 13. The same donor who sent me on Feb. 19th the donation of 120*l.*, sent me to day 100*l.* more for missions.

March 15. From C. W. for missions 30*l.*

April 1. Anonymously through Bethesda boxes 2d. for missions. Anonymously through Salem boxes 30*l.*, with these words: "5*l.* for dear brother Müller, 5*l.* for dear brother Craik, 5*l.* for the poor, 5*l.* for the rent, 5*l.* for missionary work, 5*l.* for the Scriptural Knowledge Institution." The last mentioned 5*l.* I took for the circulation of Bibles and Tracts, and for the various Schools.

April 15. Anonymously through Salem boxes 1d. for missions.

April 18. Received 250*l.*, which, being entirely left at my disposal, I took 100*l.* for the current expenses for the Orphans, and 150*l.* for *these* objects. Thus I have especially the joy, in answer to my daily supplications, of being able to continue to assist many home and foreign labourers who labour in the word and doctrine.

May 13. Anonymously for foreign missions 1s.

May 23. Received 360*l.*, of which the kind donor wished me to take 10*l.* for my own personal expenses, and the 350*l.* were left to my disposal, just as the work of the Lord in my hands might require it. I took therefore one half for the current expenses for the Orphans, and the

other half for *these* objects, and I have thus the means to continue to send help to home and foreign labourers.

May 27. From the same donor, who gave on Feb. 19th 120*l.*, and on March 13th 100*l.*, 20*l.* more for missions.

Aug. 4. During the last month I had sent to home and foreign labourers about 150*l.*, and many heavy extra expenses had been met for the Schools and the circulation of Tracts, on which account our means for these objects began to be reduced, when I received this morning 200*l.*, which, being left entirely at my disposal as might be most needed, I took for *these* objects.

Aug. 9. Anonymously 5*l.* for home and foreign labourers in the word.

Aug. 30. 50*l.* from the donor spoken of under May 27th. Half this sum he intends for the Orphans and half for missions.

Sept. 18. I received 100*l.*, to be used as might be most needed. This sum came after I had repeatedly asked the Lord for more means, as the money in hand for *these* objects was now less than it had been for several months. I took, therefore, the whole of this sum for *these* objects.

Nov. 3. The means were now again low, lower than they had been for many months, when I received 200*l.*, which being left at my disposal as most needed, I took entirely for *these* objects.

Dec. 7. Before our means were exhausted for these objects, when there was yet 140*l.* in hand, I received to-day a donation of 150*l.*, the disposal of which was left to me, to use it either for the Orphans or any part of the work of God in my hands. I took 100*l.* for *these* objects, and 50*l.* for the Orphans.

Jan. 2, 1850. The new year commences, even as to this part of the work, with new mercies. There was given to me 160*l.*, to be used as might be most needed, of which sum I took 100*l.* for *these* objects, and 60*l.* for the Orphans. Thus, before all means are expended, while there is yet about 100*l.* in hand, the Lord sends me again a fresh supply, in answer to my daily supplications, whereby I am enabled to go on with the circulation of Bibles and Tracts, the meeting of all the expenses connected with the various schools, and am enabled still further to help preachers of the Gospel at home and abroad.—I take this

first donation from the Lord in this new year, as an earnest, that he will help me during the whole of this year also, in regard to means for *these* objects.

Jan. 30. During this month I had been especially led to send much assistance to home and foreign labourers. Also in other respects the expenses for *these* objects had been considerable. On this account the funds for them had been reduced to about 80*l.*, when I received this evening 450*l.*, of which the donor kindly wished me to take 50*l.* for my own personal expenses, to give to Brother Craik 50*l.*, and to use the other as might be most needed. I took therefore 200*l.* for the Orphans, 50*l.* for foreign missions, 25*l.* for home missionaries, 25*l.* for the Day Schools for poor children and for the Adult School and the Sunday School, 25*l.* for the circulation of Gospel Tracts, and 25*l.* for the circulation of the Holy Scriptures.

Feb. 10. Received 180*l.*, which the donor left to my disposal, where it might be most needed for the work of God in my hands; he only desired in his kindness that I should take 20*l.* of it for my own purse. As there is a considerable sum in hand at present for the supplies of the Orphans, I took the whole of this donation for the other objects, whereby I am enabled to go on more and more in aiding missionary work, and in continuing the circulation of Bibles and Tracts.—I have great delight in showing also by this and other instances to which reference has been made, how the Lord is mindful of my own temporal necessities, whilst I endeavour to serve him, in entire reliance on him for what I need with regard to this life, without any salary or any regular income whatever, so that he not only gives me as much as I absolutely need, but most bountifully supplies me; for generally I receive from him far more than I need for myself and family.

March 23. During the last six weeks has been paid out for the School—Bible—Tract and Missionary objects alone about 270*l.*, and very little comparatively has been received. On this account came in most seasonably, and very manifestly in answer to prayer, a donation of 152*l.* 3s. 6d., which I received this morning, and which I took for these objects, to replenish our means for them.

March 30. From C. W. 30*l.* for foreign missions.

May 3. During the last month but very little was re-

ceived for *these* objects, whilst, for missionary purposes alone, 113*l.* was paid out. Now this morning I received a registered letter, containing 60*l.* with these words:

"———— May 1, 1850.

"Dear Brother,

"I send you 50*l.* for the missionaries, and 10*l.* for the Orphans, having just sold out a part of my property in the funds. It pleases me to find that your new Report will soon be out.

Believe me to be, dear brother,

Yours truly in Christ,

* * * *."

This donation came after many prayers to the Lord for supplies. The work is now large. The outgoings are great. During the last month were again expended about 500*l.* for the various objects of the Institution, nor have I any prospect that the expenses will decrease; yea, *I have no desire that they should.* I have as great satisfaction, as much joy, in writing checks for large amounts upon my bankers, as I have joy in paying over to them checks, or bank orders, or large notes, which I receive from the living God, by means of donors, for this work. For the money is of no more value to me than as I can use it for God; and the more I can pay out for the work of God, the more prospect I have of being again supplied by him; and the larger the sum is, which I can obtain from him, in answer to prayer only, the greater the proof of the blessedness and the reality of this mode of dealing directly with the living God, for what I need; therefore, I say, I have as much joy in giving out as in receiving. I have been devoting myself, for instance, with all my might, and expending much exertion both of body and mind, but especially by labouring in spirit, to have the Orphan-House filled with children, not only that thus three hundred destitute Orphans, none of whom have either father or mother, might be lodged, boarded, clothed, instructed, and in every way cared for, bodily, mentally, and spiritually; *but also, in order that thus large sums might be needed and expended*, and I might have a greater call than ever to draw largely upon the inexhaustible treasures of God. That I do not mean, in thus speaking, to say that money so obtained by prayer may be wasted, will

scarcely need to be noticed; for if any one would obtain means from God by prayer only, and then waste them, he would soon find that he is not able to pray in faith for further supplies.

May 7. The donation of 50*l.* for the missionary brethren, received four days ago, was very refreshing to my spirit, and most manifestly to me another answer to prayer; but it did not hinder me from continuing in prayer for more means, as I have a great desire to spend again, by God's help, considerable sums in connexion with these various objects, in the course of this month. Moreover, I was looking out for answers to prayer, and therefore expected still further means to come in on the 4th, the 5th, and yesterday; and, as I received nothing, I only prayed the more earnestly, instead of being discouraged. And thus it was that I obtained this morning a still further answer to my supplication, in a donation of 150*l.*, of which I took half for the Orphans and half for *these* objects, as the disposal of the money was left to me.

My dear Christian reader, will you not try this way? Will you not know for yourself, if as yet you have not known it, the preciousness and the happiness of this way of casting all your cares and burdens and necessities upon God? This way is as open to you as to me. Every one of the children of God is not called by him to be engaged in such a service as that to which he has condescended to call me; but every one is invited and commanded to trust in the Lord, to trust in him with all his heart, and to cast his burden upon him, and to call upon him in the day of trouble. Will you not do this, my dear brethren in Christ? I long that you may do so. I desire that you may taste the sweetness of that state of heart, in which, while surrounded by difficulties and necessities, you can yet be at peace, because you know that the living God, your Father in heaven, cares for you. Should, however, any one read this, who is not reconciled to God, but is still going on in the ways of sin and carelessness, unbelief and self-righteousness, then let me say to such, that it is impossible that you should have confidence to come boldly to God in such a state, and I therefore ask you to make confession of your sins to him, and to put your trust for eternity entirely in the merits of the Lord Jesus, that you may obtain the forgiveness of your sins. Again,

should any one read this, who has believed in the Lord Jesus, but who is now again living in sin, who is again regarding iniquity in his heart, let not such a one be surprised that he has no confidence toward God, and that he does not know the blessedness of having answers to his prayers; for it is written: "If I regard iniquity in my heart, the Lord will not hear me: but verily God hath heard me; he hath attended to the voice of my prayer." Ps. lxvi. 18, 19. The first thing such a one has to do is, to forsake his evil course, to make confession of it, and to know afresh the power of the blood of the Lord Jesus on his conscience, by putting his trust in that precious blood, in order that he may obtain confidence toward God.

Supplies for the support of the Orphans, sent in answer to prayer, from May 26, 1848, *to May* 26, 1850.

When the accounts were closed on May 26, 1848, I had in hand a balance of 1*l.* 10s. 3¾d. With this amount then we began, whilst day by day above one hundred and thirty persons were to be provided for in the four Orphan Houses in Wilson Street. Nor was there any money besides available, except what had been advanced to the four matrons in the various Orphan-Houses for the week's housekeeping, which was already more than half expended; and I had on the 30th to advance again many pounds for the following week. Place yourself now, dear reader, in my position, in order that you may the more clearly see the hand of God in what follows.

On the very next day, after the accounts were closed, May 27, 1848, I received from Westmoreland five pounds, half of which sum was intended by the donor for the Orphans, and half for the other objects. This donation I took as an earnest out of the hands of the living God, that during the whole of this period also he would provide for these many Orphans, as he had done in former years.

May 28. Received anonymously 3s. 9½d., and from A. S. A. 10s. 2½d.

May 29. To-day I have received 100*l.*, which, being left to me as most needed, I took half for the Orphans, and half for the other objects. How kind of the Lord to refresh my heart thus in sending me this seasonable

help at the very commencement of this period, as there was so little left in hand when the accounts were closed three days since; and how especially kind as to-morrow evening again nearly 20*l.* will have to be advanced for housekeeping!

June 20. 81*l.* 8s. 4d. had come in since May 26th. Without any difficulty I had been able to meet all the expenses as they occurred; but now all our money was gone, and this evening I had again to advance the means for a week's housekeeping, whilst there was nothing in hand. Now observe, dear reader, how the Lord helped me! *Whilst I was in the very act of beseeching the Lord for fresh supplies*, two sisters in the Lord called, who desired to see my wife for a few minutes. It was for the purpose of giving her fifteen pounds for the Orphans.—About half an hour after a brother from Devonshire called, who, on leaving, gave me 5*l.* for the Orphans.—This evening I received still further from Norwich 1*l.* 1s., together with an eye-glass and a parcel of clothes. There was received also 1s. for Reports. Also a Christian brother from Barnstaple gave me half a sovereign. Thus I was able to meet the housekeeping expenses for the coming week, and to order 2 cwt. of soap, which was needed, amounting altogether to 20*l.* 10s., and have 1*l.* 2s. left. The day began and I had nothing, and yet the Lord enabled me to meet all its demands and I have 1*l.* 2s. over.

June 21. The Lord is already beginning to give fresh supplies towards the need of the coming week. This morning was sent to me from Essex a large silver mug. There has come in further to-day from Bath 5s., by sale of Reports 1s., by sale of a book 1s., from South-molton 2s. 6d., from a lady near Bristol 5s., and through an Orphan-box 11s. 6d. and a silver thimble.

June 23. From Merriott 14s. 4d., from Dundry 5s., through A. S. A. 1s. 6d., from a sister 5s., by sale of Reports 3s. 4d., by sale of articles 1*l.* 4s. 10d., by the children's knitting 4s. 6d., and from the Isle of Wight 14s. 7d.

June 25. Anonymously from Teignmouth 5*l.*, through Bethesda boxes 6d., ditto 2d.

June 26. From L. M. 1s. 1d., brother F.'s Orphan-box 1s. 1d., by profit from the sale of ladies' baskets 10s., anonymously 1s., ditto 6d., ditto 1d.

June 27. By sale of articles 17s. 8d.; from Clifton 10s., from a sister 10s., through a box in my room 10s., from Tiverton 5s., and through the boxes in the Orphan-Houses 4*l.* 5s. 2d.—Thus we have had again this evening, in answer to prayer, all the means required for the housekeeping expenses of the coming week, and have a few shillings left.

July 4. Though this day last week I had all the means requisite for advancing the housekeeping expenses for this week, yet, after having done so, there remained only a few shillings. I had therefore again to seek help from God respecting the means requisite for this evening, besides means for other expenses, which in the course of the week might come upon me, as the regular housekeeping expenses are not one-half of the whole of the expenses for the Orphans. Now, during this week also, I have been helped by the Lord, in the following manner:—

On June 28th I received from Uppingham 10s., and 10s., and 1s. Also by sale of Reports came in 6s.—On June 30th was sent from Tetbury 10s.—On July 1st a brother in the Lord gave me 10*l.*—On July 2nd from A. S. A. 1*l.*, and from a sister 5s. Also anonymously 4s., ditto 10s., ditto 1s. 6d.—On July 3rd from a brother 1*l.*—July 4th. By sale of articles 2*l.* 3s. 6½d., and by knitting and needlework 6*l.* 13s. 10d.—Thus I was again able to advance this evening the means for the housekeeping expenses of the coming week, and have a few shillings left.

July 6. The more the Lord is pleased to help me, the more, by his grace, I have confidence in him. Therefore, though there were only a few shillings left the evening before last, I set myself to prayer that God would be pleased to send everything requisite for continuing this work. Accordingly, two ladies left to-day, anonymously, at the Infant Orphan-House, 2 old foreign gold watches, an old silver watch, a small gold chain, 6 gold mourning rings, a pair of gold earrings, and 2 necklaces. There was also given to-day 10s., and 2s. 2½d. came in by sale of Reports.

July 7. From Edmonton 1*l.* From a Christian letter-carrier 10s., from a sister 2s. 6d., and from M. R. 5*l.*

July 8. Through sister C. from a friend 2s., from M. 2s., from D. 1s., and from sister F. 1s. 1d.

July 9. From A. S. A. 10s. Also a brother has brought me this evening 5*l.*

July 10. From Street 2s., through Salem boxes 3d., and by knitting 16s. 9d.

July 11. By sale of trinkets, &c. 14*l.* 13s. 7d. From Gloucester 1*l.*, from Tenby 1s. 6d., anonymously 5s., and from one of the labourers in the work 3s.—Thus I had again this evening enough to meet the ordinary housekeeping expenses for the coming week, but I am now looking out for fresh supplies to meet the expenses connected with ordering a fresh quantity of oatmeal from Scotland, &c.

July 12. The Lord has quickly given me an answer, and granted the desire of my heart. I received this morning a donation of 117*l.* 2s. 7d., to be used as the work of God in my hands might require. Of this sum I took 67*l.* 2s. 7d. for the Orphans, and 50*l.* for the other objects.

Aug. 1. From July 12th up to this day we were comfortably provided with means; but this evening, at our usual prayer-meeting, I had only 8*l.* to give to the four matrons towards the housekeeping expenses of the coming week, which I did give in the full assurance that the Lord would provide more by the time that this sum was expended, if not before.—Now see how God at this time also helped in his faithful love, and thereby proved that we did not call upon him in vain. On the next day, Aug. 2, I received from London 1*l.*, from Buttevant 1s. 6d., from "a Leamington grocer" 2s. 6d., from Bedminster 5s., and by sale of Reports 10s. 6d.—On Aug. 3rd came in by the sale of Reports 1s., from Langport 7*l.* 4s., from a very poor widow 2s., and 8s. besides.—On Aug. 5th was received from Mr. G. B. C. 1*l.* 1s., from Marbury 6d., from Brighton 10s., from Ayrshire 1*l.*, and from Newbury 1*l.*—On Aug. 6. From the neighbourhood of Wotton-under-Edge 7s., and by profits from the sale of ladies' baskets 10s.—On Aug. 7th from a Christian lady 1*l.*, by sale of Reports 1s., from a sister 10s., through the Chapel-boxes 2s. 6d. and 6d., from Tockington 1*l.* 1s., through the Orphan-boxes in my house 13s. 6d., from Northam 2*l.*, and from Cork 1*l.* On Aug. 8th by sale of articles 18s. 2½d. By sale of Reports 8s. Thus I had every-

thing which was requisite for the expenses of the past week, and had this evening, Tuesday, even 7*l.* left to advance towards the house-keeping expenses of the coming week. My hope and prayer is, that the Lord will be pleased to send in more means, before this is gone, as it will only suffice till Friday morning.

Aug. 9. The Lord has been very kind to-day, and proved afresh that none who trust in him shall be confounded. There has come in by the sale of Reports 1*l.* 13s. 10d., by sale of another book given for sale 9d., and from Clevedon 10s., together with a pair of gold ear-drops, a buckle, and a pencil case. This evening, while I was walking in my little garden, lifting up my heart for further supplies for the work of God in my hands, there was given to me a registered letter from Liverpool, containing 20*l.* for the Orphans. There came also from Lymington 5*l.* Thus I am able to send the remainder of the money which is needed for housekeeping expenses for this week.

Aug. 10. The Lord has sent in still further supplies in answer to prayer. From a brother I received 1*l.*, from the Isle of Wight 5*l.*, from Bath 5*l.*, from Barking 2 gold seals, 2 pairs of gold ear-rings, 2 gold brooches, a gold snap, a bead necklace, and a small telescope.

Aug. 11. By sale of Reports 1*l.* 9s. 2d. From Bath 5*l.*

Aug. 12. From Norfolk 1*l.* 10s.

Aug. 13. Anonymously 2s. 6d., ditto 6d., ditto 1s.

Aug. 14. By profits from the sale of ladies' baskets 1*l.*

Aug. 15. Through a box in my house 10s., by sale of articles 15s. 2d., by sale of Reports 2*l.* 0s. 6d., anonymously 2s., from Keswick 1s., from one of the labourers in the work 10s., and from Chelsea with a great variety of articles 7s. 8d., 7¼d., and 1s. I received also from Bath 2 mourning rings.

Aug. 16, Wednesday. This afternoon I received from a brother, who had sold the greater part of his little property, 20*l.*, of which he wished me to take 10*l.* for the Building Fund and 10*l.* for present use for the Orphans. Thus I have received for the Orphans altogether in money, besides many articles, since yesterday week, the 8th, 61*l.* 15s. 8¼d., whereby I have been enabled to supply the means which were yet needed for housekeeping; and I had likewise sufficient to advance last evening all that which is needed for housekeeping for this week, and to

meet 38*l.* 2s. 6d. extra expenses, which have come upon me during the last eight days. How seasonable were, therefore, the various donations which the Lord was pleased to send me since the 8th, and how manifestly did they come in answer to prayer! But now I have again scarcely anything left, which, however, does not cast me down, as I shall go afresh, by God's help, to his inexhaustible treasures.

Aug. 22. Tuesday Evening. The Lord has again been pleased to send me since last Wednesday morning 17*l.* 14s. 9d., so that, together with the little which was left last Tuesday evening, I was able to advance the money needed for housekeeping during the coming week. The Lord was pleased to provide me with means for this in the following manner. On Aug. 17th came in 9s. 10d. from Clifton. On Aug. 18th was received by sale of Reports 2*l.* 1s., and by a donation from Acklow 1*l.* Also a brother from Bath left anonymously at the Boys' Orphan-House two sovereigns. On Aug. 19th a brother from the neighbourhood of Stroud sent me 5*l.*, of which he kindly wished me to take 1*l.* for my own personal expenses and to use the 4*l.* as most needed, which I took for the Orphans. Received also 9s. by sale of Reports. On Aug. 20th I received 6s. 6d. and 6s. 10d., being the contents of two Orphan boxes, also from the neighbourhood of Keynsham 1*l.*, from the neighbourhood of Royston 1*l.*, and from Batheaston 10s. Aug. 21. Through a box in my house 1*l.*, from Doncaster 10s., by sale of Reports 18s., and from the Isle of Wight 10s. Aug. 22. By sale of Reports 17s. 6d., by sale of articles 12s. 3d., anonymously 1s., from Thornbury 2s. 6d., and anonymously 4d. Thus, then, I had all the means requisite and had 11¾d. left.—Think of this, dear reader! 11¾d. I had left and about 130 persons were daily to be provided for, and yet we did not go into debt at that time for anything, nor do we now, nor have we from the commencement of this work. Nor did I make personal application to any one for anything, nor did I directly or indirectly speak about our need, so that persons might be influenced to give. But why not, you may say, dear reader? Simply because this work has for its first and primary end the benefit of the Church at large and of the unconverted world, to show that there is verily a God in Heaven whose ears are

open to those who call upon him in the name of the Lord Jesus, and who put their trust in him. Cheerfully have I dedicated myself with all my physical, mental, and spiritual energies to this life of faith upon the living God, for everything that I need in connexion with my own personal and family necessities, and in connexion with the work of God in my hands, if but by any means, through it, multitudes of believers and unbelievers may be benefited. Thousands have been benefited by it already, but tens of thousands my heart longs to benefit. No trial, no difficulty, no hardships, no self-denial, will I, by God's help, count too much, if but this end may be attained.—I had then, as I said, 11¼d. left. Now observe how the Lord helped me again this time in answer to the supplications which the evening before, Aug. 22nd, my fellow-labourers and myself had offered up to him.

On Aug. 23rd, the very next day, came in early in the morning 4s. 6d. by sale of Reports, and a Christian brother from Barnstaple sent 1*l.* with Matt. vi. 11 ("Give us this day our daily bread"). Also from Torquay was sent a half-sovereign. From Budleigh Salterton 1*l.*, and from Weymouth 2*l.* together with a gold brooch. There arrived also a parcel from Stowmarket, containing the following little sums: 6d., 7s. 6d., 2s., 2s. 6d., 10s., 6s., and 5s. There came in also from Bath 18s. for Reports. Thus I received altogether that day 7*l.* 5s. 6d., whereby I was enabled to order 8 cwt. of rice, as I was informed the evening before that our store of rice was exhausted.

Aug. 24. By knitting of the children 2s. 3d.

Aug. 25. By sale of Reports 1s., and from F. E. B. 2s. 6d.

Aug. 26. Saturday. Next Tuesday evening again a considerable sum will be needed for housekeeping, whilst at the beginning of this day I had nothing yet towards meeting this demand. Now observe the kindness of the Lord in helping me again bountifully this day. I received from a sister at Tottenham 2*l.*, from Norton St. Philip's 10s., from a village near Leeds 5*l.*, from Southwell 10s., from Edinburgh 21*l*, of which the donor kindly wished me to take 6*l.* for my own personal expenses and 15*l.* for the Orphans; and from Thornbury for Reports 10s., 6d. as a donation, 2 old three-penny pieces and 20 copper coins, also 5s. from another donor near Thornbury.

Aug. 27. A half-sovereign was received, but the place of the donor is not to be mentioned; from an aged Christian woman 3*l.* and a pair of silver shirt buttons; and by sale of Reports 10s.

Aug. 28. From a sister as the profits from the sale of ladies' bags 6s. 6d., anonymously 2s. 6d., by sale of Reports 12s., from Weymouth 2*l.*, also 4s., 1s., and 1s. 6d., and from Ryde 1*l.*

Aug. 29. Anonymously from Torquay 1*l.* There came in also by sale of articles 17s. 6d., by sale of Reports 10s. 6d., and from a sister 2s. 6d.—Thus, by the help of God, we have again received by this Tuesday evening 42*l.* 3s. 9d., while last Tuesday evening there was only left 11¾d. How kindly has the Lord therefore, in answer to our supplications, increased "the handful of meal in the barrel!" Thus I have been enabled to advance the needful sum requisite for the housekeeping expenses till next Tuesday evening, and to meet several extra expenses. The remainder of the money has been put by for rent, and towards meeting the current expenses connected with the apprentices; and I am now again, without anything in hand, looking to the Lord for fresh supplies.

Now observe, dear reader, how again the Lord helped at this time also, and notice in particular how, from all parts of the country, yea from great distances, and sometimes also from foreign lands, the donations are sent, and most frequently from persons whom I have never seen, whereby the hand of God is the more strikingly made manifest.—I relate now how we were helped in answer to our prayers, this time, when nothing was left.

Aug. 30. Wednesday evening. I had this evening a long season for prayer for the work in which I am engaged, and I sought also especially help from God as to means for present use for the Orphans. *While I was in prayer* a parcel of clothes was brought from Weymouth for the benefit of the Orphans, and shortly after another parcel. There were also sent 2s. 6d. as a donation, and 1s. 6d. for Reports. A few minutes after I had finished praying, I received an anonymous letter from Teignmouth, containing 1*l.* and these lines: "The Lord permits me to send you the enclosed. Dear brother, 'Only believe,' 'O how great is thy goodness, which thou hast laid up for them that fear thee; which thou hast wrought for them that

trust in thee *before the sons of men.*' Yours ever in him." —How again has been fulfilled in my experience that word "Only believe!" I am now looking out for more, for I shall shortly again need many pounds, for the current expenses for the Orphans.

Aug. 31. Received from Hull 1*l.* 8s. 10d., of which 16s. 3¾d. is from A. Z., who intends of this 10s. for the Building Fund and the remainder as most needed, which I took for present use for the Orphans. A young man also sent through A. Z. 6s., and the remaining 6s. 6d. is for Reports. This morning also a sister in the Lord from Malvern called on me, who brought from herself and a few other sisters 4*l.*, of which 10s. is intended by a sister for foreign missions, and the rest to be used as most needed, which I therefore took for the Orphans. I also received from Cheltenham 6s., and 10s. for Reports from Teignmouth, 10s. ditto from Street, and 1s. and 6d. as donations from Street.

Sept. 1. Received from several believers at Bowness 3*l.* 0s. 6d., of which they kindly intend 1*l.* for myself, 1*l.* for foreign missions, and 1*l.* 0s. 6d. for the Orphans.—From A. S. 5*l.*—By needlework of the children 6s. 1d., from Shirehampton 5s., and from a sister 2s. 6d.

Sept. 2. From Ilfracombe 1*l.* 10s. From Wakefield 10*l.* From Windsor 8*l.* 10s., of which 2*l.* 7s. is for Narratives and Reports. By sale of Reports 1*l.* 8s. 8d., and by needlework done by the Orphans 1*l.* 17s. 2d.

Sept. 4. A very poor Christian widow, having come into the possession of 10*l.* through the death of her mother, gave 1*l.* of it for the Orphans.

This sister in the Lord has since fallen asleep. Will she regret the gift now? Our time is short, very short. Let every child of God stand in the place of service into which he has set him, working while it is called to-day, "for the night cometh when no man can work." Again and again, while looking over my journal, I meet with names of donors, who have fallen asleep. Shortly, dear reader, your turn and mine may also come.

Sept. 5. The boxes in my house contained 1*l.* 6s. There came in also by sale of articles 5*l.* 1s. 8d., by sale of Reports 14s. 4½d., through the boxes of the Orphan-Houses 4*l.* 14s. 9½d., and from a sister 10s. Thus this evening, Tuesday, it was found that the Lord had sent in

again since last Tuesday evening, when there was nothing in hand, nearly 50*l.*, so that I have been able to meet all the extra expenses of the week, and to advance again this evening money for housekeeping for the coming week.

Now see how the Lord helped further for the week after this:

Sept. 6. By sale of Reports 13s. 9d. Sept. 8. From a lady 7s. 6d.

Sept. 9. By sale of a small cask of pickles, given for the purpose, 12s.—A brother and sister gave 3*l.*, as a thank-offering to the Lord for the conversion of two brothers, in one week, in answer to prayer. From London 5*l.* By sale of articles 1s. 4d. From Scotland 12s. 6d. for Reports, and 3s. 6d. for the Orphans. From Crediton was sent 10s., 3s. 6d., and 11s.

Sept. 10. By sale of Reports 11s. 8d.—From a sister 2s. 6d., and through ditto 1s. 6d. Anonymously 1s.

Sept. 11. Profits from the sale of bags 10s.—From a brother in London 10s. From Scotland 3*l.* 18s. 7d. with 1*l.* for myself.

Sept. 12. Tuesday. By sale of articles 18s. 8d. By sale of Reports 3s. By a donation 1s. Thus again about 20*l.* has come in during the past week, and, with what remained in hand last Tuesday evening, I have had over and above what is needed for housekeeping expenses for the coming week.—When I came home this evening from our usual weekly prayer-meeting for the Lord's blessing upon the various objects of the Scriptural Knowledge Institution, I found that a brother from Tavistock had left at my house 2*l.* 2s. 6d.

Sept. 13. By sale of Reports 8s. 2d.—From a Christian lady 2 crown pieces and 2 pairs of socks.—From East Coker 1*l.* 10s., together with many gold articles, &c. Also 1s. 6d. with many articles and some coins. From Belper 10s. for Reports, and 10s. as three donations.

Sept. 15. From Kingstown 5s. as a donation and 10s. for Reports.—This evening 1*l.* was left anonymously at my house; and a brother left two sovereigns at the Boys' Orphan-House. A little boy gave 8d., and 6s. 6d. came in by sale of Reports.

Sept. 16. From a brother at Clifton 1*l.* 10s.

Sept. 17. By sale of Reports 13s. A. S. A. 10s. Anonymously 10s. From a sister 2s. 6d. Through a sister 10s.

Sept. 19. Tuesday. A gentleman called on me this morning and gave me half a sovereign for the Orphans, but would not give his name.—By sale of articles 3*l.* 0s. 6d., by Reports 8s. 6d., through the box at my house 1*l.*, by a donation 10s. 6d., and paid on behalf of two Orphans 1*l.* 15s.—Evening. Thus again more than 20*l.* has come in in money during this week, besides many valuable articles. I was thus able to advance all that was needed for housekeeping, and what was left I put by for rent and materials for clothes, which have been ordered, trusting in God for fresh supplies for next Tuesday.

The Lord helped us this time again, as the following shows:—

Sept. 20. By sale of a Report 6d.

Sept. 21. From Barnstaple was sent 1*l.* 5s.—Boxes in my house 10s. 6d.—This morning a Christian from Somersetshire called at my house, and said, he only wished to put something into the Orphan box, and then put in a sovereign.—From Leicester was sent 1*l.*—This afternoon a letter was left at my house, containing a five pound note and these words: "From a Believer in the efficacy of the prayer of faith, to be appropriated as Mr. Müller may think fit." As there was only 3*l.* 16s. in hand for the Orphans, I took this donation for them.—This evening I had again an especial season for prayer respecting the various objects of the Institution. Almost immediately, after I had risen from my knees, I received from Sunderland 1*l.*

Sept. 23. From Norwich 10s. From Bath 5*l.* Through a sister in Bristol 5s.

Sept. 24. Anonymously from Liverpool 10s.—From Stourbridge 1*l.* — From A. S. A. 6s. 8½d. By sale of Reports 2s. 6d. From Cheshire 2*l.* Anonymously 5s.

Sept. 25. The contents of an Orphan box 18s. 10d.

Sept. 26. From Brighton 5s. By sale of articles 2*l.* 6s. 8d. By sale of Reports 1*l.* 6s. Through Orphan boxes 5s. 2d. Ditto 2s. 9d. Through the boxes at the Orphan-Houses 2*l.* 14s. 11d.—Thus the Lord has again sent in about 25*l.* during the week, whereby I have been enabled to meet all the extra expenses of the week, and to advance for the housekeeping expenses of the coming week.

Sept. 27. When to-day there were again only a few shillings in hand, I received from Sunderland 2*l.* 19s. 6d for Reports. Also from a sister in Bristol 10s., from another 10s. as the profits from the sale of ladies' baskets, and from Plymouth 1*l.*

Sept. 28. By the sale of trinkets and old silver 9*l.* 10s. —From Scarborough 2*l.* as a donation, and 6s. for Reports.—From Barnstaple 2*l.* 0s. 9½d. By sale of Reports 10s.—From a donor in Bristol 1*l.*

Sept. 30. From a Christian gentleman in Bath 1*l.* From Oswestry 7s. By sale of Reports 12s.

Oct. 1. By Reports 3s. 4d. From A. S. A. 11s. 10d. Anonymously 10s. From Devonshire 6s. 6d.

Oct. 2. From Liverpool 2s. 6d. By Reports 7s. 6d. From a brother in Bristol 1*l.*

Oct. 3. By sale of Reports 2s. 6d. and by sale of articles 1*l.* 9s. 9d. Thus by this evening, Tuesday, again about 28*l.* has come in, and I have been able to meet all the extra expenses of the work, and advance money for the week's housekeeping; but have now again scarcely anything left.

Oct. 4. By sale of trinkets came in 2*l.* 17s. 6d.

Oct. 5. From a sister 2s. 6d. From Kingsbridge 1*l.* 5s.

Oct. 6. By knitting 15s. 3d.

Oct. 7. Received from Sherborne 1*l.* 9s. 4d. Received also from the neighbourhood of Dartmouth 1*l.* 0s. 6d. There came in likewise through sister E. Ch. 1*l.* 5s. 10d.—Also 5*l.* 14s. 0½d., being part of the proceeds of a little publication.

Oct. 8. From A. S. A. 5*l.* Anonymously 1*l.* Ditto 6s.

Oct. 9. By sale of a Report 6d. From a sister 10s.

Oct. 10. From Cheltenham 10s. By sale of articles 4*l.* 0s. 1d. By sale of Reports 6s. 2d.—Thus, by this evening, Tuesday, again the sum of 26*l.* 2s. 8½d. had come in. I was, therefore, able to meet all the housekeeping expenses of the coming week, besides having paid away 8*l.* 15s. for apprentices, &c., and have 12s. 8½d. left in hand. My heart is assured that the Lord will help further.

Now, dear reader, did the Lord help this time also? Yes, he did. Could it be otherwise? No; for they that

trust in the Lord shall never be confounded. Let me then relate to you the way in which God helped us, going on with the extracts from my journal.

Oct. 11. At our meeting yesterday evening we made our supplication to God that he would be pleased to help us further. Immediately after the meeting I received 10s. Also when I came home, I found that 6s. had been brought from Gosport for Reports, and 1s. 6d. as the proceeds of an Orphan box at Gosport. Also 5s. was put by the bearer of the money into an Orphan box at my house, who also brought a woollen shawl.—To-day 1*l.* was left at one of the Orphan-Houses by "an aged person of a Bristol alms-house," who would not give her name. There came in also by sale of stockings 1*l.* 4s. 6d. There was likewise left anonymously at my house, an old silver watch, 2 mourning brooches, and 2 gold pins. Thus the Lord has already sent in a little.

Oct. 12. Received in an anonymous letter 1s. 8d. From the Isle of Man 2s. 6d. By sale of Reports 1*l.* 13s. 6d.—Through a brother in Scotland 1*l.*—From two young gentlemen at Clifton 4s.—From Street 1s. 6d. —Through an Orphan box 2s. 1d.

Oct. 13. From some believers near Kingsbridge 1*l.* By sale of articles 15s. Left at the Boys' Orphan-House 5s.

Oct. 14. From Bideford 2*l.* By sale of Reports 8s. By children's needlework 19s. 8½d.

Oct. 15. By sale of Reports 2s. 6d. From A. S. A. 13s. 5d. From Barnstaple 1*l.* From Yorkshire 5*l.*, with these words: "Please to accept the enclosed 5*l.* as a thank-offering to God for an answer to prayer, in the conversion of a soul. I should like half of it to go to the Orphans, the other half I leave to your discretion." The other half I put to the Building Fund.

Oct. 16. From Horsington 10s.—Through the boxes at my house 15s. 0½d.—From a sister 5s.

Oct. 17. From Reading 1*l.* By sale of Reports 5s. 6d. By sale of articles 4*l.* 10s. 6d.—Thus by this evening, Tuesday, the Lord had sent in again 23*l.* 11s. 3d., whereby I had enough for advancing the housekeeping expenses of the coming week, and the remainder I put by for the rent and the current expenses for the apprentices.

Oct. 18. When now there was again nothing in han-

I received by sale of Reports 12s., by a donation 7s., from Notts 5s. 1d., in small contributions 12s. 3d., and 1s.

Oct. 19. Anonymously from Tottenham a half sovereign. From Collumpton 8s. 6d. and 11s. 6d.

Oct. 20. By sale of Reports 4s. From Barnstaple 5s. From a sister 2s. 6d., and from Madeley 1s. From Dublin 5s.

Oct. 21. From Clevedon 1*l.* 10s. From Cirencester 1*l.* 13s. 4d., and also 3s.—By sale of Reports 1*l.* 2s. 6d.

Oct. 22. From A. S. A. 11s. 3½d. Anonymously 10s. Ditto 8d. From a clergyman 10s. From S. 10s. By sale of Reports 1s. 6d. From a sister 5*l.* Oct. 24. By sale of Reports 5s. 4d. Boxes in the Orphan-Houses 1*l.* 2s. By sale of articles 3*l.* 2s. 1d.—Thus by this evening, Tuesday, again 20*l.* 4s. 11½d. had been received, and as the expenses of the coming week for housekeeping, together with some extra expenses during the past week, did not amount to more than 18*l.* 1s. 6d., I had 2*l.* 3s. 5½d. left, which I put by for the rent and the current expenses for the apprentices, and am again looking to the Lord for fresh supplies, and again assured that he will help me.

Oct. 31. Since last Tuesday evening it has pleased God again to make it abundantly manifest that we do not wait on him in vain. Besides many articles, there came in 24*l.* 4s. 8¾d. As the money which was needed for the housekeeping expenses for the coming week, together with a few other small expenses which I had had to meet during the last week, did not amount to more than 19*l.* 19s. 3d., I had more than 4*l.* left, which I put by towards the rent and the expenses for the apprentices, and hope in God for the next week.

Nov. 1. When I came home last evening from our usual weekly prayer meeting, I found 1*l.* from R. L. H. Thus the Lord has already given a little.—There arrived to-day a box from Reading, containing the following articles from various donors:—

A black feather. Also 2 pairs of ladies' shoes and a pair of velvet boots. Also two ladies' bags, 2 pairs of bracelets, 2 waistbands, a pair of baby's shoes, 2 neck ribands, and some white lace.—Further, a pair of worked slippers, a thimble case, 2 pincushions, a pair of baby's stays, a lady's bag, a pocket-book, a silver brooch, 2 gilt

brooches, a gilt seal, and 12 yards of calico.—Further, a box of artificial flowers. Also an urn stand. Further, a bible and prayer book in a case. Further, a little box containing 2 gold rings, a gilt chain, a bead necklace, some mock pearls, and a gilt buckle.—Likewise a paper containing a smelling bottle, a pen-knife, a waist buckle, and a card.—Further, a paper containing 2 needle-cases, a purse, 2 little books, 2 medals, a scent bag, a little smelling bottle, 3 pebbles, and 3 mourning necklaces. Another paper, containing 4 gold rings, a gold pin, 2 old silver thimbles, the handle of a silver fruit knife, a snuff-box, 2 silver-mounted corks, 7 pincushions, a needle-book, a pair of bracelets, a bead purse, a smelling bottle, a silver brooch, a gold brooch, a bead necklace, a pair of compasses, a broken gold watch key, 1 shilling, an old silver thimble, an emery cushion, a gold ring, a cloak fastener, and a little bead bag.—Another paper, containing a silk scarf, a shawl, and some muslin for night-caps. A paper box, containing a silver-mounted smelling-bottle, a toilette cushion, an amethyst brooch, a silver butter-knife, a pair of gloves, and 2 shillings for missions. Another paper, containing $8\frac{1}{2}$ yards of blue print.—Also 50 books and some pamphlets.—Lastly, a gauze dress, a silk dress, a collar, and 3 caps.—I have on purpose given here at full length the contents of this box, to show what a variety of articles, either for sale or for the use of the Orphans, have been sent.—There arrived also to-day, anonymously, a box from a considerable distance, containing more than one hundred different articles. There was also 5s. in this box, to pay for the carriage. This day also came in by sale of Reports 2s. 6d., and by needlework of the Orphans 19s. 1d.

Nov. 2. From the neighbourhood of Lutterworth a half sovereign, from a sister in Bristol 10s., through a brother half-a-crown and 4 frocks.

Nov. 3. From S. N. 2s. 6d.

Nov. 5. From A. S. A. 8s. Anonymously 2s. 6d. By sale of Reports 1s. 4d.

Nov. 6. By sale of stockings 9s. 2d. From Cumberland 5*l.* From Ayrshire 1*l.*

Nov. 7. By sale of articles 2*l.* 9s. $4\frac{1}{2}$d., and by sale of a Report 6d. This evening, Tuesday, as only 13*l.* 3s. $5\frac{1}{2}$d. had come in during the week, I had only 7*l.* to advance

towards the housekeeping expenses of the coming week, after having met some other expenses. But I hope in God for more, before this is gone, which will only last two or three days.

Nov. 8. By sale of Reports came in 3s., and 2s. 6d. was given by a relative of one of the Orphans.

Nov. 9. Only 5s. 6d. had come in yesterday. To-morrow more money will be needed for housekeeping. In this our poverty I received this morning One Thousand Pounds. The money being left to me for disposal as it might be most needed, I took of it 600*l.* for the Building Fund, 300*l.* for missionary purposes and the circulation of bibles and tracts, and 100*l.* for present use for the Orphans. I have thus the means which are yet needed for this week's housekeeping expenses, besides being able to meet other heavy expenses which are before me next week.

Feb. 20, 1849. For three months and ten days, since Nov. 9, 1848, the donations had always come in so, that we abounded during the whole period, there having been always fresh donations received, before all the money in hand was disbursed. The total amount that came in during this period was 469*l.* 14s. 10d. Now to-day there was no money in hand for advancing the amount needed for the next week's housekeeping. All the money in hand was due for rent, and therefore unavailable, as I never go into debt for anything. In this our need there was given to me this afternoon the sum of 200*l.*, which was left to my disposal for fitting up the New Orphan-House, or for any of the objects in connexion with the Scriptural Knowledge Institution that might be in need. As, however, I have all the means for fitting up and furnishing the New Orphan-House, as far as I know, and as there is no money in hand for present use for the Orphans, I took 100*l.* for that object, and 100*l.* for the circulation of Bibles and Tracts, for the Day-Schools, the Sunday-School, and the Adult-School, and for Home and Foreign labourers in the Word.

March 9. The New Orphan-House is now nearly ready. On this account we have to get in large supplies for the children's clothes. Within the last few days I have ordered thousands of yards of material for this purpose, and thousands more will need to be ordered, besides

providing a stock of many other things. For this large sums are needed. Under these circumstances I received to-day a donation of 300*l.*, to be used for the Building Fund, or the current expenses of the various objects, just as it might be most required. As I judge that we have all that is needed for the fitting up and furnishing of the house, and as there is more in hand than usual for the missionary objects, the circulation of Bibles and Tracts, and for the various Schools, and as we have only about 60*l.* for present use for the Orphans, towards meeting all the heavy expenses before us, I took the whole of this donation for the Orphans, as the donor has kindly left the disposal of the money entirely to me. This donation, coming in just now, has been an exceedingly great refreshment to my spirit; for it is, at the commencement of the great increase of our expenses, in connexion with the 300 Orphans, instead of 120, like an earnest from God, that he will supply us also with means when the demands for the 300 will be more than twice as great as they are now. Through this donation I have means to meet all the expenses which will be incurred in getting in for the new establishment the stores of provisions, soap, material for clothes, haberdashery, and of the many other articles of which it would be desirable to buy our supplies on wholesale terms. The Lord be praised for his kindness!

April 10. Received this afternoon the following letter:—

"Dear Brother,

"I have the pleasure to-day of sowing a little more seed-corn for eternity. Employ the enclosed 50*l.*, if you please, for the support of the Orphans. The remaining 5*l.* be pleased to divide between yourself and dear brother Craik.

"Yours very truly in Christ,

"* * * *"

From the same donor I had recently had two donations of 120*l.* and 100*l.*

April 11. From the brethren at Sunderland, assembling at Bethesda chapel, 10*l.*, as a part of their annual thank-offering to the Lord for Church mercies during the last twelvemonth.

April 18. To-day I received a donation of 250*l.*, of which I took 100*l.* for the Orphans, and the other 150*l.* for the other objects. Never were the current expenses for the Orphans nearly so great as they are now, but at the same time never was the income nearly so great. Thereby the Lord, as it were, says that when the New Orphan-House shall have been filled with Orphans, he will likewise give what is requisite for them. Whilst yet much is in hand, he has been pleased to send this donation.

From April 19th to May 23rd, the Lord was pleased to send in still further many donations.

May 23. To-day I received 360*l.*, which I took half for the current expenses for the Orphans, and half for the other objects. By this donation I am still further provided with means to meet all the expenses connected with the removal of the children into the New Orphan-House, the reception and fitting out of many fresh children, the filling the stores of the New Orphan-House, &c. How does the Lord by all this clearly say, that when this house shall have been filled with children, he will provide the means for their support!

June 18. To-day, as the fruit of the prayers of three years and seven months, the children began to be moved from the four Orphan-Houses in Wilson Street, Bristol, into the New Orphan-House.

June 23. Saturday Evening. This has been indeed a week of great and many and peculiar mercies. All the Orphans with their teachers and overseers have been moved into the New Orphan-House, during Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday; so that there are now about 140 persons under one roof. The Lord has most signally helped.—As I had for more than three years sought the help of God concerning all matters connected with the New Orphan-House, I did expect his help in this particular also; but he has done beyond my expectations. Though only the day before yesterday the last children were moved in, there is already such a measure of order established in the house, by the help of God, as that things can be done by the minute hands of the time-pieces. His name is to be praised for this, and my soul does magnify him for his goodness!—Also with regard to temporal supplies for the dear Orphans, the Lord has been exceedingly kind. On the second day of receiving

the children, there was sent 20*l.* On the third day, an individual, who walked with me through part of the house, said, "These children must consume a great deal of provisions," and, whilst saying it, took out of his pocket a roll of Bank of England notes, to the amount of one hundred pounds, and gave them to me for the Orphans. On the same evening I had also sent for the Orphans a very large cask of treacle, and for their teachers and overseers 6 loaves of sugar. Also a cooper made gratuitously two large new casks for treacle. On the next day I received information that about 10 cwt. of rice had been purchased for the Orphans, which should be sent. Besides this, several small donations have come in. So bountifully has the Lord been pleased to help of late, that I have not only been able to meet all the extraordinary heavy expenses connected with moving the Orphans from Wilson Street into the New Orphan-House, filling the stores of the New Orphan-House, &c.; but I have more than five hundred pounds in hand, to begin housekeeping in the New Orphan-House. How true that word that those that trust in the Lord shall not be confounded! After all the many and long-continued seasons of great trial of faith within these thirteen years and two months, during which the Orphans were in Wilson Street, the Lord dismisses us from thence in comparative abundance. His holy name be praised for it!

In order that this chapter may not be too long, I can only mention of the donations, which were given from June 23, 1849, to May 26, 1850, those which came in under particular circumstances. The total amount received from June 23, 1849, to May 26, 1850, for the current expenses of the Orphans, was 2,102*l.* 13s. 4¾d.

Aug. 30. Received a Fifty Pound Note with these words: "I send you herewith a Fifty Pound Note, half for the Missions, half for the Orphans, unless you are in any personal need; if so, take 5*l.* for yourself. This will be the last large sum I shall be able to transmit to you. Almost all the rest is already *out at interest*." I took half of this 50*l.* for the Orphans and half for Missionaries. The writer sold some time since his only earthly possession, and sent me at different times sums of 120*l.*, of 100*l.*, of 55*l.*, of 50*l.*, and of 20*l.* for the work of the Lord in my hands. When he says therefore "the rest

already out *at interest*," he means nat he has given it away for the Lord, which indeed both for time and eternity is the very best way of using the means with which the Lord may be pleased to intrust us, in so far as, considering in the fear of God all our various claims and duties and relationships, we may do so. As this is written for the spiritual profit of the reader, I cannot but add to this extract from my journal under Aug. 30, 1849, that since that time I have received other donations from the same donor, and much larger still. He used for God the means with which he was pleased to intrust him, and, contrary to this brother's expectation, the above 50*l.* was not the last large donation; for it pleased God soon after, to intrust him with another considerable sum, which he again used for the Lord. This did not at all surprise me; for it is the Lord's order that, in whatever way he is pleased to make us his stewards, whether as to temporal or spiritual things, if we are indeed acting as *stewards* and not as *owners*, he will make us stewards over *more*. But for more, on this deeply important subject, I must refer the reader to the third part of this Narrative, page 581 to 610.

Sept. 27. From friends at Othery 20*l.*—This donation is very refreshing to my spirit. Last evening and this morning I had especially besought the Lord, that he would be pleased to continue to send me means, as the expenses are now so great; for there are 167 Orphans in the house, and about 190 persons daily sit down to their meals, and this number is every week increasing. Now, by this donation, which comes not only from an entirely new but also most unexpected quarter, the Lord is, as it were, saying to me, that he will not fail to help me, even when there shall be about 330 persons in the house, for which number it is fitted up.

Oct. 5. Yesterday again seven Orphans were received. Every week I am now taking in five, six, seven, or eight; and within the last nine weeks 60 altogether have been received, and about 200 persons sit down daily to their meals. This has greatly increased the expenses already, and they will be still more increased, as I purpose to receive still further 126 Orphans, if God permit, to make up the number 300. Yesterday, after having received the seven children, I again gave myself to prayer for an

increase of means. Now to-day I have received from Devonshire a set of valuable jewels, *i. e.* a ring set with 5 brilliants, a brooch set with 12 larger and 12 smaller brilliants, and 1 large emerald, and a pair of ear-rings, both together set with 16 brilliants and 2 emeralds. The bearer brought also 1*l.* 10s. 4d. and 16s. 2d., being the proceeds of two Orphan-boxes, likewise 1*l.* 4s. 6d. At the same time I received from another brother from Devonshire 4*l.*; and from a third 16s. 10d.—Truly the Lord does not allow me to wait upon him in vain!

Nov. 1. To-day I have again received seven Orphans. There are now about 220 persons daily sitting down to their meals in the Orphan-House. Before the seven fresh Orphans were brought, I received a letter from a banker in London, giving me information that a brother in the Lord, living between 200 and 300 miles from hence, had given order to pay me 40*l.* for the Orphans.—By the same post I received anonymously from London 5*l.* from the same donor, who has now for several years sent twice every year this amount, of which she kindly wishes me to use half for my own personal expenses, and half for the work of the Lord in my hands. I took the half for the Orphans.—This was not all. In the afternoon, whilst receiving the Orphans, there came in still further 69*l.* 3s. 8d., also 2s. and a few articles.

Nov. 16. About 260*l.* has been spent within these 16 days, *i. e.* since the first of the month, for current expenses for the Orphans alone, and about 120*l.* for the other objects, making in all about 380*l.* within half a month. Lord look upon the necessities of thy servant, seeing that now the outgoings are so large!

Nov. 30. I have been helped through this month most comfortably, though the expenses for the Orphans have been heavier by far, than in any month all the 14 years since this work was commenced, having been 380*l.* 9s. 2d., and, including the expenses for the other objects, about 540*l.*

Dec. 4. To-day was paid to me a legacy of 50*l.*, left for the benefit of the Orphans.

Dec. 12. Anonymously a Bank Post Bill for 50*l.* 13s. 6d.

Jan. 9, 1850. To-day was sent to me from the Committee of the Cholera Fund in Bristol 20*l.*, which the gentlemen constituting it had voted for the benefit of the

twenty children who had lost their parents in the Cholera, and whom I had received into the New Orphan-House.

I had not applied either directly or indirectly for this money; indeed I was reluctant even to give information as to the number of Cholera Orphans whom I had received, lest there should be even the appearance as if after all I asked for money, instead of solely trusting in the living God. But some of the gentlemen on the Committee, I understand, knowing the fact that I had received many Orphans, made such by means of the Cholera, proposed that there should be paid to the Institution a sovereign on account of each such child, whom I had received. This sum was especially remarkable to me as a fresh proof of the numberless ways, which God has at his command for providing me with means.

I also cannot help noticing the remarkable coincidence that, at the time that God visited this land with the Cholera, in 1849, I had so much room for the reception of Orphans. The Lord was pleased to allow me the joy and sweet privilege of receiving altogether twenty-six children, from ten months old and upward, who lost their parents in the Cholera *at that time*, and many besides, since then, who were bereaved of their parents through this fearful malady.

Jan. 31. To-day five more Orphans are to be received. For the last fortnight, comparatively little had come in for the Orphans, *i.e.* not quite 60*l.* In the prospect of the Orphans coming to-day, I said last evening to my dear wife, that the Lord would send us something for them; for I have often found, that either he has sent something with the children, or at the time that they have been received. It was but about ten minutes after I had said so, when I received 450*l.* (see the account of the income for the other objects), of which I took 200*l.* for the Orphans. This morning I received further 10*l.* from a pious countess in Edinburgh, and 10s. from Deptford. Thus the Lord has indeed sent something for the Orphans. It is now seven months and thirteen days since the Orphans began to be received into the New Orphan House. The expenses for them have been since then Fifteen Hundred and Twenty Pounds; and yet we have this day more in hand, than when the New Orphan-House was opened. Unbelief and

natural reason would have said, and did say, If there have often been scarcely any means in hand, while the Orphans were in the rented houses, and only about 120 in number, how will it be when there shall be 300 in the New Orphan-House? But faith's reply was, Our poverty has been only for the trial of our faith, and it will be as easy to the Lord to provide for 300 as for 120 Orphans. And thus we have proved it hitherto, and, no doubt, shall prove it, as long as the Lord shall enable us to trust in him.

May 25, 1850. The Lord has up to the close of this period helped also for this as well as for the other parts of the work; for during this last week I have received about 62*l.* for the current expenses for the Orphans. With confidence in the living God I step into the new period, though our expenses are now far heavier than ever they were, being fully assured of his faithfulness. May he be pleased to uphold me during the remainder of my earthly pilgrimage in his fear and truth, and may he graciously be pleased to give me day by day the faith which my circumstances may require!

Closing account as to the way in which the means were obtained for the expenses connected with the erection, fitting up, and furnishing of the New Orphan-House, Ashley Down, Bristol.

At the time where the last chapter, referring to this subject, closes, the New Orphan-House was being built. A part of it was already roofed in, and the remainder was to be roofed not many weeks afterwards. But how much did there yet remain to be done in other respects! A building so considerable as to contain about 300 large windows, would require, even after it was finished, an immense amount of labour, to be fitted up and furnished for 330 persons. Then, after this was done, the settling in of the Orphans and their teachers and other overseers, needed still more abundant help. Further, the obtaining of suitable helpers for this part of the work, was indeed no small matter. Lastly, though the Lord had been pleased to give me already above Eleven Thousand Pounds for the New Orphan-House, yet I needed several thousand pounds more, in order to bring the whole into such

a state, as might render the building fit for the reception of the Orphans. And now, in looking back, and finding that I not only was helped in *all* these matters, but also *in every one of them* far beyond my largest expectations —does it not become me to say to those who love the Lord Jesus, and into whose hands this account may fall: "O magnify the Lord with me, and let us exalt his name together!" Each one of the foregoing difficulties which still existed on the 26th of May, 1848, was so great, that if only one of them had remained, and I had not been helped, what would have been the result? But while the prospect before me would have been overwhelming, had I looked at it *naturally*, I was never, even for once, permitted to question what would be the end. For as, from the beginning, I was sure *that it was the will of God*, that I should go to the work of building for him this large Orphan-House, so also, from the beginning, I was as certain that the whole would be finished, as if the building had been already before my natural eyes, and as if the house had been already filled with three hundred destitute Orphans. I was therefore of good courage, in the midst of an overwhelming pressure of work yet to be done, and very many difficulties yet to be overcome, and thousands of pounds yet needed; and I gave myself still further to prayer, and sought still further to exercise faith on the promises of God. And now, the work is done, the difficulties are overcome, all the money that was needed has been obtained, and even more than I needed; and, as to helpers in the work, I have obtained even beyond my expectations and prayers. Nearly seven years have passed away already since the New Orphan-House was opened, and about three hundred and thirty persons sit down in it day by day to their meals.

The godly reader will feel interested in learning now further particulars, as to *how* it pleased God to assist me in accomplishing my desires, with reference to the preparation of the House for the reception of the children, and I therefore relate the manner in which I received further pecuniary supplies; and, whilst doing so, I will here and there make remarks concerning other points, which may throw light on the subject.

Up to May 26, 1848, I had received altogether towards meeting the expenses connected with the building of the

New Orphan-House the sum of 11,062*l.* 4s. 11½d. I now state further, some instances, merely as specimens, as to the manner in which it pleased the Lord, to provide me further with means for fitting up and furnishing the New Orphan-House, without applying to any one single individual personally for anything, but only giving myself to prayer to God.

June 8, 1848. I received 5*l.* 17s. as the "Proceeds from the sale of a Tree for the New Orphan-House." Likewise 1s. from a young lady.

June 17. Received 5*l.*, of which 4*l.* 1s. is the proceeds from the sale of "a second tree for the New Orphan-House," and 19s. for present use for the Orphans.—I call here upon the reader to notice that, whilst I had to obtain yet several thousand pounds for finishing the New Orphan-House, all the other current expenses of the various objects of the Institution were going on; and for none of all these pecuniary necessities had I any regular certain income whatever, nor did I seek help from any one but the living God only.

June 26. A brother and sister gave four silver table spoons, twelve silver tea spoons, and a pair of silver sugar tongs for sale.

Aug. 7. From a sister in the Lord 200*l.*—With 2 Cor. viii. 12, 1s.—Anonymously from J. H. W. 5s., as "a thank-offering to the Lord for his delivering goodness in sickness."—Anonymously 1s.

Aug. 13. From a brother 10s. This brother had worked some overtime, and in prayer he told the Lord that, if his employers gave him anything for it, he would give it to the Building Fund, as he had a great desire to contribute something towards this work, from which he had been kept for want of means.

Aug. 16. A brother in the Lord, having sold his little earthly property, for the sake of spending the money for the Lord, brought 20*l.* of the proceeds, of which he wished me to take 10*l.* for the Building Fund, and 10*l.* for the Orphans.

Aug. 19. It is this day a twelvemonth since the foundation stone of the New Orphan-House was laid, and now the building is up, and almost entirely roofed in. Also part of the inside plastering is already done. How can my soul sufficiently magnify the Lord for all the help

which he has been pleased to give, since this day twelvemonth!—As we are now so far advanced, I have been increasingly entreating God, that he would be pleased to give me the means which are yet requisite for fitting up and furnishing the house; for even now I am completely depending upon him for considerable sums, to accomplish this. But while much is still needed, I have never had, by God's grace, the least misgiving, as to his willingness to give me all I need; on the contrary, I have been assured that, when I actually required the money for the fittings and the furniture, it would come. And now this day the Lord has again proved to me, how willing he is to act according to my faith; for there was given to me this morning 887*l.* under the kind condition that I should take of it 20*l.* for my own personal expenses, and the rest might be used for the Building Fund or the present need of the various objects of the Institution, as it appeared best to me. I took of this sum therefore, 600*l.* for the Building Fund, and placed 267*l.* to the School—Bible—Tract—and Missionary Fund, with the especial intention of using the greater part of this 267*l.* for helping home and foreign preachers of the Gospel, who labour without any salary, in dependance upon the Lord for supplies, as I knew the need of many to be very great; for cases of especial distress among them had again recently come before me. My soul does magnify the Lord for all his goodness and faithfulness!

Oct. 11. This afternoon I received a letter, containing a check for 50*l.* with these words: "1 Peter iv. 12—14. The enclosed draft is for Mr. Müller, to be disposed of according to his own need, and the need of the Orphans under his care. May the 37th Psalm continue to be his solace in the fiery trial through which he is passing." I took the whole of this sum towards fitting up and furnishing the New Orphan-House.

Oct. 16. This evening I received a fifty pound note as a thank-offering to the Lord for numberless mercies during a long course of years. The donor greatly desired that Brother Craik should have of it 10*l.*, myself 10*l.* for my own personal expenses, and 30*l.* were left to me to dispose of as I thought best, for the work of God in my hands, which sum I put to the Building Fund, with the donor's approval.

Oct. 17. By sale of articles 1s.

Oct. 18. From a sister 2s. 6d.; from another 1s.

Oct. 20. From a lady in Ireland 5s.—By sale of turf and grass 3*l.* 16s. 2d.

Oct. 24. By sale of articles 4s. 4½d.—From a Christian gentleman in Devonshire 20*l.* Day by day I am waiting upon God for means for furnishing the house. The last-mentioned sum I received when returning from the Orphan-Houses from our weekly prayer-meeting, where I had been again seeking from God further help, together with my fellow labourers in the work.

Oct. 25. From sisters in the Lord in Devonshire 5*l.*, of which they kindly intend one half for the Building Fund, and the other half for present use for the Orphans.

Nov. 8. The Building is now so far advanced by the help of God, that I was able to arrange yesterday with the clerk of the works to purchase to-day 32 grates for small rooms, two copper furnaces for the wash-house, and two iron furnaces for the scullery. Thus, therefore, the expenses for fitting up the house commence. For all this I had the money in hand, and even some hundreds of pounds more, than the liabilities which are already upon me; yet I want still many hundred pounds, to meet all the heavy expenses, connected with fitting up and furnishing so large a building, levelling the ground, making a road through the ground, pitching three large playgrounds, &c. Under these circumstances I received this morning anonymously 50*l.* for the Orphan-House, with Psalm cxvi. and the request not to notice the post-mark. As I understood the donor to intend this donation for the Building Fund, I took it for that.

Nov. 9. To-day the Lord has helped still more abundantly. I have received a donation of One Thousand Pounds, to be used for the Building Fund and the present necessities of the work generally, as the various objects of the Institution might require it. Of this donation I took, therefore, 600*l.* for the Building Fund, 100*l.* for the present necessities of the Orphans, 200*l.* for missionary purposes, and 100*l.* for the circulation of Bibles and Tracts, and for the various Day Schools, the Sunday School, and the Adult School of the Institution.

All these manifestations of the Lord's abundant help do not in the least surprise me. I expect help from him. I know that he listens to my supplications, and that, for the sake of the Lord Jesus, he is willing to help me yet more and more, to the confounding of Satan and to the putting to shame of unbelief.

Nov. 10. Received a bank order for 5*l.* from the neighbourhood of Tavistock, which, being left to my disposal, I took for the Building Fund.

Nov. 15. From the neighbourhood of Launceston 20*l.*

Dec. 22. Received 100*l.* This sum being left to my disposal, I took it for the Building Fund.

Jan. 2, 1849. Received from Devonshire 10*l.*, with these words: "A moiety of the first fruits of interest on Bristol Dock Shares from the Town Council of Bristol, towards the New Orphan Building." Thus even the fact, of Bristol being made a free port, was used by the Lord as a means to supply me with this sum.

Jan. 17. The time is now drawing near, when further steps are to be taken to fit up and furnish the house, as more than two thirds of the rooms are all but ready. Under these circumstances I have prayed the more earnestly, day by day, that the Lord would be pleased to give me the means which are yet needed; and as my heart has been assured from the beginning, and all through these three years and two months, since I first began to pray about this subject, that God would in every way help me in this work, so I have also been particularly satisfied that he would be pleased to provide the means which may be required, to meet all the heavy expenses, which yet remain to be met. Now, to-day I have had again a precious answer to my daily supplications with reference to this work; for I received this evening 600*l.*, concerning which it was desired that brother Craik and myself should each take of it 50*l.* for ourselves; the remaining 500*l.* was left entirely to my disposal; yet an especial reference was made to the heavy expenses connected with fitting up and furnishing the New Orphan-House, towards which I might, either in part, or entirely take this sum.—After prayer I have decided on portioning out the money thus: 300*l.* towards fitting up and furnishing the New Orphan-House, 50*l.* for present use for

the Orphans, 50*l.* for the support of the Day Schools, the Sunday School, and the Adult School, 25*l.* for the circulation of the Holy Scriptures, 25*l.* for the circulation of Gospel Tracts, 25*l.* for Foreign Missions, and 25*l.* for the Employment Fund.

With reference to the present of 50*l.* for myself, as mentioned just now, I cannot help calling upon the Christian reader to observe how richly the Lord supplies my own personal necessities. Since 1830 I have had no regular salary nor any stated income whatever. I then began to rely upon the living God alone for the supply of all my temporal necessities; and all these many years I have never once been allowed to regret this step, nor has the Lord at any one time failed me. Often, indeed, I have known what it is to be poor; but for the most part I have abounded. I sought no payment from man for my service for God, whether in the ministry of the Word or as director of the Scriptural Knowledge Institution; but though I did not seek for any payment, the Lord has most abundantly recompensed me, even as to this life. Far the most important point, however, of this my way of living, is, that many of the disciples of the Lord Jesus have had their hearts comforted, and have been encouraged themselves to trust more in God, than they used to do; and it was, moreover, my becoming more experimentally acquainted, through this my way of living, with the readiness of God to help, to succour, to relieve, and to answer prayer, which led me in March 1834 to begin the Scriptural Knowledge Institution, and in November 1835 to care about destitute Orphans.

Jan. 26. Anonymously from the neighbourhood of Nottingham "A gold chain."

Jan. 30. From a professional gentleman in Bristol 50*l.*

Feb. 12. The New Orphan-House is now almost entirely finished. In six weeks, with the help of God, all will be completed. On this account I have been during the last fortnight much occupied in making the necessary arrangements for fitting it up and furnishing it; but the more I have been occupied about this, the more I have seen how large a sum the whole of the fittings and the furniture will require; and this consideration has led me still more earnestly of late to entreat

the Lord, that he would be pleased to give me the means, which may yet be needed for the completion of the whole. Under these circumstances a brother in the Lord came to me this morning, and after a few minutes' conversation gave me Two Thousand Pounds, concerning which sum he kindly gave me permission to use it for the fitting up and furnishing of the New Orphan-House, or for any thing else needed in connexion with the Orphans. I have placed the whole of this sum, at least for the present to the Building Fund. Now, dear Reader, place yourself in my position. Eleven hundred and ninety-five days it is since I began asking the Lord for means for the building and fitting up of an Orphan-House. Day by day have I, by his grace, since that time, continued to bring this matter before him. Without one moment's doubt, or misgiving, or wavering, have I been enabled to trust in God for the means. From the beginning, after I had once ascertained the will of God concerning this work, have I been assured that he would bring it about; yea, as sure have I been from the beginning that he would do so, as if I had already had all the means in hand for it, or as if the house had been actually before me, occupied by the children. But though to faith even three years ago the whole work was accomplished, to sight there remained many and great difficulties to be overcome. And even at the commencement of this day there remained many difficulties, in the way of means, as well as in other respects; and therefore I was on the point of giving myself again especially to prayer, at the very moment when I was informed that the donor of the above mentioned Two Thousand Pounds had called to see me. Now I have the means, as far as I can see, which will enable me to meet all the expenses; and in all probability I shall have even several hundred pounds more than are needed. Thus the Lord shows that he can and will not only give *as much as is absolutely needed* for his work, but also that he can and will give *abundantly*. It is impossible to describe the real joy I had in God, when I received this sum. I was calm, not in the least excited, able to go on immediately with other work that came upon me at once after I had received the donation; but inexpressible was the delight which I had in God,

who had thus given me the full answer to my thousands of prayers, during these eleven hundred and ninety-five days. I notice further concerning this donation: 1, The donor especially desired me to keep his name entirely concealed; and in order that no one might know who he is, he gave me not an order on a bank, but brought the amount in notes. 2, He had intended to leave me this sum for the benefit of the Orphans after his death, and for years it had been on his last will; but he judged it was more according to the will of God to give the money during his life time.

March 31. A brother brought me a gold repeater with a gold chain, to which two gold seals and a gold ring were attached, and told me that he desired to give the chain, seals, and ring towards fitting up the New Orphan-House, and wished me to get him for the gold repeater a silver watch, as the love of Christ had weaned his heart from any desire to use a gold repeater. He also stated, that whatever was over and above from the sale of the repeater, should go for the benefit of the Orphans.

I have thus given a few out of the hundreds of donations, varying from one farthing to 2000*l*., as specimens, to show how the Lord was pleased to furnish me with the means. The total amount, which came in for the Building Fund was 15,784*l*. 18s. 10d. Of this sum 14,914*l*. 5s. 8d. was received by donations in money. 60*l*. 19s. 11d. came in by the sale of articles, given for the purpose. 66*l*. 3s. 10d. by the sale of grass and turf from the field, on which the New Orphan-House was erected. 743*l*. 9s. 5d. came in for Interest; for I considered that, as a steward of large sums, which were intrusted to me, I ought to invest the money, till it was actually needed; and thus this sum was obtained.

After all the expenses had been met for the purchase of the land, the conveyance of the same, the enrolment of the trust deeds in Chancery, the building, fitting up and furnishing of the New Orphan-house, there remained a balance of 776*l*. 14s. 3¾d., affording a manifest proof, that the Lord cannot only supply us with all we need in his service, simply in answer to prayer, but that he can also give us even more than we need. It will be seen how this balance was afterwards used.

Miscellaneous points respecting the Scriptural Knowledge, Institution for Home and Abroad, with reference to the period from May 26, 1848 *to May* 26, 1850.

1, During the whole of this period, five Day Schools, with 329 children in them, were entirely supported by the Funds of this Institution; and some pecuniary assistance was rendered to four other Day Schools. Also a Sunday School, with 168 children, was entirely supported, and another was occasionally assisted. Lastly, an Adult School, with 106 Adult Scholars, was supported during this period. There was expended on these various Schools 851*l.* 1s. 5½d. during these two years.—The number of all the children that were taught in the Day Schools, through the medium of this Institution, from March 5, 1834 to May 26, 1850, amounted to 5114; the number of those in the Sunday Schools amounted to 2200; and the number of the persons in the Adult School to 1737. In all 9051.

2, From May 26, 1848 to May 26, 1850 were circulated 719 Bibles and 239 New Testaments. There was expended on this object, during this period, of the funds of the Institution, 104*l.* 15s. 11d. There were circulated altogether, from March 5, 1834 to May 26, 1850, Six Thousand Four Hundred and Sixty-Five Bibles and Three Thousand Nine Hundred and Ninety-Nine New Testaments.

3, From May 26, 1848 to May 26, 1850 were spent 2574*l.* 16s. 6d. of the Funds of the Institution for missionary objects, whereby 40 preachers of the Gospel in British Guiana, in the East Indies, in Switzerland, in France, in Germany, in Canada, in Scotland, in Ireland, and in England were assisted.

The reader will notice how greatly this object of the Institution was increased during the last four years previous to May 26, 1850. This arose from the fact that, in the early part of 1846, the need of certain brethren who laboured in the word and doctrine came before me, and God laid them on my heart to labour for them in prayer, in order that I might obtain means from him for such brethren to a greater extent than I had done before. Ever since then the Lord has been pleased increasingly to use me in this way. For from May 26, 1846 to May 26, 1848, there was spent for that object nearly three times

as much as during any former period of the same length; and during the period from May 26, 1848 to May 26, 1850, I was not only allowed to do as much as before, but to expend even 1016*l.* 5s. more than during the former period, notwithstanding all the many heavy additional expenses for the various other objects of the Institution.

It is my sweet privilege to state, that the labours of many of these forty servants of the Lord, whom I assisted, were especially owned of God during these two years. There took place very many conversions through their instrumentality. This applies both to those who laboured among idolaters and those among nominal Christians.

4, From May 26, 1848 to May 26, 1850 the sum of 184*l.* 9s. 4½d. was expended on the circulation of Tracts. There were circulated during this period 130,464 Tracts. The total number which was circulated from Nov. 19, 1840 up to May 26, 1850 amounted to 294,128.

As the missionary department was considerably enlarged during these two years, so the Tract department also increased to nearly three times the extent that it was during the former periods, for which I desire to be grateful to the Lord, and I rejoice in it as a means by which the Lord may be pleased to do much good: indeed already we can say, we are not without fruit.

Besides English Tracts, we circulated many in German and French, also some in Welsh, and a few hundreds in Portuguese and Italian.

On May 26, 1848, there were 122 Orphans in the four Orphan-Houses in Wilson Street, Bristol. There were admitted, before the New Orphan-House was opened, 9 fresh Orphans, making 131 in all. Of these, however, one was taken by her relatives to Australia, to which they emigrated, and wished her to accompany them. Three were sent to their relatives till they might be cured, on account of such diseases as made them unfit to be with other children. Two fell asleep in Jesus as decided believers, of whom the one had been several years in the house and converted some months before her death. The other had been only six months under our care, when she died. Almost immediately after her admission she was found to be in consumption, but the Lord allowed us the joy of winning her soul for him. Two girls were sent out to service, both as believers. And

four boys and one girl were apprenticed. The actual number, therefore, of Orphans who were removed from the four rented Orphan-Houses in Wilson Street, Bristol, on June 18th, 19th, 20th, and 21st, 1849, into the New Orphan-House on Ashley Down, Bristol, was 118. Some of these children had been received when the first and second Orphan-Houses in Wilson Street were opened, and had therefore been with us, at the time of the removal, more than twelve years, and they remained several years afterwards; for we keep them as long as it appears to us good for them, irrespective of expense. Thus we have the joy of seeing very delicate and sickly little children grow up and become healthy young men and women, whilst otherwise, humanly speaking, they might never have been reared at all, or, at all events, been sickly all their lives for want of a healthy place of abode, of cleanliness, or a sufficient quantity of wholesome and nourishing food. But especially we have in this way the great joy of seeing many of these Orphans brought to the knowledge of the Lord Jesus, through the blessing which God grants to our training them up in his fear from their *earliest days*. It is never with me a question how much money each child costs, through being retained so long, but only that bodily, mentally, and spiritually they are benefited through our care. To make them useful for time, and to win their souls for the Lord, are our great aims concerning them.

After the New Orphan-House had been opened, and the 118 Orphans from Wilson Street, with their teachers and other overseers, admitted into it, I did not at once receive fresh Orphans; but, in order that all the necessary regulations of the new establishment might be properly made, and, especially, in order that I myself might first learn what was the best way of regulating it, we waited five weeks before the reception of fresh Orphans. On July 24th, 1849, this commenced, and from that time up to May 26, 1850, altogether one hundred and seventy Orphans were received, from ten months old and upwards, so that on May 26, 1850, there would have been 288 Orphans in the New Orphan-House, including the 118 removed into it from Wilson Street, had there been no changes. But of this number two young children died, two Orphans were taken back by their relatives,

who were by that time able to provide for them. One boy was sent back to his relations, partly on account of epileptic fits, and partly on account of oft repeated great disobedience, in order that we might thus make an example of him for the benefit of the rest. Three boys were sent to their relatives, as ready to be apprenticed, and four boys were apprenticed at the expense of the Institution, and provided with an outfit accordingly; and one girl was fitted out and sent to service.

There were, therefore, on May 26, 1850, only Two Hundred and Seventy-five Orphans in the New Orphan-House; and with the teachers, overseers, nurses, and indoor and out-door servants, &c., the whole number of persons connected with the establishment was Three Hundred and Eight. The total number of Orphans, who were under our care from April 1836, up to May 26, 1850, was Four Hundred and Forty-three.

I notice further the following points in connexion with the New Orphan-House.

1. Without any sectarian distinction whatever, and without favour or partiality, Orphans are received. There is no interest whatever required to get a child admitted, nor is it expected that a certain sum should be paid with the Orphans. Three things only are requisite: *a*, that the children should have been born in lawful wedlock; *b*, that they should be bereaved of BOTH parents by death; and *c*, that they should be in destitute circumstances. Respecting these three points strict investigation is made, and it is expected that each of them be proved by proper documents; but that being done, children may be admitted from any place, provided there is nothing peculiar in the case that would make them unsuitable inmates for the establishment.—I particularly request that persons would kindly refrain from applying for children, except they are bereaved of BOTH parents, as I could not receive them, if only bereaved of one, as this establishment has been from the beginning only for destitute children who have *neither father nor mother*, and there can be no exceptions made.

2. I call the attention of the reader to the name of the Orphan Establishment. It is called the "New Orphan-House." I particularly request that the friends of the Institution would use this name. I earnestly beg, in order

to avoid mistake, that it may not be called the "Orphan Asylum," as there is about half a mile from the spot where the "New Orphan-House" has been erected another charitable establishment, which has been for many years in existence, and which is called the "Female Orphan Asylum." But most of all I earnestly request, that the New Orphan-House be not called "Mr. Müller's Orphan-House." I have now and then been pained by observing that this appellation has been given to it. I trust that none, who recognise the finger of God in this work, will be sinning against him by giving to me any measure of that honour which so manifestly and altogether is only due to him. The Lord led me to this work. He gave me faith for it. He sustained my faith for it to the end. He provided the means. He remarkably helped me through one difficulty after the other. Had he not upheld me in the midst of them all, I should have been surely overwhelmed by them. Therefore, by his help, I will not sin by taking even in the smallest degree that honour to myself, which entirely belongs to him; and let none be sinning, by giving the least degree of this honour to me, or admiring me, instead of honouring and admiring the Lord.

3. The New Orphan-House was placed in the hands of eleven trustees chosen by me. The deeds were enrolled in Chancery.

4. The New Orphan-House is fitted up for the accommodation of 140 Orphan Girls above seven years of age, 80 Orphan Boys above seven years, and 80 male and female Orphans from their earliest days, till they are about seven or eight years of age. The infants, after having past the age of seven or eight years, are removed into the different departments for older boys and girls.

5. The New Orphan-House is open to visitors every Wednesday afternoon; but the arrangements of the establishment make it needful, that it should be shown only at that time. No exceptions can be made.—The first party of visitors is shown through the House at half-past two o'clock precisely, God permitting; the second at three o'clock; and, should there be need for it, the third and last party at half-past three o'clock.—As it takes at *least* one hour and a half to see the whole establishment, it is requested that the visitors will be pleased to make

their arrangements accordingly, before they come, as it would be inconvenient, should one or the other leave, before the whole party has seen the House.—From March 1st to Nov. 1st there may be *three* parties shown through the House every Wednesday afternoon; but from Nov. 1st to March 1st only *two* parties can be accommodated, on account of the shortness of the days.

6. Persons who desire to make applications for the admission of Orphans are requested to write to me and address the letter to my house, No. 21, Paul Street, Kingsdown, Bristol.

7. *Without any one having been personally applied to for anything by me*, the sum of 33,868*l.* 11s. 1½d. was given to me for the Orphans, *as the result of prayer to God*, from the commencement of the work up to May 26, 1850.—It may be also interesting to the reader to know that the total amount, which was given as free contributions, for the other objects, from the commencement of the work up to May 26, 1850, amounted to 10,531*l.* 3s. 3¾d.; and that which came in by the sale of Bibles and Tracts, and by the payments of the children in the schools, up to May 26, 1850, amounted to 2,707*l.* 9s. 3½d.—Besides, this, also a great variety and number of articles of clothing, furniture, provisions, &c., were given for the use of the Orphans.

8. The total of the current expenses for the Orphans from May 26, 1848, to May 26, 1849, was 1,559*l.* 6s. 9d., and the total of the current expenses for them from May 26, 1849, to May 26, 1850, was only 2,665*l.* 13s. 2¾d., *i.e.* only about Eleven Hundred Pounds more than the previous year. To avoid misunderstanding, I would request the reader to keep in mind that, though there were above 300 persons connected with the New Orphan-House, on May 26, 1850, and only about 130 in the rented Orphan-Houses in Wilson Street, yet above three weeks of the second year the children were still in Wilson Street, and five weeks afterwards we had only those children who came from Wilson Street into the New Orphan-House; and even when we began to receive fresh Orphans, they came in only four, five, six, seven, or eight a-week, so that only by little and little our expenses increased.—It is also needful, in order to have a correct view of the expenses connected with the Orphans, to take into account the

presents in rice, bread, coals, calico, print, shoes, &c., worth about 200*l.*, which were given during these two years.

Matters connected with my own personal affairs, from May 26, 1848, to May 26, 1850.

Dec. 31, 1848. During this year the Lord was pleased to give me—

1. By anonymous offerings in money, put up in paper and directed to me, and put into the boxes for the poor saints or the rent, at the two chapels . .	£156	7	1
2. By presents in money, from believers in Bristol, not given anonymously .	157	14	6
3. By presents in money, from believers not residing in Bristol . . .	145	0	0
4. By presents in provisions, clothes, etc., from believers in and out of Bristol, worth to us at least	15	16	0
	£474	17	7

To this is again to be added, for this year also, as before stated, the free education of my daughter at a boarding school, worth at least 50*l.*

Dec. 31, 1849. The Lord sent me during this year—

1. By anonymous offerings in money, through the boxes in the two chapels .	£149	14	9
2. By presents in money from believers in Bristol, not given anonymously . .	101	3	0
3. By presents in money, from believers not residing in Bristol . . .	158	19	7
4. By presents in articles, worth at least .	3	5	0
	£413	2	4

Full account of the reasons which led me to the enlargement of the Orphan work, so that One Thousand Orphans might be provided for.

I wrote down at full length the exercises of my mind respecting this deeply important step, which I felt led to take, and I give them here, in the form of a journal, as I recorded them at the time.

Dec. 5, 1850. It is now sixteen years and nine months this evening, since I began the Scriptural Knowledge Institution for Home and Abroad. This Institution was in its beginning exceedingly small. Now it is so large, that I have not only disbursed, since its commencement, about Fifty Thousand Pounds sterling, but that also the current expenses, after the rate of the last months, amount to above £6,000 a year. I did "open my mouth wide," this very evening fifteen years ago, and the Lord has filled it. The New Orphan-House is now inhabited by 300 Orphans; and there are altogether 335 persons connected with it. My labour is abundant. The separation from my dear wife and child great, on account of my being the greater part of the day at the New Orphan-House; sometimes also by night. But notwithstanding all this, I have again and again thought about labouring more than ever in serving poor Orphans. Within the last ten days this matter has much occupied my mind, and for the last five days I have had much prayer about it. It has passed through my mind to build another Orphan-House, large enough for Seven Hundred Orphans, so that I might be able to care for One Thousand altogether. The points which have led me to this thought are: 1, The many distressing cases of children, bereaved of *both* parents, who have no helper. I have received 207 Orphans within the last sixteen months, and have now 78 waiting for admission, without having vacancies for any. I had about 60 children waiting for admission about sixteen months since, so about 230 children have been applied for within these sixteen months. But, humanly speaking, for the next sixteen months the number of applications will be far greater, as the work is now so much more widely known; except it be that persons may hear that the New Orphan-House is quite full, and on that account may consider it useless to apply. 2, The constitution of most other charitable Institutions for Orphans makes the admission of a really destitute Orphan, *i.e.* a child bereaved of *both* parents, and *without an influential friend*, very difficult, if not hopeless; for the admission by means of the votes of the donors precludes *really poor* persons from having, in most instances, the benefit of these Institutions, as they cannot give the time nor expend the money necessary for obtaining such

votes. I have myself seen that certain candidates had several thousand votes. The necessity of this arrangement being continued may be much regretted by many who are connected with such Institutions, but they have no power to alter it. In our case nothing is needed but application to me; and the *very poorest person, without influence, without friends, without any expense*, no matter where he lives, or of whatever religious denomination, who applies for children born in lawful wedlock, bereaved of *both* parents, and in destitute circumstances, may procure their admission. Now as the new Poor-law is against giving relief to relatives for Orphan children out of the Poor Houses; and as there is such a difficulty for really poor people to get their Orphan relatives admitted into ordinary Orphan Establishments; I feel myself particularly called upon to be the Friend of the Orphan, by making an easy way for admission, *provided it is really a destitute case.* 3, The confidence which God has caused thousands of his children to repose in me, calls upon me to make use of it to the utmost of my power, and to seek yet more largely to be their almoner. 4, The experience which I have had in this service now for fifteen years, during which time I have gone from the smallest commencement of the work to the having at present 300 Orphans under my care, calls upon me to make use of this my experience to the utmost of my power. No member of a committee, no president of a society, could possibly have the same experience, except he himself had practically been engaged in such a work for a number of years, as I have been. 5, This very experience makes things light to me, under God's help, which were difficult to me formerly, and which would be very difficult now to many: might I not therefore proceed still further? 6, If 700 more young souls could be brought under regular godly training, (and their number would be renewed from time to time,) what blessed service for the kingdom of Christ, and what profitable expenditure of labour too, with the blessing of God, even for this realm in a civil and moral point of view! 7, But that which outweighs every one of these six reasons, is lastly this: I began this Orphan Work fifteen years ago for the very purpose of illustrating to the world and to the church that there is verily a God in heaven who hears prayer; that God is

the living God. (See fully about this in "Narrative of the Lord's dealings with George Müller," under the reasons why I began the Orphan Work in 1835, 1st Part, page 144—148, of the Fifth Edition.) Now this last object is more and more fully accomplished the larger the work is, provided I am helped in obtaining the means simply through prayer and faith.

But whilst such like thoughts have passed through my mind, there are others of another character. For instance, 1, I have already an abundance of work. 2, My dear wife has already an abundance of work. Her whole time, with little intermission, (except for prayer and reading of the Word of God,) is occupied directly or indirectly about the Orphans. 3, Am I not undertaking too much for my bodily strength and my mental powers, by thinking about another Orphan-House? 4, Am I not going beyond the measure of my faith in thinking about enlarging the work so as to double or treble it? 5, Is not this a delusion of Satan, an attempt to cast me down altogether from my sphere of usefulness, by making me to go beyond my measure? 6, Is it not also, perhaps, a snare to puff me up, in attempting to build a very large Orphan-House?

Under these circumstances I can only pray that the Lord in his tender mercy would not allow Satan to gain an advantage over me. By the grace of God my heart says: Lord if I could be sure that it is thy will, that I should go forward in this matter, I would do so cheerfully; and, on the other hand, if I could be sure, that these are vain, foolish, proud thoughts, that they are not from thee, I would, by thy grace, hate them, and entirely put them aside.

My hope is in God; he will help me and teach me. Judging, however, from his former dealings with me, it would not be a strange thing to me, nor surprising, if he called me to labour yet still more largely in this way.

The thoughts about enlarging the Orphan Work have not arisen on account of an abundance of money having lately come in; for I have had of late to wait for about seven weeks upon God, whilst little, very little comparatively, came in, *i.e.*, about four times as much was going out as came in; and, had not the Lord previously sent me large sums, we should have been distressed indeed.

Lord! How can thy servant know thy will in this matter? Wilt thou be pleased to teach him!

Dec. 11, 1850. During the last six days, since writing the above, I have been, day after day, waiting upon God concerning this matter. It has generally been more or less all the day on my heart. When I have been awaking at night it has not been far from my thoughts. Yet all this without the least excitement. I am perfectly calm and quiet respecting it. My soul would be rejoiced to go forward in this service, could I be sure that the Lord would have me to do so; for then, notwithstanding the numberless difficulties, all would be well, and his name would be magnified.

On the other hand, were I assured that the Lord would have me to be satisfied with my present sphere of service, and that I should not pray about enlarging the work, by his grace I could, *without an effort*, cheerfully yield to it; for he has brought me into such a state of heart that I only desire to please him in this matter. Moreover, hitherto I have not spoken about this thing even to my beloved wife, the sharer of my joys and sorrows and labours for more than twenty years; nor is it likely that I shall do so for some time to come: for I prefer quietly waiting on the Lord, without conversing on this subject, in order that thus I may be kept the more easily, by his blessing, from being influenced by things from without. The burden of my prayer concerning this matter is, that the Lord would not allow me to make a mistake, and that he would teach me his will. As to outward things, I have had nothing to encourage me during these six days, but the very reverse; for the income, for the various objects of the Scriptural Knowledge Institution for Home and Abroad, has been unusually small, only 6*l.* 14s. altogether, while the outgoings have been 133*l.* 11s. 7d. But all this would not weigh the least with me, could I be quite sure that the Lord would have me to go forward.

The especial burden of my prayer therefore is, that God would be pleased to teach me his will. My mind has also been especially pondering, how I could know his will satisfactorily concerning this particular. Sure I am, that I shall be taught. I therefore desire patiently to wait for the Lord's time, when he shall be pleased to shine on my path concerning this point.

Dec. 26. Fifteen days have elapsed since I wrote the preceding paragraph. Every day since then I have continued to pray about this matter, and that with a goodly measure of earnestness, by the help of God. There has passed away scarcely an hour during these days, in which, whilst awake, this matter has not been more or less before me. But all without even a shadow of excitement. I converse with no one about it. Hitherto have I not even done so with my dear wife. From this I refrain still, and deal with God alone about the matter, in order that no outward influence, and no outward excitement, may keep me from attaining unto a clear discovery of his will. I have the fullest and most peaceful assurance, that he will clearly show me his will. This evening I have had again an especial solemn season for prayer, to seek to know the will of God. But whilst I continue to entreat and beseech the Lord, that he would not allow me to be deluded in this business, I may say that I have scarcely any doubt remaining on my mind as to what will be the issue, even that I should go forward in this matter. As this, however, is one of the most momentous steps that I have ever taken, I judge that I cannot go about this matter with too much caution, prayerfulness, and deliberation. I am in no hurry about it. I could wait for years, by God's grace, were this his will, before even taking one single step towards this thing, or even speaking to any one about it; and, on the other hand, I would set to work to-morrow, were the Lord to bid me do so. This calmness of mind, this having no will of my own in the matter, this only wishing to please my Heavenly Father in it, this only seeking his and not my honour in it; this state of heart, I say, is the fullest assurance to me that my heart is not under a fleshly excitement, and that, if I am helped thus to go on, I shall know the will of God to the full. But, while I write thus, I cannot but add at the same time, that I do crave the honour and the glorious privilege to be more and more used by the Lord. I have served Satan much in my younger years, and I desire now with all my might to serve God, during the remaining days of my earthly pilgrimage. I am forty-five years and three months old. Every day decreases the number of days that I have to stay on earth. I therefore desire with all my might to

work. There are vast multitudes of Orphans to be provided for. About five years ago a brother in the Lord told me that he had seen in an official Report, that there were at that time six thousand young Orphans in the prisons of England. My heart longs to be instrumental in preventing such young Orphans from having to go to prison. I desire to be used by the Lord as an instrument in providing all the necessary temporal supplies, not only for the 300 now under my care, but for 700 more. I desire to alleviate yet further the sufferings of poor dying widows, when looking on their helpless Orphans, about to be left behind. I desire yet further to assist poor persons to whom destitute Orphans are left, and who are unable to provide for them. I desire to be allowed to provide Scriptural Instruction for a thousand Orphans, instead of doing so for 300. I desire to expound the Holy Scriptures regularly to a thousand Orphans, instead of doing so to 300. I desire that thus it may be yet more abundantly manifest that God is still the hearer and answerer of prayer, and that he is the living God now, as he ever was and ever will be, when he shall, simply in answer to prayer, have condescended to provide me with a house for 700 Orphans, and with means to support them. This last consideration is the most important point in my mind. The Lord's honour is the principal point with me in this whole matter; and just because that is the case, if he would be more glorified by my not going forward in this business, I should, by his grace, be perfectly content to give up all thoughts about another Orphan House. Surely, in such a state of mind, obtained by thy Holy Spirit, thou, O my Heavenly Father, wilt not suffer thy child to be mistaken, much less to be deluded! By the help of God I shall continue further, day by day, to wait upon him in prayer concerning this thing, till he shall bid me act.

Jan. 2, 1851. A week ago I wrote the preceding paragraph. During this week I have still been helped, day by day, and more than once every day, to seek the guidance of the Lord about another Orphan House. The burden of my prayer has still been, that he, in his great mercy, would keep me from making a mistake. During the last week the Book of Proverbs has come in the course of my Scripture reading, and my heart has been

refreshed, in reference to this subject, by the following passages: "Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths." Prov. iii. 5, 6. By the grace of God I do acknowledge the Lord in my ways, and in this thing in particular; I have therefore the comfortable assurance that he will direct my paths concerning this part of my service, as to whether I shall be occupied in it or not. Further, "The integrity of the upright shall preserve them; but the perverseness of fools shall destroy them." Prov. xi. 3. By the grace of God I am upright in this business. My honest purpose is to get glory to God. Therefore I expect to be guided aright. Further, "Commit thy works unto the Lord, and thy thoughts shall be established." Prov. xvi. 3. I do commit my works unto the Lord, I therefore expect that my thoughts will be established.—My heart is more and more coming to a calm, quiet, and settled assurance that the end will be, that the Lord will condescend to use me yet further in the Orphan Work. Here, Lord, is thy servant!

Jan. 14. Twelve days have passed away since I wrote the last paragraph. I have still day by day been enabled to wait upon the Lord with reference to my enlarging the Orphan Work. I have been, during the whole of this period also, in perfect peace, which is the result of seeking in this thing only the Lord's honour and the temporal and spiritual benefit of my fellowmen. Without an effort could I, by his grace, put aside all thoughts about this whole affair, could I be only assured that it is the will of God that I should do so; and, on the other hand, at once would I go forward, if he would have it to be so. I have still kept this matter entirely to myself. Though it is now about seven weeks, since day by day, more or less, my mind has been exercised about it, and since I have daily prayed concerning it, yet not one human being knows of it. As yet I have not mentioned it even to my dear wife, in order that thus, by quietly waiting upon the Lord, I might not be influenced by what might be said to me on the subject. This evening I have particularly set apart for prayer, beseeching the Lord once more, not to allow me to be mistaken in this thing, and much less to be deluded by the Devil.

I have also sought to let all the reasons *against* building another Orphan House, and all the reasons *for* doing so, pass before my mind; and I now, for the sake of clearness and definiteness, write them down.

Reasons AGAINST *establishing another Orphan House for Seven Hundred Orphans.*

1. Would not this be going beyond my measure *spiritually*? according to that word: "For I say, through the grace given unto me, to every man that is among you, not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think; but to think soberly, according as God has dealt to every man the measure of faith." Rom. xii. 3. Answer: If the Lord were to leave me to myself, the tenth part of the difficulties and trials, which befall me now in connexion with the various objects of the Scriptural Knowledge Institution for Home and Abroad, would be enough to overwhelm me; but, whilst he is pleased to sustain me, I am able day by day to pass on peacefully, and am carried through one difficulty after the other: and thus, by God's help, even with my present measure of faith, if continued to me, I should be enabled to bear up under other difficulties and trials; but I look for an increase of faith with every fresh difficulty through which the Lord is pleased to help me.

2. Would it not be going beyond my measure *naturally*, with reference to mental and bodily strength? Answer: Of all the objections against establishing another Orphan House, there is none that weighs more with me than this one: I might say, it is the only real difficulty. This, however, too, I am enabled to put aside and to overcome thus: By husbanding my strength, by great order, by regular habits, by lightening the work as much as possible, by using every help that I can, I have been enabled to get through a vast quantity of work. My immense correspondence of about 3000 letters a-year, I have been enabled to accomplish without a secretary. The whole management and direction, and the whole vast correspondence of the Scriptural Knowledge Institution has devolved upon myself alone these sixteen years and ten months, and I have been thinking that, by seeking for an efficient secretary, and an efficient clerk, and an

inspector of the schools, I might, with God's help, accomplish yet more, though much of what I have been doing hitherto would need to be done by others. There have been several other arrangements brought before my mind, since I have been exercised about this matter, whereby, with the blessing of God, the work might be lightened. I should certainly need efficient helpers to carry out the plans before me; but with such, I, as director, might be enabled, by God's help, to accomplish yet more.

3. There must be a limit to my work and service. Answer: That is true, and if I were quite sure that the present state of the Scriptural Knowledge Institution were to be the limit, I would at once lay aside this thing; but I am not sure that I am come as yet to God's limit. All these sixteen years and ten months, the work has been constantly progressing, and the Lord has helped me continually; and now my mind is just in the same way exercised, as when fifteen years ago I began the Orphan Work, and as when thirteen years ago I enlarged the Orphan Work, and as when seven years and nine months since I still further enlarged the Orphan Work, and as when five years and two months since I was led to decide on building the New Orphan House. Under these circumstances, having been helped through all these difficulties, and seeing such a vast field of usefulness before me, and as I have so many applications for the admission of very destitute orphans, I long to be used still further, and cannot say that as yet the Lord has brought me to his limit.

4. Is it not like "tempting God," to think of building another Orphan House for seven hundred more orphans? Answer: "Tempting God" means, according to the Holy Scriptures, to limit him in any of his attributes; I, by his grace, do not wish to limit his power or his willingness, to give to me, his poor servant, simply in answer to prayer, all the means, and every other help and blessing which I shall need to build another large Orphan House.

5. You will not get the means for building and fitting up so large an Orphan House; and, even if you did, how will you *at the same time* get the means for carrying on the work, which already exists? Answer: Looking at the matter *naturally*, this is indeed a weighty objection.

The New Orphan House, with its 300 Orphans only, cost about fifteen thousand pounds to build and to fit up and furnish, and still the expenses are not all met even now. It will in all probability cost several hundred pounds yet. And this large sum was needed, though the style of the building is most simple, and though the field in which it was built was comparatively cheap. After this rate, a building to accommodate seven hundred Orphans, with the necessary ground attached to it for the cultivation of the vegetables used in the Institution, could not be less than thirty-five thousand pounds. Now, looking at it naturally, where is this great sum to come from? Though I looked at all my friends who have given hitherto, and several have done so very liberally, yet I should have no natural prospect whatever, that I should receive this amount; especially, if it be kept in mind that I should need six or seven thousand pounds besides, every year, for carrying on *that which is already in existence*. I might, therefore, well tremble, looking at the matter naturally, and say, I shall never have the money for this intended Orphan House for 700 children; for where is this large sum of thirty-five thousand pounds to come from? And even if I were to get the money, will not persons, in giving means for such a Building Fund, take it away from what they might have given me for carrying on the work which exists already? But whilst thus, *naturally*, I have no hope of succeeding, I am not in the least discouraged *spiritually;* for by faith in the living God I say this: He has the power to give me this thirty-five thousand pounds, and much more, were it needed: and he has the power, in the mean time, to give me also all the large sums required, week after week, for meeting the current expenses for the present state of the work. Moreover, I delight in the greatness of the difficulty, as it respects the large sum needed for building and fitting up such an Establishment; for I desire to be most fully assured, from the very outset, that I go forward in this matter according to the Lord's bidding. If so, he will give me the means: if not, I shall not have them. Nor do I mean to apply to any one personally for pecuniary help, but purpose to give myself to prayer for means, as heretofore.

6. Suppose now, you were even to succeed in getting this large Orphan House built, how will you be able to provide for 700 other Orphans? Answer: There is much weight in this objection, looking at it *naturally*. I am too much a man of business, and too much a person of calm, quiet, cool calculation, not to feel its force. And indeed, were I only to look at the thing *naturally*, I should at once be ready to own that I am going too far; for the increase of expenditure for the support of these 700 other Orphans could not be less than eight thousand pounds a-year more, so that the current expenses of the Scriptural Knowledge Institution, reckoning its present state, and including those eight thousand pounds, would be about fifteen thousand pounds a-year. Now, I am free to own, that I have no human prospect of obtaining such a sum year by year. But while matters stand thus, looking at them *naturally*, I see no difficulty at all in them *spiritually*. If according to the will of God I am enabled to go about this intended second Orphan House; and if, under his help, I shall be enabled to finish it; he will surely provide for those who are gathered together in it, as long as he shall be pleased to enable me to trust in him for supplies. And here I look back upon the way in which the Lord has led me and dealt with me. When, about seventeen years ago, I took up, in dependance upon the living God for means, two Charity Schools, with which the Scriptural Knowledge Institution commenced (and this involved an expense of less than one hundred pounds a-year), I had no certain prospect of being able to meet even that small sum; but God so helped me, that I had shortly *six* Charity Schools. He helped me then also, and enabled me to meet all their expenses. When, fifteen years ago, I began the Orphan Work, which was connected with far heavier expenses, I had still less prospect, according to natural reason, of being able to meet *them;* but I trusted in God, and he helped me, and he not only enabled me to meet the current expenses for thirty Orphans in the first house rented for them, but enabled me also soon to open another for thirty-six more, and I was also enabled to meet all those expenses; for as I had begun in faith in the living God, and not in putting my trust in my brethren in Christ, so I was not confounded. After I had gone on some time

with these Orphans in the two rented houses, about thirteen years ago the Lord was pleased greatly to encourage me and to increase my faith by a donation of 500*l.* for the Orphans; for up to that period I had never received more than One Hundred Pounds at once. But this kind donor, a stranger to me up to that time, suggested to me the propriety of investing this sum and using only the interest of it, as I could not expect to have the Orphans supported for a continuance in the way they had been till then; for that such Institutions must depend upon regular subscriptions or funded property, otherwise they could not go on. As, however, this was only a friendly hint, and no condition under which the money was given, I took this 500*l.* towards fitting up a third house, for the reception of thirty more Orphans. From that time the work has been increasing more and more, till it is come to what it is at present. Now suppose I had said seventeen years ago, looking at matters according to natural reason, "the two Charity Schools are enough, I must not go any further;" then the work would have stopped there. Or, if I had had a little more trust in my exertions or my friends, I might have taken at the utmost one or two steps further. Instead of this, however, I looked in no degree whatever at things according to my natural fallen reason, and I trusted not in the circle of my Christian friends, but in the living God; and the result has been, that there have been since 1834 ten thousand souls under our instruction in the various Day Schools, Sunday Schools and Adult Schools; several hundred Orphans have been brought up, and many of them from their very tenderest infancy; several hundred thousand tracts and many thousand copies of the Word of God have been circulated; about forty preachers of the Gospel at Home and Abroad have been, for several years, assisted in connexion with the Scriptural Knowledge Institution; and a house has been built and fitted up for the accommodation of 300 destitute Orphans, each of whom has neither father nor mother. How blessed therefore is it, to trust in God, and in him alone, and not in circumstances nor friends! There is, however, one thing which I must record here, because it has taken place since I last wrote in my journal on this subject on January 2nd. It is this. During these twelve days I

have received for the various objects of the Scriptural Knowledge Institution in smaller donations 64*l.* 15s. 6½d., also a donation of 150*l.*, and one of 3000*l.* Is not this a plain proof that God is both able and willing to help, simply in answer to prayer? Is not human reason confounded by such instances? When I first began to write these exercises of my mind about another Orphan House, I knew not that on January 4th I should receive a donation of 3000*l.*; yet I was fully assured that God was able to support one thousand Orphans as easily as he did the thirty whom I first received in a rented house. Does he not, however, tell me by all this: Go forward, my servant, and I will help thee?

7. But, it might be said, suppose you were able by prayer to obtain this large sum for building a house for seven hundred other Orphans; and suppose you were able to provide for them during your lifetime, what would become of this Institution after your death? Answer: I am quite familiar with this objection. I have heard it many times as a reason against the way of obtaining the means for the Scriptural Knowledge Institution, simply by trusting in God, without any funded property, and without looking to regular subscribers; but my reply is this. My business is, with all my might to serve my own generation; in doing so I shall best serve the next generation, should the Lord Jesus tarry. Soon he may come again; but, if he tarry, and I have to fall asleep before his return, I shall not have been altogether without profit to the generation to come, were the Lord only to enable me to serve my own generation. Suppose this objection were a sound one, I ought never to have commenced the Orphan Work at all, for fear of what might become of it after my death, and thus all the hundreds of destitute children without father and mother, whom the Lord has allowed me to care for, during the last fifteen years, would not have been taken up by me. The same argument was again and again used to Franké, my esteemed countryman, who at Hallé, in Prussia, commenced about A.D. 1696, the largest charitable establishment for poor children that, as far as I know, exists in the world. He trusted in God alone. He went on trusting in God alone. And God helped him throughout abundantly. Simply by trust in the living God the Institutions, resembling a large street

rather than a house, were erected, and about two thousand children instructed in them. For about thirty years all was going on under his own eye, until 1727, when it pleased God to take his servant to himself. At his death these Institutions were directed by his truly pious son-in-law. It is true that, at the latter part of the last century, and during the first part of the present, there was little real vital godliness in these Institutions; still they were a temporal blessing to many tens of thousands of young persons even then. So then for several tens of years they were carried on in a truly Godly way, after Franké's death, and when afterwards there was but little real, vital godliness found in these schools, yet tens of thousands of children were benefited at least for this life. Now these Institutions have existed already 150 years, and are in existence still; and, if the Lord Jesus tarry, are likely, humanly speaking, to exist hereafter, as they have existed hitherto. Suppose, then, that dear man of God, A. H. Franké, had listened to the suggestions of unbelief, and said, I must not undertake this work, for what will become of it after my death, then all the blessing which spiritually resulted from it to thousands, and all the temporal benefits which have resulted from it to hundreds of thousands, would have been lost. I add, however, this. The New Orphan House has been placed in the hands of eleven trustees, and has been properly enrolled in Chancery, and so also, should God condescend to honour me further in building for him this intended house for 700 Orphans, it would likewise be placed in the hands of trustees and enrolled in Chancery. I say one word in conclusion on this subject; let every one take heed lest, in caring about what will become of the next generation, he forget to serve his own generation. The latter, each one should seek to do with his might, and thus it should be with each succeeding generation; then, though we be dead, yet should we be speaking. A. H. Franké is long since gone to his rest, but he spoke to my soul in 1826, and he is speaking to my soul now; and to his example I am greatly indebted in having been stirred up to care about poor children in general, and about poor Orphans in particular.

8. The last objection which has occurred to my own mind is, that, by building another Orphan House, I

should be in danger of being lifted up. Answer: I should be in danger of it indeed; and so I am in great danger, even were I not in the least degree to go forward. Yea, the tenth part of the honour which the Lord has condescended to bestow upon me, and the tenth part of service with which he has been pleased to intrust me, would be enough, if I were left to myself, exceedingly to puff me up. I cannot say that hitherto the Lord has kept me humble; but I can say, that hitherto he has given me a hearty desire to give to him all the glory, and to consider it a great condescension on his part that he has been pleased to use me as an instrument in his service. I do not see, therefore, that fear of being lifted up ought to keep me from going forward in this work; but that I have rather to beseech the Lord that he would be pleased to give me a lowly mind, and never suffer me to rob him of the glory which is due to him alone.

Jan. 25. Great pressure of work has kept me from going on in writing my reasons FOR establishing another Orphan House till now, but being more and more convinced that it is of God that I should do so, I now proceed in writing.

Reasons FOR *establishing another Orphan House for Seven Hundred Orphans.*

1. The many applications for the admission of destitute Orphans, which continue to be made, I consider as a call from God upon me, to do all that is in my power to provide a Home and Scriptural Education for a still greater number of Orphans. Nothing but positive inability to go forward ought to keep me standing still, whilst I have almost daily fresh entreaties to receive Orphans. Since I began writing on this subject in my journal, thirty more Orphans have been applied for, from two years' old and upward. I cannot refuse to help, as long as I see a door open, and opened by God, as I consider, to help them.

2. The moral state of the Poorhouses greatly influences me to go forward. I have heard it again and again, from good authority, that children, placed to the Unions, are corrupted, on account of the children of vagrants, and

other very bad young people who are in such places; so that many poor relatives of Orphans, though unable to provide for them, cannot bear the idea of their going there, lest they should be corrupted. I therefore judge that, even for the sake of keeping Orphans of poor yet respectable people from being obliged to mix with the children of vagabonds, I ought to do, to my utmost power, all I can to help them. For this reason, then, I purpose, in dependance upon the living God, to go forward and to establish another Orphan House for seven hundred destitute children, who are bereaved of both parents. When I write thus about the Poorhouses, I do not wish it to be understood in the way of reproof: for I know not how these matters could be altered; but I simply state the fact that thus it is.

3. In this my purpose I am the more confirmed, since I know it to be a fact, that the Orphan Houses already in existence in the kingdom are by no means sufficient to admit *even the most deserving and distressing cases*, and far less all that it would be well to provide for. Moreover, there is great difficulty connected with the admission of an Orphan into most of the ordinary Orphan Establishments, on account of the votes which must be obtained, so that *really* needy persons have neither time nor money to obtain them. Does not the fact that there were six thousand young Orphans in the prisons of England about five years ago, call aloud for an extension of Orphan Institutions? By God's help I will try to do what I can to keep poor Orphans from prison.

4. In this purpose I am still further encouraged by the great help which the Lord has hitherto given me in this blessed service. When I look at the small beginning, and consider how the Lord has helped me now for more than fifteen years in the Orphan work; and when I consider how he has been pleased to help me through one great difficulty after another; and when I consider, especially, how, as with an unseen hand, I might say, almost against my will and former desires and thoughts, he has led me on from one step to another, and has enlarged the work more and more: I say, when I review all this, and compare with it my present exercise of mind, I find the great help, the uninterrupted help, which the

Lord has given me for more than fifteen years, a great reason for going forward in this work. And this, trusting in him, I am resolved to do.

5. A further reason for going forward in this service I see in the experience which I have had in it. From the smallest commencement up to the present state of the establishment, with its 300 Orphans, all has gone through my own hands. In the work itself I obtained the experience. *It* has grown *with the work*. I have been the sole director of the work, under God, from its smallest commencement. Now this is not an every day case. No committee member of a society, no president or vice-president of an institution, except they had been situated as myself, could have this experience. Coupled with this is the measure of gift which the Lord has been pleased to give me for such work, and for the exercise of which I am responsible to him. These things, in connexion with the former reasons, it appears to me, are a call from God to go forward in a greater degree than ever in this work.

6. The spiritual benefit of still more Orphans is another especial reason with me, why I feel called to go forward. The Orphans who have been under my care hitherto were almost all the children of parents who were naturally weak in body, if not consumptive. The very fact of a child being deprived of *both* parents when four, five, six, or seven years old, shows that, except the parents lost their lives by casualty, they were constitutionally weak. On this account young Orphans, generally speaking, require particular care as to their health. In this respect I desire to care for them; but there is more than that to be attended to. I further heartily desire to keep them from the corrupting and demoralizing effect of the lowest sort of children in the streets and courts and Unions; but I desire more for them than mere decency and morality. I desire that they should be useful members of society, and that the prisons of the United Kingdom should not be filled with poor, destitute, and homeless Orphans, and we bring them up therefore in habits of industry, and seek to instruct them in those things which are useful for the life that now is; but I desire more than this for the Orphans. I cannot be satisfied with anything concerning them short of this, that their souls be won for the Lord. For this reason I

long to have them from their early days, yea, the younger the better, under my care, that thus, under the care of godly nurses and teachers, they may be brought up from their earliest days in the fear of the Lord. Now as this is the chief and primary aim concerning the dear Orphans, even the salvation of their souls through faith in the Lord Jesus, I long to be more extensively used than hitherto, even that I may have a thousand of them instead of three hundred under my care.

7. But there is one point which weighs more strongly with me than even the last mentioned one. It is this. When I began the Orphan Work more than fifteen years ago, it was for the definite and especial purpose, that, by means of it, the unconverted might see, through the answers of prayer that I received in connexion with it, that there is verily reality in the things of God; and that the children of God might have their faith strengthened by means of it, and might be encouraged, in all simplicity, to deal with God under every circumstance, and trust in him at all times. But if this would be answered in a measure by the state in which the Orphan Work has been in former times, and more so by what it has been since the erection of the New Orphan House, it would be still more so, by the blessing of God, by my going forward in it to a far greater degree than before. This point, even the glory of God in the manifestation of his readiness to hear prayer, has weighed especially and supremely with me in purposing to enlarge the Orphan Work. [The reader is particularly requested to read what has been said on this subject in the first part of this Narrative from page 144 to 148.]

8. Lastly, I am peaceful and happy, spiritually, in the prospect of enlarging the work, as on former occasions when I had to do so. This weighs particularly with me as a reason for going forward. After all the calm, quiet, prayerful consideration of the subject for about eight weeks, I am peaceful and happy, spiritually, in the purpose of enlarging the field. This, after all the heart searching which I have had, and the daily prayer to be kept from delusion and mistake in this thing, and the betaking myself to the Word of God, would not be the case, I judge, had not the Lord purposed to condescend to use me more than ever in this service.

I, therefore, on the ground of the objections answered, and these eight reasons FOR enlarging the work, come to the conclusion that it is the will of the blessed God, that his poor and most unworthy servant should yet more extensively serve him in this work, which he is quite willing to do.

Up to this day, January 25, 1851, I have not spoken to one human being about it. As yet even my dear wife knows not about it. I purpose to keep the matter still for some time entirely to myself, dealing with God alone about it, in order that no outward excitement may be in the least degree a stimulus to me. I still pray to be kept from mistake and delusion in this thing; not that I think I am mistaken or deluded, quite the reverse, but yet I would distrust myself and cling to God, to be kept from mistakes and delusions.

January 31st. For several weeks past I have now had no doubt, that the Lord would have me to serve him in the erection and fitting up of another Orphan House for seven hundred Orphans, and I am quite decided on doing so, under his help, and I am now quiet about it, not because I have the least misgiving in my own mind, but because I know that it is most suitable that I should still for some time continue to deal quietly with God alone about it.

March 5th. Nearly five weeks have passed away since I wrote the last paragraph, and my mind has not been once during this time, even for a moment, in uncertainty as to what I ought to do. It is now about fifteen weeks since I have been especially praying about this subject, and three months since I began first to write on the subject in my journal, and about ten weeks since I have had any doubt as to what is the will of the Lord concerning this service. I believe that, altogether unworthy though I am of this great honour, he will condescend to use me further and more extensively than before in caring for destitute children who are bereaved of both parents. And this I purpose to do.

April 5th. Another month has passed away, and my mind is just in the same state as it was when I wrote in my journal on the subject on March 5th.

May 5th. One more month has passed away, and still

my mind remains quietly assured that, utterly unworthy though I am to be allowed to go forward in this work, and great though the difficulties are, which must be overcome, yet that it is the will of God that I should serve him in this way. It is now this day five months since I first wrote on this subject in my journal, and longer even than that since it has been before me, during which time I have day by day prayed concerning this matter.

May 24th. From the time that I began to write down the exercises of my mind on Dec. 5th, 1850, till this day, ninety-two more Orphans have been applied for, and seventy-eight were already waiting for admission before. But this number increases rapidly as the work becomes more and more known.

On the ground of what has been recorded above, I purpose to go forward in this service, and to seek to build, to the praise and honour of the living God, another Orphan House, large enough to accommodate seven hundred Orphans.

When I published these exercises of my mind, and made known my purpose respecting the intended Orphan House for 700 Orphans, in the Twelfth Report of the Scriptural Knowledge Institution, the following particulars were added to what has been stated.

1. All this time, though now six months have elapsed since I first began to be exercised about this matter, I have never once been led to ask the Lord for means for this work, but have only continued day by day to seek guidance from him as to whether I should undertake it or not.

2. The means requisite, to accomplish the building and fitting up of a house, which shall be really suitable for my intended purposes, though the building be quite simple, cannot be less than Thirty-Five Thousand Pounds, including fifteen or twenty acres of land round the building for cultivation by the spade, in order to obtain out of our own grounds all the vegetables, which are so important to the health of the children.

3. I do not mean to begin the building until I have the means requisite in hand, just as was the case with regard to the New Orphan House. If God will condescend to use me in building for him another Orphan

House (as I judge he will), he will give me the means for it. Now though I have not on my own mind any doubt left that it is his will that I should do so, which has been stated again and again in the preceding pages; yet there is one point still wanting for confirmation, and that is that he will also furnish me, without personal application to any one, with all the means requisite for this new part of my service. I am the more needing also to my own soul this last of all the proofs that I have not been mistaken (as I firmly believe I have not been), in order to have unquestionable assurance that, whatever trials hereafter might be allowed to befall me in connexion with this work, I did not at my own bidding and according to my own natural desire undertake it, but that it was under the guidance of God. The greatness of the sum required affords me a kind of secret joy; for the greater the difficulty to be overcome, the more will it be seen to the glory of God, how much can be done by prayer and faith; and also, because, when God himself overcomes our difficulties for us, we have, in this very fact, the assurance that we are engaged in his work and not in our own.

4. It is intended to place this Orphan House also, as was the New Orphan House, in the hands of godly Trustees.

5. Orphans from any part of the world, provided they speak English, *if bereaved of both parents, born in wedlock, and in destitute circumstances*, are intended to be admitted, *as is the case now*, irrespective of any sectarian feeling or preference whatever. Neither entrance money nor any particular interest will be required, in order to obtain a ticket for the admission of destitute Orphans, bereaved of both parents, as long as there is room.

6. Individuals who desire to contribute towards the Building Fund for this intended Orphan House for seven hundred destitute Orphans, are requested to state that the donation is "for the Building Fund." Indeed concerning all the donations for any part of the Scriptural Knowledge Institution for Home and Abroad, it is requested that the donors will kindly state, for what they wish their donations to be applied; or to say expressly that they leave the application of their donations to me, as the various objects may more particularly need help

Supplies for the School—Bible—Missionary and Tract Fund, sent in answer to prayer, from May 26, 1850, *to May* 26, 1851.

At the commencement of this period it was my purpose to seek help from the Lord that I might be able, in a still greater degree than before, to assist brethren who labour in the Gospel, at Home and Abroad, in dependance upon God for their temporal supplies, and to labour more than ever in the circulation of the Holy Scriptures and of simple Gospel Tracts. The following extracts from my journal will now show how kind the Lord has been in answering my requests, and in furnishing me with the means for carrying out the desire of my heart.

June 7, 1850. To-day I have received 50*l.* for missions from a Brother whose heart the Lord has inclined to spend, as a steward of God, a second property, with which he has intrusted him.

June 10. Received 150*l.*, the disposal of which was left to me. I took half for the Orphans and half for these objects.

June 11. Received from C. W. 50*l.* for missions.—By these sums which, besides smaller donations, came in within the first fifteen days of this period, I was able to begin to carry out the purpose I had formed; and as the Lord enabled me, without anxious reckoning, to go on giving out as he was pleased to intrust me with means, so again he sent further supplies before all was gone. It is a point of great importance in the divine life, not to be anxiously reckoning about the morrow, nor dealing out sparingly, on account of possible future wants, which never may come; but to consider that the *present* moment to serve the Lord only is ours, and that the morrow may never come to *us*.

July 2. 170*l.* has come in to-day. The donor kindly gave me permission to use this amount as might be most needed. I took therefore 80*l.* of it for the Orphans, the other for these objects.

Of the various donations which came in for these objects, between July 2nd and Aug. 13th, I only mention that I received on Aug. 5th a silver salver, 2 silver table spoons, a silver sugar spoon, and a silver mustard spoon;

all to be sold for missionary purposes. On Aug. 13th a Christian Friend gave me 50*l.*, of which I took one-half for missionary operations and the other half for the Orphans, as the donation was left at my disposal as most needed.

Aug. 15. To-day I have received from the same donor, who sent me on June 7th 50*l.*, another donation of 110*l.*, of which he wishes me to apply 10*l.* for the use of the Orphans and 100*l.* for missionary purposes. This day I have also received a donation of 120*l.*, of which I took half for the Orphans, and half for these objects.—Several other small donations came in on the following days.

Aug. 24. Have received from C. W. 30*l.*, of which the donor kindly intends 10*l.* for foreign missions, 10*l.* for the Orphans, and 10*l.* for my own personal expenses. I have sent out already during this month 170*l.* to Home and Foreign labourers, and the Lord continues to give me means for this and all the other parts of the work.

Sept. 14. Received again 190*l.*, of which I took half for the Orphans and half for these objects.

Sept. 19. To-day I received a registered letter from the donor, referred to under June 7th and Aug. 15th, containing Four Hundred Pounds and these words:

"Dear Brother,

Herewith I send you 400*l.*, of which three parts are to be expended on missionaries, the rest you may expend on the Orphans, if needed; else the whole to be disposed of to the Lord's ministering servants. I thank you for your prayers that I may not regret this step. Were the Lord to come to-morrow, how glad I should be that the whole was thus sent on before me! . . If yourself or dear brother Craik (to whom give my love in Christ) are at all in need, scruple not to take five pounds each.

Yours in the Lord Jesus,

* * * * *."

I took the whole amount for labourers in the word and doctrine. My soul does magnify the Lord for his condescension in listening to my supplications, and, in answer to them, sending me means, and thus allowing me more and more to help missionary brethren. During the last

five weeks I have sent again to them about 300*l.*, but I long to be more than ever their servant. What the donor says about "the money going before him," is in reference to his having now spent two properties for the Lord.

Sept. 27. Still further abundant help. Received from a new donor 200*l.*, which being left at my disposal as most needed, I took of it 100*l.* for the Orphans and 100*l.* for these objects.

Oct. 9. The Lord condescends to use me more and more as his steward. To-day I have again received 200*l.*, which might be used as most needed. I have therefore taken of it 100*l.* for the Orphans, and the other half for these objects.

Nov. 28. Since Oct. 9th many small donations have come in, chiefly for missions; now to-day I received again 200*l.*, of which I took one half for the Orphans, and the other half for these objects. By these donations (large and small) the Lord enables me to send more and more help to Home and Foreign labourers. During the last seven weeks, only little, *comparatively*, has come in for these objects, while several hundred pounds have been expended; yet, through the rich abundance which the Lord had sent me before, I have not only had no lack of means, but had still about 300*l.* in hand, before this donation was received to day. Nevertheless it was very sweet to receive it as the fruit of earnest prayer for several weeks, as so little, *comparatively*, had come in during the last seven weeks.

Dec. 18. This evening was given to me 90*l.* As the donor stated in the course of conversation, that he felt especially interested about those brethren who labour in the Gospel in various countries, whom I seek to assist, I took of this sum 60*l.* for that object, and 30*l.* for the Orphans.

Jan. 4, 1851. This evening I received Three Thousand Pounds, of which I took half for these objects and half for the Orphans, as the disposal of it was entirely left to me. I am thus enabled more and more to enlarge the work, and to assist increasingly home and foreign labourers in the word. When I gave myself more particularly to this part of the work, now about six years since, I had not the least human prospect of being able to do so much;

but the Lord has been pleased to condescend to listen to my supplications on behalf of these brethren who trust in him for their temporal supplies. I am in this way also furnished with means, on a larger scale than ever, to circulate copies of the Holy Scriptures and simple Gospel Tracts, which was always of deep importance, but in these days of increasing darkness more so than ever.

Jan. 11. A further rich supply. I have received 150*l.*, of which I took half for the Orphans and half for these objects, as the disposal of it was left to me.

Feb. 24. The donor, who has spent two properties in the service of the Lord, receiving a present of 100*l.*, sent me to-day 50*l.* of it for missions. This instance shows that if we use the means with which the Lord may intrust us, as stewards for him, he will make us stewards over more.

Since Feb. 1851, the donor just now referred to has come into the possession of a third property, which likewise, as the two previous ones, he has entirely spent for the Lord.

March 7. Exceedingly little, comparatively, has come in since Jan. 11th; yet, as I had means, I expended them to the full degree in which it appeared to me that the Lord pointed out openings, and, in the meantime, I continued praying for more means. Now the Lord has again given much encouragement for continuing to wait upon him, by a donation of 200*l.*, received to-day, of which the donor kindly wishes me to take 20*l.* for my own personal expenses, and the 180*l.* to be used as may be most needed, which sum I have divided between the Orphans and the other objects.

April 15. From C. W. 40*l.* for foreign missions.

April 17. Further supplies for missionary purposes. When I came home this evening, I found a letter which arrived this afternoon, containing a check for 50*l.*, of which the donor intends one half for missionary purposes, and the other for the Orphans.

April 30. Received 200*l.*, of which I took half for the Orphans and half for these objects.

Besides the donations above referred to, of a larger kind, I received for these objects more than two hundred other donations in pence, shillings, pounds, five pounds,

ten pounds, and upwards, during this period. In order to save room I have refrained from particularizing these smaller sums, and especially because it was my more immediate object to show, by the above, how bountifully the Lord was pleased to furnish me with means for the carrying out my desires concerning these objects. Yea, the Lord so abundantly supplied me with means, that *during the whole of this period* there came not one single case before me in which it would have been desirable to help, according to the measure of light given to me, or to extend the work, without my having at the same time ample means for doing so. In the midst of the great depression of the times, which was so generally felt, and on account of which, humanly speaking, I also might have been exceedingly tried for want of means, I, on the contrary, at no period of the work for the seventeen years previous had a greater abundance of means. I do on purpose lay stress upon this, because I desire that it may become increasingly known, that there is no easier, no better, and no happier way in the end than God's way, and this in particular also with regard to the obtaining of means, *simply in answer to prayer, without personal application to any one.* I value all the smaller donations which have not been referred to, as well as the larger ones; and many of them, in the sight of the Lord, may have been greater donations than the hundreds of pounds which have been mentioned; but it appeared to me necessary to give the above facts, as I could not mention every single donation, *in order to prove the easy way in which prayer and faith may procure means, if we walk uprightly, and if the work in which we are engaged is really the work of God.* Were the obtaining of money my aim, by thus writing, it would be bad policy indeed, to bring out all these instances of rich and most abundant supplies for the work; for persons might be led to think that I need no money, or that, if I did, I should have only to pray and it would soon come in, through some one or other, without *their* helping me; but since my chief aim in the whole work, and in the writing of these accounts in particular, is, that the blessedness of the life of faith may be seen, and that the hearts of the children of God may be allured more and more to their Heavenly Father, and be led more and more to cast their every care

upon him, and to trust in him at all times, yea in the darkest moments, therefore I take pleasure in speaking about this rich abundance which God gave me for his own work.

Some reader may say, And what use was made of the money which was received in this way? Such a one is referred *for a full answer* to the next chapter but one, which speaks of the operations of the Scriptural Knowledge Institution for Home and Abroad; yet I would give to him here a few outlines of the operations of the Institution. By the funds, which were intrusted to me during this period, several hundred poor children and adults were provided with schooling; many hundreds of copies of the Holy Scriptures were circulated; about three hundred thousand Gospel Tracts were distributed; forty-five preachers of the Gospel in the East Indies, British Guiana, Canada, the United States, France, Switzerland, Germany, Ireland, Scotland, and England, were to a greater or less degree, assisted with pecuniary help; and, lastly, three hundred Orphans were provided with everything they need for this life, besides being under continual Scriptural instruction. Thus, at least, fifteen thousand souls were during this period under habitual Scriptural instruction in connexion with this Institution, either in the Sunday Schools, Adult School, Day Schools, and the Orphan House, or through the preachers of the Gospel referred to.

Supplies for the support of the Orphans, sent in answer to prayer, from May 26, 1850, to May 26, 1851.

When this period commenced, I had more in hand for the Orphans than for many years before, under similar circumstances, the balance for current expenses on May 26, 1850, being 150*l.* 7s. 10d. Yet, much as this was, in comparison with what the balance had generally been before, how small was the amount in reality! About 300 persons were connected with the New Orphan House, who day by day were to be provided with all they needed, besides several apprentices who also were still to be supported. On this account, the one hundred and fifty pounds in hand would only furnish that which was needed for about fifteen days, as the average expenses of the Orphan Wor-

alone were about Ten pounds daily.* Place yourself, therefore, dear reader, in my position. Three hundred persons daily at table, and 150*l.* in hand! Looking at it naturally, it is enough to make one tremble; but trusting in the living God, as by his grace I was enabled to do, I had not the least trial of mind, and was assured that God would as certainly help me as he had done fourteen years before, when the number of the Orphans was only the tenth part as large. The following record will now show that I was not mistaken; and thus another precious proof is furnished to the believing reader of the truth of that word: "Whosoever believeth on him shall not be confounded."

On the very first day of this new period I received from a sister in the Lord 6*l.* Another sister gave me 3*l.*, the price of a piece of work done by her. Thus, as the Lord commenced this period, so he was pleased generally day by day to send me something, either in small or large donations. I can, however, only refer to a few instances, to save space.

Between May 26 and June 30, 1850, God was pleased to send in 193*l.* 4s. 5d., so that I had more than enough, with the balance left in hand, to meet all the expenses.

July 1. Paid an account to a Christian brother, and received 10*l.* back from him for the Orphans. More than 3*l.* came in besides.

July 2. Received 170*l.*, of which I took 80*l.* for the Orphans, the rest for the other objects. 17*l.* 10s. 1d. came in besides.

On Aug. 16th I had purposed to leave Bristol for a time, having been for two years and four months uninterruptedly there, in the midst of more work than I had ever had before. I went, not because I was quite unfitted for work, but in order that, labouring for a little while in a different air, I might, with the blessing of God, keep off illness. On the 13th, when going to take lodgings in the country, a Christian, residing at a distance, whom I met, by God's ordering, no doubt, gave me *at the Railway station*, just before starting, 50*l.*, of which I took half for

* These were the expenses in 1850 and 1851; but, on account of the high price of almost everything now, in 1856, the average expenses of one day are 12*l.* or upwards, for the support of the Orphans.

the Orphans and half for missionary purposes. On the 15th I received 110*l.*, of which 100*l.* was intended for missions, and 10*l.* for the Orphans; and also on the same day 120*l.* Both donations were from considerable distances. Besides this I received several small donations, so that within three days, from the 13th to the 16th, came in about 300*l.* While I was absent from the work, from Aug. 16th to Sept. 13th, I was able to help by my prayers. This was the heaviest month in the way of current expenses. During no month, all the sixteen years and five months previously, had there been so much expended for current expenses as in August 1850; but, by what was in hand on August 1st, and by what came in, as just related, and by all the many smaller donations, we were most comfortably helped through. While I was absent I was also enabled to wait upon God for means for the work, besides seeking his blessing in other respects. That I did not do so in vain, was most evident; for not only did many donations come in while I was away, but, on my return, God so abundantly poured in the means, that, within thirteen days after, I received altogether about One Thousand Pounds; for on the very morning after my return, Sept. 14th, came in 190*l.*, on Sept. 19th 400*l.*, on Sept. 17th, 31*l.* 18s. 3d., on Sept. 25th 50*l.*, on Sept. 27th 200*l.*, besides many donations of smaller amounts. Truly I do not wait on the Lord in vain! One thing more I must add here. For several years I had not been so poor, with regard to means for myself, as when I was going away for change of air. But seeing it to be the will of God that I should go, I was sure that he would help me. Thus it was. On Aug. 13th my dear wife received from a sister in the Lord 5*l.* for change of air; and from a Christian lady near Bridgewater was sent to me for my own personal expenses 1*l.*, from Cork 2*l.*, and from a brother in Bristol 1*l.* On Aug. 15th I had sent for myself from a considerable distance 18*l.* 11s. 3d. On Aug. 21st from Glasgow 1*l.* On Aug. 24th from Sunderland 1s., from Cork 1*l.*, and from Liverpool 10*l.* Thus the Lord sent me for my own personal expenses such an abundance, that from Aug. 13th to Sept. 13th, 1850, I received altogether 61*l.* 13s. 6d. Truly I serve a good master, and this I delight to show. Not only with regard

to the obtaining of means for the work, in which I am engaged, have I found *simple trust* in the Lord alone the easiest, the happiest, and the best way; but also in the obtaining of supplies for my own personal necessities.

Nov. 27. For seven weeks the income has been very small, in comparison with what has been expended, both for the Orphans and for the various other objects of the Scriptural Knowledge Institution. There has come in for the Orphans 187*l.* 16s. 2¼d., and for the other objects 62*l.* 11s. 1d.; and the expenditure has been for the Orphans during these seven weeks 477*l.* 2s. 11d., and for the various other objects, 394*l.* 9s. 8d. Therefore altogether 871*l.* 12s. 7d. has been expended, whilst the income altogether has been only 250*l.* 7s. 3¼d. We have, of course, not gone into debt, as we never order any thing, except we have the means in hand for it. Nor has there been even the least difficulty experienced with regard to means, as the Lord in his kindness had sent in considerable sums just before this season commenced. About 330 persons now sit down to their meals in the New Orphan House, day by day, and the expenses for the Orphans alone are about Ten Pounds daily, and those for the other parts of the work are also about Ten Pounds daily, so that I need to receive after the rate of 20*l.* a-day, in order to go on with the work; but during these forty-nine days there has been only one single day that I have received about 20*l.*, and for the greater part of the time only a few pounds daily, and sometimes even only a few shillings. But what was to be done under these circumstances? I gave myself to prayer. God, whom I have now been enabled to make my refuge, and my only refuge for more than twenty years, I have besought day by day. And when now day by day I still have received only small sums, and sometimes nothing or scarcely anything at all: the only effect that it has had upon me has been, *to pray the more earnestly.* My confidence in God is not at all shaken. I have never had a thought that he would not help me; nor have I even once been allowed to look upon these seven weeks in any other way than that the Lord, for the trial of my faith, has ordered it thus that only so little should come in. I am sure that, when he has tried me sufficiently, there will come in again

larger sums. In the mean time, how good has the Lord been, not only to have given all I have needed, but I have even now money in hand! And as to our stores in the New Orphan House, they are as full as usual. We have at least 150 sacks of potatoes in the house, 20 sacks of flour, 33 barrels of oatmeal, each containing about 200 lbs, about 300 pairs of new shoes (besides about 900 pairs in use), about ten tons of coals, a large quantity of soap and rice; and so all other parts of the stores in proportion. Indeed while there has been little coming in, I have just ordered articles in the wholesale way as formerly, when our income was perhaps four or five times as much during the same period. My judgment is, that it will now soon please the Lord again to send in larger sums, as he has been pleased to exercise my faith for some time in this way. Let me see the result!

Nov. 28. This morning the Lord has given me a fresh proof, that I had not waited on him in vain, and that my confidence in him, as recorded last evening, has not been confounded. I received early this morning a donation of 200*l.*, of which I took one half for the Orphans, and the other half for the other objects.

Nov. 30. Evening. I am brought to the close of another month. Great have been the expenses, as I have paid out above 400*l.* for the Orphans, and above 200*l.* for the other objects; but I have always had the means to meet every payment.

Jan. 4, 1851. Besides a donation of 1*l.* from Newton Ferrers, 1*l.* 8s. from Keswick, 4*l.* 6s. 9d. from the neighbourhood of Bath, I received also this morning anonymously from Torquay 5s. worth of postages, with these words: "Open thy mouth wide, and I will fill it." I am doing this. I expect much, very much indeed, in every way. I also expect much in the way of means. *Evening.* This very day the Lord has given me a most precious proof, that he delights in our having large expectations from him. "My mouth has been filled," according to the portion of Holy Scripture sent to me this morning. I have received this evening the sum of Three Thousand Pounds, being the largest donation which I have had as yet. I have had very many donations of 100*l.* and of 200*l.*, several of 300*l.*, one of 400*l.*, several of 500*l.*, some from 600*l.* to 900*l.*, four of 1000*l.*, two of 2000*l.* and one

of 2050*l.* But I never had more than this given to me at one time; yet I have expected more than 2050*l.* in one donation, and, accordingly, it has pleased the Lord to give me 3000*l.* this evening. I now write again that I expect far larger sums still, in order that it may be yet more and more manifest, that there is no happier, no easier, and no better way of obtaining pecuniary means for the work of the Lord than the one in which I have been led. How great my joy in God is, on account of this donation, cannot be described; but it is not in the least coupled with excitement. I take this donation out of the hands of the living God; I continually look for his help, and am perfectly assured that I shall have it, and therefore is my soul calm and peaceful, without any excitement, though the donation is so large. This donation is, however, like a voice from heaven, speaking to me concerning a most deeply important matter respecting which I am seeking guidance from the Lord, the building of another Orphan House. For several years, while the Orphans were living in rented houses in Wilson Street, Bristol, it pleased the Lord to manifest his power by helping us from day to day, and sometimes even from meal to meal; but of late years he has more especially been pleased to show his power by sending us abundant supplies. Should it please him, however, hereafter to cause us again to be similarly situated, he will surely help; and, by his grace, we will then trust in him as heretofore. Moreover, though we have not been so low with regard to means, yet my faith has not been without trial even in this particular; but especially in other respects it has pleased God, continually to keep my faith in exercise. This sum of 3000*l.* was entirely left at my disposal, and it was therefore portioned out thus: 1500*l.* for the Orphans, 500*l.* for foreign labourers in the Gospel, 500*l.* for home labourers in the Gospel, 200*l.* for the circulation of Gospel Tracts, 100*l.* for the circulation of the Holy Scriptures, and 200*l.* for the support of Day Schools, Adult Schools, and Sunday Schools.

As an instance to show in what a variety of ways the Lord is pleased to help me with means, I insert here the following kind but anonymous letter, which was left at my house on January 27th, 1851.

"Dear Mr. Müller,

"I left at Mr. W——'s last week a donation of 1*l.* 1s. towards the Orphan Houses, which I hope you received safely. It is indeed encouraging and strengthening to read the account of the many indubitable answers you have had to prayer, and I pray God, dear sir, to strengthen your hands, and prolong your life, if it be his will, that both the servants of Christ and of Satan, the former to their comfort, the latter to their confusion if not to their conversion, may see that God *alone reigns*, and that the hearts of all are in his hand. I now enclose you some coins (there are 18), which may be disposed of for the Orphan Houses. Truly we wish you good luck in the name of the Lord.

"Believe me, dear sir,

"To remain your unknown but true Friend,

"A Minister of the Church of England."

"N.B. I earnestly solicit an interest in your prayers."

The letter contained a two-guinea piece, a small Portuguese gold coin, 15 silver coins, and a copper coin.

March 7. Very great have been the expenses for the Orphans of late. During the short month of February alone I spent 386*l.* for them. For nearly eight weeks, since Jan. 11th, the expenses have been nearly four times as great as the income, which, however, I have been able amply to meet, on account of the previous abundance which the Lord had been pleased to send in. Now, however, after much prayer for means, the Lord has been pleased to refresh my heart by a donation of 200*l.*, referred to under this date in the account of the income for the other objects. I took of this sum 90*l.* for the Orphans. I received also this day 4*l.* 10s., being the bequest of a Swiss brother in the Lord, who fell asleep in Devonshire, and who desired that what he left should be sold for the benefit of the Orphans.

April 30. At the morning exposition of the Holy Scriptures at the New Orphan House, I was led particularly to dwell upon the blessedness of the believer having to do with the LIVING God, and referred in the way of illustration, to his care in supporting the Orphan Work. *Immediately after the exposition was over*, I received a donation of 12*l.* 12s. for the Orphans, another of 200*l.*

(which I took half for the Orphans, and half for the other objects), and in the afternoon came in still further through the boxes in the New Orphan House 2*l.* 14s. 4½d. Concerning the donation of 12*l.* 12s. the hand of the Lord is the more manifest, in that it came from a place from whence I had never received any donation, as far as I know, and towards it contributed a vicar, an archdeacon, and one of the Queen's chaplains, which gentlemen are entirely unknown to me, and yet they felt thus kindly disposed towards this work.

May 26. I am brought to the close of this period. The work is more and more enlarging. During the last month I have paid out for the Orphans more than 450*l.*, and for the other objects more than 500*l.*, being nearly One Thousand Pounds during one month; and yet I have a greater balance left in hand, through the Lord's kindness, than at the close of any of the previous periods.

Of the several hundreds of donations, large and small, which I received during this period, I have thus taken out a few, to show in what way it pleased the Lord to supply me with means for the Orphan Work.

Miscellaneous points respecting the Scriptural Knowledge Institution for Home and Abroad, with reference to the period from May 26, 1850 *to May* 26, 1851.

1. There were during this period four Day Schools in Bristol, with 286 children in them, *entirely supported* by the funds of the Institution; and three others in Devonshire, Gloucestershire, and Norfolk, with 180 children in them, were *assisted*.—Further, one Sunday School in Bristol, with 184 children, was entirely supported, and two others in Devonshire and Gloucestershire, with 213 children, were assisted.—Lastly, an Adult School in Bristol, with 90 persons in it, was entirely supported.—The expenses connected with all these various Schools were, during this period, 379*l.* 17s.—From the formation of the Institution, on March 5, 1834, up to May 26, 1851, there were 5,343 children in the various Day Schools in Bristol alone, 2,379 in the Sunday School, and 1,896 persons in the Adult School, besides the thousands in the Schools out of Bristol which were assisted.

2. During this period I sought again especially to supply

very poor persons, whose character was known by their being visited, with copies of the Holy Scriptures; and also to put copies which are printed with *large* type into the hands of aged persons, which seems to me of especial need, as such Bibles are still expensive, considering the means of the poor. There was expended during this period, out of the funds of the Institution, on the circulation of the Holy Scriptures, 150*l.* 16s. 5d. There were 345 Bibles sold and 899 given away; and 30 New Testaments sold, and 413 given away, during this period. From March 5, 1834, to May 26, 1851, there were circulated 7,709 Bibles and 4,442 New Testaments.

3. During this year was spent of the Funds of the Institution for Missionary objects the sum of 2000*l.* 11s. 1d. By this sum forty-five labourers in the word and doctrine, in various parts of the world, were to a greater or less degree assisted. The amount sent to each of these servants of Christ was as follows.

To No. 1.	Labouring in British Guiana	91*l.* 10s.
To No. 2.	Ditto	82*l.*
To No. 3.	Ditto	80*l.* 10s.
To No. 4.	Ditto	55*l.*
To No. 5.	Ditto	55*l.*
To No. 6.	Ditto	30*l.*
To No. 7.	Ditto	20*l.*
To No. 8.	Ditto	10*l.*
To No. 9.	Labouring in the East Indies	100*l.*
To No. 10.	Ditto	40*l.*
To No. 11.	Ditto	40*l.*
To No. 12.	Ditto	20*l.*
To No. 13.	Ditto	14*l.*
To No. 14.	Labouring in Canada	20*l.*
To No. 15.	Ditto	20*l.*
To No. 16.	Labouring in the United States	30*l.*
To No. 17.	Labouring in France	60*l.*
To No. 18.	Labouring in Switzerland	50*l.*
To No. 19.	Ditto	50*l.*
To No. 20.	Ditto	10*l.*
To No. 21.	Labouring in Germany	10*l.*
To No. 22.	Labouring in Ireland	70*l.*
To No. 23.	Labouring in Scotland	115*l.*
To No. 24.	Labouring in England	130*l.*

To No. 25.	Labouring in England	115*l.*
To No. 26.	Ditto	80*l.*
To No. 27.	Ditto	65*l.*
To No. 28.	Ditto	65*l.*
To No. 29.	Ditto	57*l.*
To No. 30.	Ditto	50*l.*
To No. 31.	Ditto	50*l.*
To No. 32.	Ditto	50*l.*
To No. 33.	Ditto	45*l.*
To No. 34.	Ditto	45*l.*
To No. 35.	Ditto	30*l.*
To No. 36.	Ditto	30*l.*
To No. 37.	Ditto	30*l.*
To No. 38.	Ditto	20*l.*
To No. 39.	Ditto	15*l.*
To No. 40.	Ditto	10*l.*
To No. 41.	Ditto	10*l.*
To No. 42.	Ditto	10*l.*
To No. 43.	Ditto	10*l.*
To No. 44.	Ditto	5*l.*
To No. 45.	Ditto	5*l.*

There was also sent to me anonymously for the support of native preachers of the Gospel in China 11s. 1d., which was forwarded . . . . . 11s 1d.

The total amount of 2000*l.* was sent to these forty-five servants of the Lord Jesus in 264 different sums, generally not less than 5*l.* and not more than 10*l.* at one time to each, except there were especial reasons pointing to a different course. Almost all these brethren were habitually assisted; a few needed only occasional assistance.

I have great joy, in being able to inform the believing reader, that it pleased the Lord again to let great blessing rest upon the labours of these preachers of the Gospel, whom I sought to assist during this year; which is alike true both with reference to those who labour in our own country and those who preach the Word in foreign lands.

I would repeat that I consider it a great privilege to be permitted to defray in part or altogether, from the funds of this institution, the expenses connected with the voyage and outfit of brethren who desire to go out as Mis-

sionaries, or to help them after their arrival in their field of labour; but I do not bind myself to support them habitually, seeing that thus they would be out of the position of simple dependance upon God for their temporal supplies.

4. During this period 358*l.* 7s. 8d. was expended on the circulation of Tracts, and 303,098 Tracts and little Books were circulated.

The Lord was pleased to give me such an abundance of opportunities for circulating tracts by means of godly men, both in this and foreign countries, that, during this year, I was permitted to send out more tracts than *during the whole of the previous ten years taken together.* Nor must it be withheld from the reader, as matter for thankfulness, that the Lord was pleased to allow me to hear again and again of instances of conversion, by means of the distribution of these Tracts during this period.

5. On May 26, 1850, there were Two Hundred and Seventy-Five Orphans in the New Orphan House on Ashley Down, Bristol. There were admitted into it, during this year, 45 Orphans, making 320 in all. Of these, however, two were removed by their relatives who were able by that time to provide for them, seven died during the year, five of the elder girls were sent out to service, and six of the elder boys were apprenticed; so that on May 26, 1851, there were 300 Orphans in the New Orphan House. The total number of Orphans who were under our care from April, 1836, to May 26, 1851, is Four Hundred and Eighty-Eight. There came in altogether during this year 4102*l.* 14s. 9½d. for the support of the Orphans, and 3,640*l.* 9s. 1¾d. for the other objects; and, after having met to the full every demand with reference to the Orphans, the balance of 970*l.* 13s. 11¼d. remained in hand. Also, after having entered into every door, which the Lord was pleased to set before me respecting the other objects, and to do far more than during any one year previously, the balance of 809*l.* 10s. 6d. remained in hand on May 26, 1851. Verily we do not trust in the Lord in vain!

Without any one having been personally applied to for anything by me, the sum of 38,018*l.* 4s. 6¼d. was given to me for the Orphans *as the result of prayer to God* from the commencement of the work to May 26, 1851.—It

may be also interesting to the reader to know that the total amount which was given as free contributions, for the other objects, from the commencement of the work to May 26, 1851, amounted to 13,988*l.* 11s. 9¼d.; and that which came in by the sale of Bibles and Tracts, and by the payments of the children in the Day-Schools, amounted to 2,890*l.* 9s. 11¾d.—Besides this, also a great variety and number of articles of clothing, furniture, provisions, &c., were given for the use of the Orphans.

It pleased the Lord greatly to gladden our hearts by the working of his Holy Spirit among the Orphans during this period.

Matters connected with my own personal affairs, or the work of the Lord in my hands, not immediately connected with the Scriptural Knowledge Institution, from May 26, 1850, *to May* 26, 1851.

Dec 31, 1850. During this year there have been received into Fellowship 57, and altogether, from the time that Brother Craik and I began to labour in Bristol, 1313, which, with the 68 believers whom we found in Fellowship, makes 1381. Of these 174 have fallen asleep, 160 have left us during these 18 years and a half, 355 have removed from Bristol, and 80 have been excluded from Fellowship; so that there are at present only 612 in communion.

During this year the Lord has been pleased to give me—

1. By anonymous offerings through the Chapel boxes	£148	11	0
2. By presents in money from believers in Bristol, not given anonymously	86	1	9
3. By presents in money from believers not residing in Bristol	160	0	8
4. By presents in provisions, clothes, &c., worth to us *at least*	7	11	0
	£402	4	5

Further account of the intended Orphan House for Seven Hundred Poor Children, bereaved of BOTH *Parents by death, from May* 26, 1851, *to May* 26, 1852.

The reader will remember that I stated in the previous chapter on this subject, that I purposed, not in dependance upon my Christian friends, nor in dependance upon

former donors, but alone in dependance upon the living God, who, I trust, has called me for it, notwithstanding all my unworthiness, to enlarge the Orphan Work. The godly reader will now be desirous of learning how far I have been helped, in this my intention, to enlarge the field of labour in caring for the vast numbers of helpless Orphans in our land. I will, therefore, give an extract, in the way of specimens, from the account book, kept for the purpose, together with the remarks and observations which I wrote down at the time of the receipt of the donations, and make also here and there additional remarks, as the occasion may call for.

Before I brought before the public what I purposed to do, I gave the record of the exercises of my mind, on this subject, to a valued Christian friend to read, the only one who, besides my family, knew anything of this my intention, before it came before the public. I did this particularly in order that, after I had been waiting for several months in secret upon God for guidance and direction concerning it, I might also have the counsel of a prayerful, judicious, and cautious man of God. When this brother returned the manuscript, he spoke to me words of encouragement concerning this purpose, and gave me a half sovereign towards the Building Fund for this house for 700 destitute Orphans. This was the first donation, which I received on May 13, 1851, and which, I confess, was a great refreshment and encouragement to me, the more so as it came from so cautious a brother, and after I had been for several months, through secret prayer, assured that I should go forward.

On May 28th, 1851, my intention became publicly known, and in the evening of May 29th I received from a Christian lady a sovereign towards the Building Fund.

May 30. One of the Orphans in the New Orphan House gave 6d. for the Building Fund, and one engaged in the work gave an old silver watch for sale and 5s.

June 1. A brother in the Lord, who gives his donations with the letter "P.," gave me 10s.—I also received a sovereign.—This evening I received still further 4 half-crowns, with very encouraging words and expressions of joy, that I have been led to this purpose of building another Orphan House for 700 more Orphans.—There came to hand also anonymously 3s. Ditto an old shilling,

a small American coin, and two shillings. Also from a Christian servant in Clifton 2s. 6d.

June 3. From one of the Orphans in the New Orphan House 6d., and from another 6d.

June 4. From another Orphan, in the New Orphan House, 6d. I received also 8s. 0½d., which the Orphans in the Girls' School of the New Orphan House gave between them for the Building Fund.

June 5. Through one of the boxes at the New Orphan House twopence, and likewise one halfpenny. These two small donations are very sweet to me. I take them as a further earnest out of the hands of my Heavenly Father, that he, in his own time, will give me the whole sum requisite. *Evening:* From a sister from Norwich 2s. 6d. From a sister in the Lord in Bristol 1s.

June 6. Anonymously 5*l.* 0s. 1d., with these words: "Towards the Building Fund of the proposed Orphan House 2*l.*, for Brother Müller 1*l.* 10s., for Brother Craik 1*l.* 10s."

June 7. Anonymously 1s. 6d.

June 8. From a brother 5s. — From one of the Orphans formerly under our care, a believer, a sovereign, of which she intends 5s. for the Building Fund, 5s. for present use for the Orphans, 5s. for Brother Craik, and 5s. for my own personal expenses. How sweet a donation! Anonymously 1s. From "P." 1s. 6d.

June 11. Anonymously, from Sunderland, 1*l.* — A lady gave to my daughter at my house 5*l.*, but would not give her name.

June 12. From Richmond 5*l.*

I have thus given minutely the account of the income during the first two weeks, after my purpose had become known; but shall now only, for the sake of brevity, refer to some of the donations.

June 21. Twenty-four days have now passed away since I have been enabled, day by day, to wait with a goodly measure of earnestness and in faith upon the Lord for means; but as yet only a little above 28*l.* has come in. But I am not discouraged. The less there comes in, the more earnestly I pray, the more I look out for answers, and the more assured I am that the Lord, in his own time, after he has tried my faith, will send me larger sums, and, at last, all I need.

July 27. From a Christian gentleman in Clifton 20*l.* This donation has much refreshed my spirit. I am, day by day, expecting help from the Lord, in large and small sums, as he pleases; but as he is trying my faith, in that only so little as yet has come in, this donation has been very precious.

Aug. 8. From a Christian lady in London 5*l.*—From Somersetshire 40*l.*

Aug. 12. Day by day I am waiting upon the Lord for means for this object, and generally more than once a day am I bowing my knees before God with reference to it. Moreover, of late I have been enabled, with increasing earnestness, to beseech the Lord that he would be pleased to send in means for the Building Fund. My soul has been all along at peace, though only so little, as yet, comparatively, has come in (in all 127*l.* 19s. 9d.); and though Satan has, in the most subtle way, sought to shake my confidence, and to lead me to question, whether, after all, I had not been mistaken concerning this whole matter. Yet, though he has aimed after this, to the praise of God I have to confess that he has not been allowed to triumph. I have especially besought the Lord of late, that he would be pleased to refresh my spirit by sending in some large donation for this part of the work. Under these circumstances, I received this morning the following letter with 500*l.*:

"* * * * August 8.

"My Dear Brother,

"Trusting that God has indeed called you to this work, viz., caring for poor Orphans, and will not allow you to be deceived as to his will regarding the increasing it, but will greatly use you for his own glory and for blessing to many poor destitute children, it is my desire, and I humbly thank our most gracious God and Father for the ability, to have fellowship with you in this work, as far as he permits. Will you, therefore, use the enclosed check for 500*l.* for the Orphans, towards the present Establishment or the proposed new one, as you may judge best, or taking any part thereof for one or the other. The Lord Jesus be your counsellor, your joy, your strength, your all.

"Affectionately yours,

"* * * * *."

I took the whole amount for the Building Fund. I was not in the least excited. I look out for means. *Even that very moment*, when I received this donation, I was looking out for means, for large donations; and I should not have been surprised if 5,000*l.* had come in, or more. The Lord be praised for this precious encouragement, which has still further quickened me for prayer!

Aug. 14. From the neighbourhood of Leeds 10*l.*—From Essex 5*l.*

Aug. 15. Anonymously from Hull 5s.—From Cornwall: a Copy of "Greece" for sale.

Aug. 19. From Shirehampton 5*l.*

Aug. 20. From Mirfield 2*l.* Also 150*l.* came in to-day, which, being left at my disposal by the donor, as most needed, I took the whole of this amount for the Building Fund, as I had sufficient means in hand for the current expenses of the various objects of the Scriptural Knowledge Institution.

Aug. 30. From M. S. 30*l.*. of which the donor desires 20*l.* to be used for missionary objects, and 10*l.* for the Building Fund. The donor writes: "My present inducement to remit this is, that God has lately prospered me in business, and I had been putting by for this and a few other similar purposes, intending to make bequests in my will, but am convinced that this is the best course to pursue, if not *the only justifiable one*, with what I can spare from my business and other necessities."

Sept. 1. From a much afflicted sister seven dolls' bonnets for sale.—A picture in frame.

Sept. 2. From an individual living in Nicholas Street, Bristol, 1*l.*—From a brother in the Lord, in Wandsworth Road, London, 5s., with 1*l.* for present use for the Orphans, and 15s. for missionary purposes.—From a poor Christian widow in London 1s., with 1s. for present use for the Orphans.—I am day by day labouring in prayer for this object, and with a goodly measure of fervency of spirit, by the grace of God; and I am day by day looking out for answers. These sums last recorded are but small, yet they tell me that my Heavenly Father is not unmindful of my supplications, and of those of his dear children who help me with their prayers, and that, in his own time, he will send me more, and also large sums. I magnify his holy name that he does not in the

least allow me to question either his power or his willingness to give me all that I shall need; yea, my soul is as assured that I shall have this my request fully granted, unworthy though I am of it, as if the whole amount were already in my hand.

Sept. 4. From a Christian at Keswick 10s., and a lady through ditto 5s.

Sept. 5.—From the neighbourhood of Keswick 1*l.*—From Hull 1*l.*—From Shrewsbury 20*l.*

Sept. 10. As yet the Lord delays sending in larger sums; but I am looking out for them, and am confidently expecting them. This delay is only for the trial of my faith; after he has tried it, he will help me. Applications for the admission of Orphans continue to be made. Within the last ten days eighteen poor children, bereaved of *both* parents, have been applied for; and since Aug. 15th, therefore in twenty-six days, thirty-two altogether. My heart longs to be allowed of God to help poor Orphans more extensively than ever. *Whence* the means are to come for the building of this house for 700 Orphans, I know not; but still, by God's help, my confidence in him is not shaken. To him it is a very small matter to give me all I need for this work.

Sept. 11. From Ludgvan 10s. *Evening:* Only these ten shillings have come in to-day, but three more Orphans have been applied for, making thirty-five in less than a month. Does not the Lord tell me by this, that he will provide another home for Orphans? I will therefore patiently wait upon him for the means, and after he has tried my faith and patience, he will show himself as the hearer and answerer of prayer. To-day came in the course of my reading John xiv. 13, 14, "And whatsoever ye shall ask in my name, that will I do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If ye shall ask anything in my name, I will do it." I pleaded this word of promise, and look for answers, even for the fulfilment of this promise. Nor do I doubt that the Lord Jesus will fulfil this his promise in this my case.

Sept. 12. From Guildford 1*l.* 8s.—From Bath 1*l.*

Sept. 13. Patience and faith are still called for, and, by God's grace, my desire is to "let patience have her perfect work." Not one penny has come in to-day for

the Building Fund, but five more Orphans have been applied for, so that now forty in less than one single month have been brought before me, all bereaved of *both* parents, and all very destitute. Under these circumcumstances, how can I but fervently labour in prayer that the Lord would be pleased to intrust me with means for the building another Orphan House for 700 Orphans. The more I look at things according to natural appearances and prospects, the less likely is it that I should have the sum which is needed; but I have faith in God, and my expectation is from him alone. From the beginning I depended upon him only, concerning this proposed enlargement of the work, and therefore have I not been disappointed, though as yet only the fortieth part of what is needed has come in (882*l*, 18s. 7½d). But how soon, how very soon, can the Lord alter the aspect of things. Even this very evening, while I am writing, he could give me many thousand pounds. I continue, therefore, to wait upon God, and seek to encourage my heart by his holy word, and, while he delays giving me answers, to be occupied in his blessed service. Of this, however, my soul has not the least doubt that, when the Lord shall have been pleased to exercise my soul by the trial of faith and patience, he will make bare his arm, and send help. The fact that the applications for the admission of destitute Orphans are so many, does both quicken me to prayer, and is also a great encouragement to me, that the Lord will give me the desire of my heart, to provide another home for these destitute, fatherless and motherless children.

Sept. 19. Received to-day a donation of 170*l*., which the donor kindly allowed me to use for the work of the Lord in my hands as I pleased. I therefore took the whole of this donation for the Building Fund, as I have at present sufficient means in hand for the current expenses of all the various objects of the Scriptural Knowledge Institution, and as I feel called to give myself with my might to the preparing for the building of another Orphan House.

Sept. 20. About two months since I received a letter, of which I give as much as refers to the subject in hand.

"* * * * * 16th July, 1851.

"My dear Sir,

"I was once a book collector, and turned my attention to our old English Bibles, and, among other editions, perfected, almost sheet by sheet, our first English Coverdale Bible of 1535. It is a sad specimen of time, attention, and money misspent and misapplied, and as I look upon you as the receiver of cast off idols, whether watch chains, trinkets, or old Bibles, I have purposed for some time sending it to you. * * * * Do with the proceeds as you see fit. I should be glad if a portion were converted into *large* printed Testaments for the aged, and should be thankful if that, which has been cause of humbling to me, should be converted into the means, through your instrumentality, of raising others. * * * * *

"Ever yours,

* * * *."

A day or two after the receipt of this letter, a parcel arrived, containing the said Coverdale Bible, of A.D. 1535 and another book; the latter to be sold for the benefit of the Orphans. It was only to-day that I had an opportunity of disposing of the old Bible, which fetched 60*l.*, together with other books, which had been given for the benefit of the Orphans, which brought 10*l.* Of the 60*l.* I took 10*l.* for New Testaments printed with large type for aged poor persons, and 50*l.* for the Building Fund.

Oct. 2. *Evening.* Nothing has come in to-day for the Building Fund, and very little during the last ten days. I have had just now again a long season for prayer respecting this object. Through the support which I receive from the Lord, I am not cast down, though only so little as yet has come in. The work is his, and not mine; therefore am I able quietly to leave it in his hands. Were I to look at what has come in hitherto, much though it is, in one sense, it would take after this rate about ten years, before I should have the sum needed; but this does not cast me down; for, when the Lord's time is come, I expect larger sums. Further, there are peculiar natural obstacles in the way to my receiving donations for this object; for it has now been *for several months* reported that I have already Thirty Thousand Pounds in hand for

the Building Fund, though this day it is actually only 1,139*l.* 19s. 2½d. Again and again this has been told me, and therefore, were I to look at things naturally, I should have much reason to be cast down, as the spread of such reports is calculated, humanly speaking, to keep persons from contributing towards this object. Another class of persons, true Christians, and liberal persons too, may be thinking in their own minds, that the sum required is so large that it is not likely that I shall obtain it, and that therefore their contributing towards this object would be useless. But none of these things discourage me. God knows that I have not Thirty Thousand Pounds in hand. God can influence the minds of his dear children towards this intended Orphan House, whatever their thoughts may have been hitherto on the subject. I therefore continue to seek to "let patience have her perfect work," and go on in prayer, being fully assured, that the Lord will not suffer me to be confounded, though I deserve nothing but that, had I my deserts. I am day by day looking out for help, yea for large sums; and I know I shall have them, after the Lord has exercised my faith and patience. Lord wilt thou mercifully continue to give unto thy servant faith and patience!

Oct. 3. From the Forest of Dean 1*l.*

Oct. 4. From Old Aberdeen 5*l.*—From Dublin; the work for an ottoman and a piece of crochet work.

Oct. 5. Through Bethesda boxes 10s.—From Clifton 7s.—From R. S. 4d.

Oct. 7. From Wellington in Salop 5s. *Evening.* The trial of my faith and patience continues still. Again very little has come in during the last four days for the Building Fund. But my hope in God, by his help, continues steadfast. I had just now again a long season for prayer, having spent the whole evening alone for the purpose, and I am assured that, when God's time shall have come, it will be seen that, *even concerning this object*, I do not wait upon him in vain. There are persons again and again asking me, *When* I am going to commence the building; for they think that I have all, or nearly all, the means which are required. And there are others who ask me, whether I *still* purpose to build this Orphan House. To thee, my Heavenly Father, thy child turns under these circumstances. Thou knowest how small an amount as

yet thy servant has, in comparison with what is needed; but thou also knowest that thy servant did not act rashly and under excitement in this matter, but waited upon thee for six months in secret, before he spoke about this his intention. Now, Lord, in thy mercy, sustain thy servant's faith and patience, and, if it please thee, speedily refresh his heart by sending in larger sums, for which he is looking, and which he confidently expects!

Oct. 8. Through the boxes at the New Orphan House 2s. 6d., with Psalm xxvii. 14. The words of the passage are these: "Wait on the Lord: be of good courage, and he shall strengthen thine heart: wait, I say, on the Lord." By God's grace I wait on the Lord, and am of good courage, and he does strengthen my heart, in faith and patience to continue to wait on him, though only so little comes in, being assured that, when the trial of faith and patience is over, he will make bare his arm and send in larger sums.

Oct. 28. Nothing at all has come in to-day for the Building Fund, and about 70*l.* only during the last four weeks. Yet, by the grace of God, I am supported. I have not the least questioning of soul whether I shall have the means or not. I only look upon this delay, on the part of God, in sending me larger sums, as an exercise for my patience and faith, and am sure, that in his own time he will give more largely. To-day I have had again three long seasons for prayer respecting the work in my hands; and the greater part of this evening I have been in prayer, entreating and beseeching the Lord to help me; and I am now again looking out for means, as I do day by day.

Oct. 29. This morning I received a letter, containing a check for 50*l.*, and these words:

"* * * *, Oct. 27, 1851.

"My dear Sir,

I had much pleasure and blessing in perusing the Report you were kind enough to send me some time ago, and am much obliged to you for it. Is it not a privilege to be allowed to obtain future good out of present expending? (Luke xvi. 9) 'That when ye fail, etc.' I enclose a check for 50*l.*, of which I should wish 25*l.*

to be used for the new Orphan House, that which you propose to build.

Yours, dear Sir
Ever faithfully,
* * * *."

The other 25*l.* being left to me, to be disposed of as I thought well, I divided equally between the five objects of the Scriptural Knowledge Institution for Home and Abroad.

By the same post I received also a donation of 10s., with the following letter.

* * * * *, Oct. 27, 1851.

"Dear Mr. Müller,

I enclose you 10s. worth of postages, as a token of gratitude to the Lord. I had 2*l.* due to me, and the party told me he would not pay it, except I summoned him. I consulted the Scripture, and found, as a Christian, I must not do that; so I put the case into the hand of the 'wonderful counsellor,' and told the Lord, if he would be pleased to give me the 2*l.* I would give him back half of it. Not long after I had a message from the party, to say if I would fetch it, I should have the 2*l.*; so I went, and he paid me without an unpleasant word. I have sent you one half of the pound (the other half I have designed for another purpose). If you need it, you will please to take it for your own personal use; if it is not needed any other way, I should like the privilege of having a stone in the intended Orphan House, &c."

I took this 10s. for the Building Fund. *The donor is a poor working man.*—This afternoon I received 50*l.* more from the neighbourhood of London, with these words: "For the missionaries, and where else most needed." I took, therefore, 25*l.* of it for missions, and the other 25*l.* for the Building Fund.

Thus the Lord has been pleased this day to refresh my heart greatly in sending these donations, and has given again a manifest proof that yesterday I did not wait upon him in vain. But I look out for more abundant help, and for larger sums. I cannot help noticing here, that this

afternoon the Lord also refreshed my spirit through a donation of 6 pairs of new shoes, which a young man (whom about twelve years ago I received as a very destitute Orphan, and who about five years ago was apprenticed to a shoe-maker, and who has lately finished his apprenticeship), brought me for the Orphans, as a small token of his gratitude, as he said. He had himself made the shoes, having bought the leather with the little sums which he had earned in working overtime for his master.

Such instances occur often. I see now, again and again, fruit resulting from my labours in this service. It is not at all a rare thing that I meet with respectable young women, or respectable young men, who, many years ago, were placed, as very destitute Orphans, under my care, and who are now a comfort and help to society, instead of being a pest, which otherwise they might have been. But valuable and pleasant as this is, I frequently meet with far more in them: I find them to be children of the living God, through faith in our Lord Jesus Christ, and see or hear of them walking according to their profession. Thus, in the midst of many difficulties, and with much that, for the present moment, is discouraging, I see *abundant fruit*. Yet, if even only one soul were won from among these Orphans, how abundantly would all labours, trials, difficulties, and expenditure of money be made up; but what, if I know of scores of them already in heaven, and scores of them now on the road to heaven, how can I but go on labouring, esteeming it a privilege to be allowed of God to seek to win more and more of them for him? Considerations like these are a mighty impulse to me to go forward with regard to the intended Orphan House.

Nov. 10. To-day I received 200*l*., of which the donor kindly wished me to keep 20*l*. for my own personal expenses, and to apply the rest as most needed for the Lord's work in my hands. I took, therefore, 100*l*. for the Building Fund, and 80*l*. for missionary objects, the circulation of the Holy Scriptures and Gospel Tracts, and for the support of all the various schools which are supported by the funds of the Scriptural Knowledge Institution. By this donation my heart has been greatly refreshed for the following reasons:—1st. During the last twelve days very

little, comparatively, has come in. 2nd. The first four objects of the Institution, for which I took the 80*l.*, were lower as to funds than they have been during the last ten months, as only 113*l.* remained in hand. 3rd. I had been praying for supplies for my own personal expenses, in order that I might be able to help in certain cases of need, which were near my heart. This day week, Nov. 3rd., I began particularly to pray about this object. On Nov. 7th there was 5*l.* put anonymously into the letter box at my house, for my own personal expenses. The note was signed "H." On the same evening I received 2*l.* more. On Nov. 8th I received 1*l.* from Keswick. On Nov. 9th 1*l.* 14s. 6d., and to-day 20*l.* Though this is a digression from the immediate subject before me, yet, as I write chiefly for the comfort and encouragement of the children of God, and that their dependance upon God and their trust in him may more and more be increased, and also that unbelievers may see the reality of the things of God, I take delight in mentioning these cases, to show that he does not merely supply me, in answer to prayer, with means for his work in which I am occupied, but that he also bountifully supplies my own personal necessities, simply in answer to prayer.

Nov. 19. Early this morning came, in the course of my reading through the Holy Scriptures, Heb. v. and vi., and my heart was greatly strengthened by Heb. vi. 15., "And so after he had *patiently endured*, he obtained the promise." I have not once, even for one moment, been allowed to doubt either the power or the willingness of the Lord to supply me with all that which I shall need for this other Orphan House, since I came at first to the conclusion that it was his will that I should enlarge the work; yet I have often, very often, been led to ask him that he would graciously be pleased to sustain my faith and patience to the end; for great, very great, may yet be the exercises both of my faith and patience, before I have the desire of my heart granted.

Nov. 28. The following case will especially show in what a variety of ways the Lord is pleased to supply me with means. To-day I received from an individual, hitherto an entire stranger to me, the letter which follows:—

* * * *, London, Nov. 27, 1851.

"My dear Brother,

I asked the Lord for help with regard to yourself and your work. The other night a stranger called at my house, and left a parcel, declining to give her name, saying, 'Take charge of this for Mr. George Müller.' The parcel contained 3*l.* 14s. 9d., two silver spoons, and two silver thimbles; 4s. were added to pay the expenses. May the Lord prosper you, my brother.

Yours affectionately,

* * * * *"

As it was not stated for what object the donation was intended, I took the whole 3*l.* 18s. 9d., as also the silver articles, for the Building Fund.

Dec. 3. From A. Z. at Hull 3*l.* 5s., of which the donor kindly intends 5s. for my own personal expenses. Through this donor also 5s. besides. Both these donations are remarkable. The donor who sent the 3*l.* 5s., some years ago, *when in very poor circumstances*, set apart from his earnings ¼d. a-day for the Orphans. From that time God was pleased to prosper him; and now he is able to send this 3*l.* 5s. at once. The donor of the 5s. had about a year ago one of the Reports of the Scriptural Knowledge Institution lent to him, when he was living in much sin, by the brother who sent the 3*l.* 5s., and this Report was the means of his conversion.

Dec. 28. This morning I received a donation of 200*l.*, which, being left at my disposal, I took one half for the Building Fund, and the other half for the School, Bible, Tract and Missionary Objects.

Jan. 23, 1852. From Torquay 5s.—I received also this morning the following registered letter, enclosing 50*l.*

"* * * * * Jan. 21, 1852.

"Dear Brother,

"Having this morning received a large present, I hasten to send you 50*l.* either towards building of the new Orphan House, or for the missionary servants of the Lord; as you may deem best.

"Yours very truly in Christ,

"* * * * *."

I am especially labouring in prayer, day by day, that the Lord would be pleased to furnish me with the means for the building of another Orphan House, as the number of applications for destitute children, bereaved of both parents, is increasing more and more; but I have also of late been particularly praying to the Lord for means for missionary brethren, as almost all *I have in hand for them is expended.* On this account I purpose to take one half of this donation for the Building Fund, and the other half for missionary objects.

March 17. Day by day I am waiting upon God for means. With full confidence, both as to the power of the Lord to give me the means, and likewise his willingness, I am enabled to continue to wait. But he is pleased to exercise my faith and patience, and especially has this been the case of late. Not more than 27*l.* 11s. has come in during the last four weeks for the Building Fund. Yet, amidst it all, by the help of God, my heart has been kept looking to the Lord, and expecting help from him. Now to-day my heart has been greatly refreshed by a donation of 999*l.* 13s. 5d., which, being left to my disposal for the work of God as I thought best, I took of it for the Building Fund 600*l.*, for current expenses for the Orphans 200*l.*, and the remainder for the School, Bible, Tract, and Missionary objects. I cannot describe to any one how refreshing this donation is to my spirit. After having been for weeks, day by day, waiting upon the Lord, and receiving so little, comparatively, either for current expenses or for the Building Fund, this answer to many prayers is exceedingly sweet to my spirit.

March 18. From Mallow in Ireland 5s.—From Torquay 5s.—From Whitby 2*l.* 3s. 6d., of which 1*l.* is for the Building Fund, 1*l.* for present use for the Orphans, and 3s. 6d. for ditto.—From Kingstanley 1*l.*—From Lichfield 4*l.* 15s., and 5s.

March 21. From Clifton 5*l.*, with 3s. for present use for the Orphans.—Through Salem boxes 1s.

March 23. From Driffield 5*l.*—Received also further 500*l.*, which, being entirely left at my disposal, I took of it 100*l.* for the Building Fund, 200*l.* for current expenses for the Orphans, 50*l.* for the circulation of the Holy Scriptures, 50*l.* for the circulation of Gospel Tracts, 50*l.* for preachers of the Gospel in foreign lands, and 50*l.*

for preachers of the Gospel in England, Ireland, and Scotland.

May 16. From two Christian ladies at Clifton 10s.

May 19. From Bishopwearmouth 5*l.*

May 20. 149*l.* 8s. 11½d., being the proceeds arising from the sale of a book in English, and 40*l.* 14s., being the proceeds arising from the sale of a book in French, were given for the Building Fund; and 75*l.* 18s. 9d., being the balance of a certain account, for present use for the Orphans.

To the donations which were given during this year, of which only very few have been specified here, but which were all stated minutely when the Report was published, is to be added 64*l.* 10s. 6d. received for interest; for as a steward of the money, with which I was intrusted for the Building Fund, I felt it right to put out to interest that which came in. Lastly, there remained in hand from the *former* Building Fund the balance of 77*l.* 14s. 3¾d., which I added to the *present* Building Fund, so that on the evening of May 26th, 1852, I had altogether 353*l.* 9s. 0¼d.

I add the following *points*, which were stated in the Report of 1852, and which are here reprinted for the better information of the readers.

A. Looking at the comparatively small amount which I have as yet in hand towards the accomplishment of my purpose, some of my readers may suppose that I am on that account discouraged. My reply is, that I am not at all discouraged, and that for the following reasons.

1. The many donations which the Lord has been pleased to send me during the past year *expressly* for the Building Fund, have been a proof to me that he condescends to listen to my supplications respecting this part of the work, and to those of his dear children who help me with their prayers; for many, I believe, labour with me in prayer.

2. The delay of the Lord in sending still larger sums, and more speedily, than he has been pleased to do hitherto, I only consider to be for the exercise of my faith and patience. Were the Lord displeased with my intention, he would not have dealt with me as he has, and would not have encouraged me to continue to wait upon him, by the many donations which were *expressly* gi

for this object, and some from most unexpected quarters. This exercise of my faith and patience, however, I believe to be intended not merely for my own individual profit, but, through me, also for the benefit of others. By God's gracious help and support I will, therefore, continue to wait patiently, till he shall be pleased more abundantly to send in the means, which I do not in the least doubt he will do.

3. Even when the New Orphan House on Ashley Down, Bristol, was intended to be built, which was *then* an undertaking to me greater far than the second Orphan House which is now contemplated, I had to wait two years and three months, before I had all the means which I needed; and great, and many, and varied indeed were the trials of my patience and faith, before that work was accomplished; yet, at last, the Lord so abundantly helped me, and so altogether carried me through all the difficulties, that the house was built, and fitted up, and furnished, and inhabited, and several hundred pounds remained over and above what was required. And now three years have already elapsed since the house has been inhabited, and the three hundred Orphans in it have no cause to speak of want, but only of abundance. But as the work increases more and more, I am not surprised that my trials of faith and patience should become sharper and sharper, and should last longer and longer; but yet, by his help, will I hope in God, whom I shall have to praise further still, and who will help me further still, on the ground of the worthiness and merits of his holy child Jesus, though I am most unworthy in myself to be helped.

4. One of the things, which especially encourage me to continue to wait upon God, and to labour on in prayer concerning this object, is the great number of applications which continue to be made for the admission of children who have been born in wedlock, but who are by death bereaved of *both* parents, and who are in very destitute circumstances. There were 170 such children waiting for admisssion, a year ago; since then there have been 183 more applied for, making in all 353. Of these, as during the last year but few vacancies have occurred, I have only been able to receive twenty-seven, therefore 326 remain unprovided for. This number would be far

greater still, had not many persons been kept from applying to me; for they considered it useless, as the number of Orphans, who were waiting for admission, was already so great. Now when I consider all the help which the Lord has been pleased to grant me in this his service for so many years, and how he has carried me through one difficulty after another, and when I see one case after another of the most pitiable Orphans (some less than one year old) brought before me; how can I but labour on in prayer on their behalf, fully believing that God, in his own time, will give me the means for this intended second home for 700 more Orphans, though I know not when the money will be sent, and whom he will honour to be the instruments, and whether it will come from many or from few comparatively, and whether more especially from those donors whom God has used in former times, or whether he may be pleased to put it into the heart of those to assist me in this service, whose names even I have never heard up to this time,

B. Up to the present I have taken no actual steps towards the erection of the second Orphan House, nor do I mean to do anything in the way of purchasing the land, &c., until I have a sum in hand which may point out that the Lord's time is come for the taking of such steps. At present I do not allow my mind to be occupied with such points, but seek to go on step by step, and therefore, in the first place, to wait upon God for a greater amount of means than I have in hand at present; and when the Lord shall have been pleased to grant me this, I doubt not that he will also guide and direct me as to the carrying out the desire which, I trust, he has put into my heart, to be still more extensively used as the Friend of the Orphan.

C. I state again that this second Orphan House is only intended, as the one already built, for children who have been born in wedlock, who have lost *both* parents by death, and who are in destitute circumstances; this, however, being the case, children may be received from any place, and *the more destitute, the fewer patrons and friends they have to plead their cause*, the more likely they are to be received, as no favour and partiality is shown in the admission of the children, but their cases are considered *in the order in which the applications are m*

I state again here especially, that no sectarian views prompt me, or even in the least influence me in the reception of children; I do not belong to any sect, and I am, therefore, not influenced by sectarianism in the admission of Orphans; but from wheresoever they come, and to whatsoever religious denomination the parents did belong, or with whatever body the persons making application may be connected; and whether those who applied never gave me one penny towards the work, or whether they gave much; it makes no difference in the admission of the children. Now just as it has been thus with regard to the admission of Orphans for more than sixteen years past, so, when God shall be pleased to allow me to accomplish my purpose concerning another Orphan House, it is still intended to be the same concerning that one also. The New Orphan House on Ashley Down, Bristol, is not *my* Orphan House, not the Orphan House of any party or sect, but it is God's Orphan House, and the Orphan House for any and every poor destitute Orphan, who has lost *both* parents; provided, of course, there be room in the establishment, and that there be nothing so peculiar in the case of the children as to prevent their being received; and exactly thus it is intended to be, God helping, with regard to the Orphan House for 700 Orphans, now in contemplation.

Supplies for the School—Bible—Missionary and Tract Fund, sent in answer to prayer, from May 26, 1851, *to May* 26, 1852.

At no time during the past eighteen years did I begin a new period with so much money in hand, as was the case at the commencement of this. There was a balance of 809*l.* 10s. 6d. left for *these* objects. Long before this balance was expended, however, the Lord was pleased to send in further supplies; so that, during all the year, there did not come before me one single instance in which, according to my judgment, it would have been desirable to help forward Schools or Missionary objects, or the circulation of the Holy Scriptures and Tracts, but I had always the means in hand for doing so.

I will now notice a few of the more remarkable donations.

On the third day already, after the accounts had been closed, May 29, 1851, I received a donation of 150*l.*, of which I took one-half for the current expenses for the Orphans, and the other half for these objects.—This was the first donation in this new period, and was a precious encouragement to me in the work.

July 8. From May 29th to this day have come in twenty-eight donations, varying from 1d. to 15*l.* To-day I received a donation of 150*l.*, of which the donor kindly wished me to take 10*l.* for my own personal expenses, and to use the rest as the work of God might require it. As I still had an abundance in hand both for the Orphans and for these objects, I took one-half for the current expenses for the Orphans, and the other half for these objects.

Sept. 6. Again fifty-two donations had come in between July 8th and this day, varying from 1d. to 20*l.*, when to-day a brother who has often manifested his deep interest in the spread of the truth, and *who is far from being rich*, sent me 60*l.* for home and foreign labourers in the word.

Nov. 10. Forty donations have come in for these objects from Sept. 6th to this day, varying from 1½d. to 25*l.* To-day I received 200*l.*, of which, as stated under the particulars given under this date with reference to the Building Fund, I took 80*l.* for these objects. This donation came in most seasonably; for now the funds for these objects were lower than they had been for the last ten months, as only 113*l.* remained in hand.

Dec. 21. The funds for these objects were now reduced to 10*l.* 14s. 5d., as the twenty-two donations from 4d. to 13*l.*, which had come in since Nov. 10th, did not altogether amount to more than 31*l.* 9s. 4d., and as much money had been expended. The means in hand were therefore far less than they had been at any time during the last sixteen months, when I received this morning from A. Z., a new donor, by the Clifton post, 10*l.*, which, being left to my disposal, I took for these objects.

Dec. 27. Only 1*l.* 7s. 6d. had come in since the 21st. After the payments of this day were met, there remained only 10s. 4d. in hand.

Consider this position, dear reader. Only 10s. 4d. in hand, and the expenses for all the various schools were to

be met, and the circulation of the Holy Scriptures and of Tracts I desired to go on, and the Fifty preachers of the Gospel, whom I sought to help, my heart desired to help still further. Consider also, that whatever my necessities may be, I never go into debt, nor do I apply to any one personally for any thing, but I give myself unto prayer. Now hear how this matter ended.

Dec. 28. When I came home last evening from the New Orphan House, I found a letter from Gloucestershire, containing a sovereign and a half. The sovereign was half for these objects, and half for the Orphans; and of the half sovereign, 6s. were intended for the Orphans and 4s. for these objects. Thus I had 14s. more. But this morning the Lord has opened his hands still more bountifully. I have received a donation of 200*l.*—The disposal of the money was left to me. I took therefore one half for the School—Bible—Missionary and Tract Objects, and the other half for the Building Fund.—This donation has been a very great refreshment to my spirit. During the last six weeks very little has come in, and though we had lacked nothing (for only a few days since I paid for sixty thousand Tracts at once), yet we were now poorer than we had been for two or three years, with regard to means for these objects. This, however, did not in the least cast me down; for I knew it was only for the trial of my faith and patience, and that, when the trial was over, the Lord would again send in bountiful supplies. This he has now commenced to do, but I expect much more than this. Indeed I am looking out daily for the Lord's help.

Jan. 1, 1852. The old year closed with manifestations of God's loving help, in the way of means, and the new begins in the same way. Last evening I received 4s. 5d. for these objects, and this morning, when I paid an account, I had 10*l.* returned for the Schools.—In the course of the day I received still further from Sherborne 3*l.*, of which the donor wished 1*l.* to be taken for the Orphans, 1*l.* for missions, and 1*l.* for my own personal expenses.—I received also anonymously from Aberdeen 4s. for the Orphans, with 2s. for missions.

Jan. 2. Further: 5*l.* for the Schools in Bristol.

Jan. 19. All our money for missionary objects, for the circulation of Bibles and Tracts, and for the support of

the various Schools was now again spent, as only very little, comparatively, had come in since Dec. 28th. The last money which I had, I sent off by the mail steamer to Demerara, which left two days since. Under these circumstances I received this evening 20*l.*, which I might either use for the Orphans, or for missionary objects, according to the donor's wish. I took it for missionary objects, and have thus again a little. But I am looking out for larger supplies, as I have many openings, profitably to lay out considerable sums for missionary objects, and for the circulation of Bibles and Tracts. It is remarkable, that, while I have received from the donor of this sum from time to time donations for the Orphans, I had not received anything for missionary objects for a very long time. But I have again and again prayed for help for this part of the work, and this point makes the answer to prayer only the more manifest.

Jan. 20. The proceeds of a missionary box in Essex 5s.

Jan. 21. After still further repeated waiting upon the Lord for means, especially for missionary objects and for the circulation of the Holy Scriptures and Tracts, I received to-day from Somersetshire 20*l.*, of which the donor intends 10*l.* for foreign missions and 10*l.* towards the support of the Orphans. — I also received from Brighton 15s.

Jan. 22. Further: From London 4*l.* for missions.

Jan. 23. Further: 50*l.*, of which half is for missions, and half for the Building Fund.

Jan. 26. Further: 500*l.*, which was left at my disposal as might be most needed. I took the whole for these objects.

This donation came in most seasonably, enabling me to go on helping preachers of the Gospel, and also to go on with the circulation of Bibles and Tracts.

March 17. Before all means were gone, when there was yet about 160*l.* in hand, there came in again to-day for these objects 199*l.* 13s. 5d.

March 23. 200*l.* more came in to-day.

March 24. From Hackney 1*l.* for missions.

March 26. From three brethren 20*l.* for missions.—On the same day from a missionary box at Old Aberdeen 2*l.*

May 12. The 26 donations which have come in for these objects, since March 26th, were small. To-day I

received from Cornwall 50*l.*, of which the donor wished me to take 10*l.* for my own personal expenses; the rest, being left at my disposal, I took the whole for these objects.

May 15. Received 20*l.* for missions.

May 19. When nearly all the means for these objects were exhausted, I received 250*l.*, of which I took for these objects 200*l.*, and 50*l.* for the current expenses for the Orphans.

Thus I have given some instances to show how the Lord was pleased to supply me during another year. There were 221 donations received during this period, besides those which have been referred to here.

Supplies for the Support of the Orphans, sent in answer to Prayer, from May 26, 1851, *to May* 26, 1852.

When this period commenced, I had in hand for the current expenses for the Orphans 970*l.* 13s. 11¾d. We had never had so large a balance for the other objects at the commencement of any new period, as was the case at the commencement of this, and so it was also with regard to the Orphan work. This arose from the fact that only a little more than four months before the accounts were closed a donation of 3000*l.* had been given, which, being equally divided between the Orphan Fund and the Fund for the other objects, had left so large a balance in hand. But though there was this large balance to begin with, dependance upon God was still required day by day, as the *pecuniary* help is only a very small part of that which is needed; and even as to means, this sum would not have lasted long, had the Lord not sent in further supplies. This, however, he did; and thus it was that, while there were other trials, varied and many, yet, as to means, we experienced for a long time scarcely any difficulty at all. I will now very briefly notice some cases in which God helped us with means for the support of the Orphans, in answer to prayer.

May 27, 1851. The first donation of this new period came from an aged godly clergyman, whom, up to that time, I had never seen, but to whom my heart had been much knit through correspondence. The donation consisted of 5*l.* from himself, and 1s. 6d. from three poor persons through him.

July 3. A brother and sister, having had a legacy left to them, though very far from being rich, sent 50*l.* out of it for the Orphans, as they desire to use the money with which the Lord may intrust them for him.

Oct. 2. From the ladies who constitute the Bristol Dorcas Society, the worth of 25*l.* in flannel and unbleached calico.

Feb. 10, 1852. When the accounts were closed, there was in hand 970*l.* 13s. 11¾d., and there has come in since then 1242*l.* 19s. 8d. Up to this time, I had had an abundance of means in hand to meet all the current expenses of the New Orphan House, and there was still 126*l.* 3s. 8½d. in hand. But though I had this still in hand, the *certain* expenses of this week alone were 102*l.* 0s. 4d., besides what might be otherwise needed. Under these circumstances, a godly merchant at Clifton gave me this evening, through his son, a Fifty Pound Note for the benefit of the Orphans. This donation has greatly refreshed my spirit; for, though we were not in actual need, there being 126*l.* 3s. 8½d. in hand, to meet the expenses of 102*l.* 0s. 4d., which I expected to come upon me this week, yet there would then only have been left 24*l.* 3s. 4½d. towards meeting the current expenses of an establishment with more than 300 inmates. So little there had not been in hand since the New Orphan House was first opened. How kind, therefore, of the Lord to put it into the heart of this donor, who is not personally known to me, to contribute this sum!

March 16. From Feb. 10th up to March 8th the income had been comparatively small, only about 130*l.* altogether having been received for the current expenses for the Orphans. This, with what was in hand on Feb. 10th, was, therefore, so reduced, that on March 8th I had only been able to advance 15*l.* for housekeeping expenses, instead of 30*l.*, which I had for a long time been in the habit of doing. After having paid away this 15*l.*, I had only about 5*l.* left. Before this 15*l.*, however, was quite spent, I had received so much, that on the 12th I could advance 10*l.* more for housekeeping. Now *this money was all gone*, and to-day, March 16th, more money was needed, but there was none in hand, except the balance which was last year left from the Building Fund, which I might use, but which I was most reluctant to do, and

concerning which I asked the Lord that there might be no need for using it, as I wished to take it for the intended Orphan House, the number of destitute Orphans who are waiting for admission being so great. Now observe how God helped me! Just before I was called on for more money, I received this morning from a Noble Lady as her own gift and that of two of her friends 15*l.*, and also 4s. 1½d. was given to me as the contents of an Orphan box. Thus I was able to advance again 15*l.* for housekeeping.

March 17. For about six weeks past the Lord has been pleased to exercise my faith and patience much. Very little, comparatively, has come in for the Building Fund and the current expenses for the various objects; but now he has this day greatly refreshed my spirit by the donation of 999*l.* 13s. 5d., referred to under the Building Fund, which, being left to me for the Lord's work, to be used as I think best, I took of it for the current expenses for the Orphans 200*l.*; so that again, before the money, which came in yesterday, is expended, fresh supplies are received. I have been particularly also refreshed by this donation, in that I am not obliged to use the balance of the former Building Fund, but can let that remain for the present Building Fund.

May 26, 1852. Since March 17th no further difficulties have been experienced with regard to means; for though the expenses have amounted since then to about 700*l.*, the Lord has bountifully supplied me with all I needed; for I received another donation of 200*l.*, one of 75*l.* 18s. 9d., one of 50*l.*, two of 10*l.*, eighteen of between 5*l.* and 10*l.*, besides many between 6d. and 5*l.*—Thus I am helped to the close of another year, during which the Lord has enabled me, through waiting upon him, and looking to him for help, to supply all the current expenses of the New Orphan House with its 300 Orphans and all their overseers, teachers, nurses, etc.; the circulation of the Holy Scriptures and Tracts has been going on as before; the various schools have been supported; the same amount as during the past year, or rather more, has been expended for missionary objects; and yet, over and above all this, I have been enabled to gather a goodly sum for the Building Fund of the intended Orphan House.

Have I not therefore abundant reason to praise the

Lord for his goodness, to trust in him for the future, to speak well of his name to my fellow-believers, and to encourage them with me more and more to rely upon the Lord for everything?

Miscellaneous points respecting the Scriptural Knowledge Institution for Home and Abroad, with reference to the period from May 26, 1851, *to May* 26, 1852.

1. During this period there were *entirely supported* by the funds of the Institution four Day Schools in Bristol, with 248 poor children in them, and three others in Devonshire, Monmouthshire, and Norfolk, were *assisted*.—Further, one Sunday School in Bristol, with 243 children, was entirely supported, and two others in Devonshire and Gloucestershire, with 230 children, were assisted.—Lastly, one Adult School in Bristol, with 120 Adult Scholars, was entirely supported during this period.—From March 5, 1834, up to May 26, 1852, there were 5,525 children in the Day Schools in Bristol, 2,600 in the Sunday School, and 2,033 grown up persons in the Adult School.—There was expended of the Funds of the Institution, for these various Schools, during this period, 360*l*. 1s. 9d.

2. During this period there was expended of the Funds of the Institution 207*l*. 3s. 1d. for the purpose of circulating the Holy Scriptures, especially among the very poorest of the poor. There were issued during this period 1,101 Bibles and 409 New Testaments.—There were altogether circulated from March 5, 1834, up to May 26, 1852, Eight Thousand Eight Hundred and Ten Bibles, and Four Thousand Eight Hundred and Fifty-one New Testaments.

For two years previous to May 26, 1852, it was on my heart, to seek to make some especial effort for the spread of the Holy Scriptures and for the spread of simple Gospel Tracts, in a way and for a purpose which would not be accomplished by the *giving* of copies of the Holy Scriptures, or the *giving* of Tracts to poor persons. My wish was to put believers of the higher classes in the way of obtaining cheap pocket Bibles for the purpose of giving them away as presents to more respectable persons, as well as furnishing them with the opportunity of purchasing Bibles and New Testaments, at a cheap rate, for giving them away among the poor; and of furnishing

believers in the higher classes, who are Tract distributors, with an opportunity of purchasing simple Gospel Tracts for circulation. Connected with this I desired, especially, to present the truths of the Gospel, in print, before genteel persons, whom I had not the same opportunity of reaching as poorer persons, to whom Tracts and Bibles might be *given*. To this my attention was turned on account of the mighty efforts which were made to take away the Holy Scriptures, and to spread Tracts which contain most pernicious errors. Up to this time we had never had, to any considerable extent, a depository for Bibles and Tracts. The circulation of the Tracts had been almost exclusively by gratuitous distribution; and thus it had been also, for some years previously, with reference to the circulation of the Holy Scriptures.—For a very long time, however, we could not meet with a suitable house, till at last, after much prayer, and waiting for more than a year, convenient premises were obtained by renting No. 34, Park Street, Bristol. On April 29, 1852, this Bible and Tract Warehouse was opened with prayer, at which 198 different kinds of Bibles may be obtained, each varying from the other in type or binding, or by being with or without marginal references. Their prices range from 10d. to 1*l*. 14s. The large assortment of Pocket Bibles, from 10d. to 1*l*. 6s. 6d. furnishes the public with a great variety for choice. There may be had also various kinds of New Testaments, one kind of which, in large type, is sold at 4d., for the benefit of the poor, though it costs 10d. bought in large quantities, at the wholesale price. By personal application, or by writing to Mr. William Parsons, the manager of the Depository, No. 34, Park Street, Bristol, a catalogue of the whole stock of Bibles, Testaments, and other portions of the Holy Scriptures, with their prices, may be obtained.

3. During this year there was spent of the funds of the Institution, for missionary objects, the sum of 2005*l*. 7s. 5d. By this sum fifty-one labourers in the word and doctrine, in various parts of the world, were to a greater or less degree assisted.

It is a subject of joy and thankfulness to me, to be able to inform the believing reader, that the Lord was pleased to grant again much blessing to rest upon the labours of these brethren during this year. Many sinners

were converted through their instrumentality, some of whom had been in a most awful state. This remark applies both to foreign and home labourers.

4. There was laid out for the circulation of Tracts, from May 26, 1851, to May 26, 1852, the sum of 356*l.* 11s. 3½d. There were circulated during the year 489,136 Tracts.

The total number of Tracts which were circulated from the beginning up to May 26, 1852, was 1,086,366.

The Lord is pleased to increase this part of the work more and more.

It is not merely, however, of the increase in the number of Tracts that I have to speak. I heard during this year of one case after another, in which the tracts, with which the Lord enabled me to furnish the many brethren who circulate them, were used by the Lord in the way of communicating great blessing to believers, or were used as instruments of conversion to unbelievers. I would indeed with all my might seek to spread the truth of God by means of these little publications in greater and greater numbers; but I would follow them also, day by day, with my prayers, and never trust in the numbers which have been issued, but in God to grant his blessing, without which all these efforts are in vain.

A great number of believers, in various parts of the world, aid me in the circulation of tracts. Up to April 1852, however, almost all the tracts which were circulated were given away gratuitously, but, as has been stated already, there was then more particularly commenced the sale of Tracts also, in connexion with the sale of Bibles, at the Bible and Tract Warehouse, No. 34, Park Street, Bristol. The business is managed by Mr. William Parsons, who resides on the premises, where packets containing the specimens of all the various tracts which are now kept (and which number is from time to time added to), may be purchased, or a catalogue gratuitously obtained. Individuals residing out of Bristol, who desire to purchase tracts, may apply to Mr. Parsons.

5. On May 26, 1851, there were Three Hundred Orphans in the New Orphan House on Ashley Down, Bristol. From that day up to May 26, 1852, there were admitted into it twenty-seven Orphans, making 327 in all. Of these 327, nine died during the year; one

Orphan was sent to Christian relatives, who by that time were able to provide for him, and who felt it their duty to do so; one was sent to relatives on account of being in such a state of health that the Establishment was an unsuitable place for her; three of the elder girls, who were able to earn their bread by entering service, but who could not be recommended to any situation, when they had been long borne with, were at last sent in disgrace from the Establishment to their relatives. This course was adopted as a last remedy with regard to themselves, and as a solemn warning for all the children in the Establishment. Four girls were honourably and with comfort sent out to service, and nine boys were apprenticed on the expense of the Establishment. This makes the removals as many as the reception of new Orphans, so that the number was still 300 in the New Orphan House, on May 26, 1852. The total of the expenses, connected with the support of the Orphans, from May 26, 1851, to May 26, 1852, was 3035*l.* 3s. 4d. The total number of Orphans who were under our care from April 1836, to May 26, 1852, was Five Hundred and Fifteen.

I notice further the following points in connexion with the New Orphan House.

1. *Without any one having been personally applied to for anything by me*, the sum of 42,970*l.* 17s. 6d. was given to me for the Orphans *as the result of prayer to God* from the commencement of the work, up to May 26, 1852. It may be also interesting to the reader to know that the total amount which was given as free contributions, for the other objects, from the commencement of the work up to May 26, 1852, amounted to 15,976*l* 10s. 6¼d.; and that which came in by the sale of Bibles and Tracts, and by the payments of the children in the Day-Schools, amounted to 3,073*l.* 1s. 9¾d. Besides this, also a great variety and number of articles of clothing, furniture, provisions, &c., were given for the use of the Orphans.

2. During no period of the work had we such great affliction in the way of sickness in the Orphan Establishment as during this. For nearly four months the scarlet fever and other diseases prevailed, so that more than one hundred children were seriously ill during this period, and at one time there were 55 Orphans confined

to their beds. But the Lord dealt very mercifully with us. Only 5 died in consequence of the scarlet fever, though we had 64 decided cases.

3. Several of the Orphans who left the Establishment during this year, went away as believers, having been converted some time before they left; one also who died gave very decided evidence of a true change of heart by faith in our Lord Jesus; several who in former years were under our care, as we heard during this year, took their stand openly on the Lord's side, and dated their first impressions to the instructions received whilst under our care; and lastly, of those under our care, there were not a few whose spiritual state gave us joy and comfort. Thus, amidst many difficulties and trials and some discouragements, we had abundant cause to praise God for his goodness, and to go forward in the strength of the Lord.

Matters connected with my own personal affairs.

Dec. 31, 1851. During this year the Lord was pleased to give me—

1. By anonymous offerings through the Chapel boxes	£157	4	0¼
2. By presents in money from believers in Bristol, not given anonymously	135	5	4
3. By presents in money from believers not residing in Bristol ...	156	6	9
4. By presents in provisions, clothes, &c., worth to us *at least* ...	16	17	0
	£465	13	1¼

Admire, dear reader, the Lord's kindness towards me, in that again, during this year also, he has so abundantly supplied me with means for my own personal and family necessities, without any regular salary or other stated income whatever, simply in answer to prayer.

Further account of the intended Orphan House for Seven Hundred Poor Children, bereaved of BOTH *parents by death, from May* 26, 1852, *to May* 26, 1853.

In the last chapter on this subject I stated that, on May 26, 1852, I had actually in hand towards this object 3530*l.* 9s. 0¼d.; and I now go on to relate how the Lord

has been pleased to help me further since then; but, for the sake of brevity, I can only refer to the more remarkable donations, yet will first give, as a specimen, every one of the donations during the first month of the period.

June 5, 1852. Anonymously from Burnham 10*l.*

June 6. Anonymously 1s.

June 9. By sale of articles 2s. 3d.

June 12. From Hastings 5*l.*

June 13. Through Salem Chapel boxes 4d.

June 18. Received 5s. 7d. from the Orphans in the Girls' Department of the New Orphan House, in commemoration of the anniversary of the opening of the New Orphan House, which took place this day three years. Received also 3s. 9d. from the Orphan Boys. These little sums from these children have given me much joy. I likewise received this day a donation of 200*l.*, of which the donor kindly wished me to keep 20*l.* for my own personal expenses, and to use the 180*l.* as might be most needed. I took of this sum 60*l.* for the Building Fund, 60*l.* towards the support of the 300 Orphans, and 60*l.* for the various other objects of the Scriptural Knowledge Institution.

June 19. From the neighbourhood of Wickham 1*l.*—From a Bristol donor 2s. 6d.

June 20. From Clifton 10s.

June 22. To-day I was informed that there had been paid into the hands of my bankers 500*l.* This sum is from a donor whom I have never seen, but whom God evidently has led, in answer to my daily supplications, and to those of my fellow labourers, to help me in his service. This donation has exceedingly refreshed my spirit, and has led me to expect more and more help from God. As this 500*l.* is left at my disposal, I took of it one-third for the Building Fund, another third for the current expenses for the 300 Orphans, and the last third for the School—Bible—Tract—and Missionary Fund of the Scriptural Knowledge Institution.

June 24. 5s. from a Bristol donor.

June 27. From Torquay 5s.

June 30. From Birmingham 5*l.*

July 1. 50*l.* The money being left to my disposal, I took half for the Building Fund—and half for the School—Bible—Tract—and Missionary Objects.

July 29. Received from one of the Orphans, formerly under our care, the following lines: "Dear Sir, will you please to accept the enclosed silver chain for the Building Fund, and the 3s. 6d. for your personal use, from your grateful Orphan, * * * *." This donation gave me much joy.

Aug. 6. From an Irish friend 53*l.*, "As a small acknowledgment of the donor's gratitude to his Heavenly Father for enriching him with the unsearchable riches of Christ, and to his dear Redeemer for loving him, and giving himself for him."

Aug. 13. From the neighbourhood of London 50*l.*—From Southampton 2*l.*

Aug. 14. From London 2*l.*—From the neighbourhood of London 2*l.*—From Yorkshire 10*l.*

Aug. 18. From Reading 10s.—From the neighbourhood of London 50*l.*, half of which is intended for missions and half for the Building Fund.

Aug. 21. From Southport a gold ring.—I received also to-day the following letter from Madras, East Indies, enclosing a donation of 70*l.* for the Building Fund.

"* * * * * Madras, 9th July, 1852.

"Dear Brother,

"Some time in the year 1842 or 1843 I met with 'The Lord's dealings with George Müller,' and, after reading it, was moved to send you something; but at that time I had not the means. In fact, I had lent, what little money I had, to a person who was unable to repay me, and I was nearly destitute. The good hand of God has been on me since that time, and I have often wondered whether George Müller was still in the flesh; but never had the resolution to inquire. Last December I met in a friend's house the Twelfth Report, and, after reading it, resolved to cast a mite into the Lord's treasury towards building the Orphan House for Seven Hundred children; and may the God of Jacob, that has fed me all my life long, unto this day, accept of it, as an acknowledgment of the thousandth part of the mercies I have received at his hands. I therefore enclose a bill of exchange * * * *. Value of bill Seventy Pounds sterling. * * * * * I have often mentioned you by name in my appeals to the throne of grace; and if I meet you not on

earth, I hope I shall in those regions where we shall see the Lamb on his throne and in his father's kingdom, and where there is no more sin nor sorrow.

"My dear Brother,

"Ever yours,

"* * * * * *."

This donation and letter have exceedingly refreshed my spirit, and quickened me yet further to prayer.

Pause a few moments, dear Reader. See how faith and prayer bring means from individuals whom we have never seen, whose very names we have never heard of, and who live at a distance of more than Ten Thousand miles from us. Do you not see that it is not in vain, to make known our requests to the Lord, and to come to him for every thing? When I first had it laid on my heart to build a second Orphan House for 700 destitute children, bereaved of *both* parents by death, simply in dependance upon God alone for means, could I have looked for this 70*l.* from this Christian brother at Madras? Verily not, for I did not even know of his existence. Had I other friends, from whom I had reason to expect to receive the large sum which will be needed to accomplish this? No, on the contrary, all human probability was against my ever receiving this large sum. But I had faith in God. I believed that he was able and willing to give me what I needed for this work; and solely in dependance upon him I purposed to build another Orphan House. But now see how God has helped me further; for after I had received this donation of 70*l.*, I had still only 4,127*l.* 12s. 6¾d. in hand, in other words, only a little more than the ninth part of the sum which, as far as I am able to calculate, will be needed to accomplish my object.

Aug. 25. From Malvern 20*l.*—From E. R. 10s.—From Scotland 9*l.* 10s.

Aug. 29. From Kelleagh 3s.—From Southwell 5s.—From Cheltenham 10s.—From Ballymoney 2*l.*—From Clifton 20*l.*

Aug. 30. During this month again fourteen destitute Orphans have been applied for, none of whom we can receive, because the New Orphan House is full. There are now 356 Orphans already waiting for admission, from

six months old and upwards, each bereaved of both parents by death.

Sept. 8. During the last five days, only 2*l.* 14s. had come in for the Building Fund, and only 9*l.* 1s. altogether for the current expenses for the various Objects of the Scriptural Knowledge Institution. Such seasons try my faith and patience; but, by the grace of God, they do not discourage me. He helps me to continue in prayer, and to look for answers, and for a time when he will help again bountifully. During the past eighteen years and six months, in which I have been occupied in this service, I have again and again found, that, after a season, during which very little has come in, and my faith has thus been tried, the Lord has generally the more bountifully helped afterwards. Thus it has been again this day. I have received a donation of 280*l.* 10s. 6d., of which the donor kindly wished me to take 20*l.* 10s. 6d. for my own personal expenses, and to use the 260*l.* as the work of the Lord in my hands might require it. I took of this sum one-third for the Building Fund, one-third for the current expenses for the Orphans, and one-third for the other Objects. Thus I had at once a four-fold answer to prayer: 1, Means for my own personal expenses, about which I had been asking the Lord; 2, Means for the Building Fund, for which I am day by day labouring in prayer; 3, Means for the current expenses for the Orphans, which were greatly needed; and 4, Means for the other Objects, which were *entirely exhausted*.—I received also from the neighbourhood of Kingston-on-Thames 5*l.*, and from an aunt of one of the Orphans 2s. 6d.

Sept. 9. From the neighbourhood of Winborne 5*l.*—From the Isle of Man 5*l.*—From a brother in Demerara five dollars.—From Leominster 3s. 10d., and a yard of black lace for sale.

Sept. 18. From Chelsea 10*l.*

Sept. 19. From Hampton Court Palace 2*l.*

Sept. 28. From Melbourne, in Australia, 50*l.*, from a believer in the Lord Jesus, whose name even I did not know up to the time that I received this donation.—See, dear Reader, how the Lord helps me, in answer to prayer. Do you not perceive that my fellow-labourers

and myself do not wait upon the Lord in vain? Be encouraged by this! Go for yourself, with all your temporal and spiritual wants, to the Lord. Bring also the necessities of your friends and relatives to the Lord. Only make the trial, and you will perceive how able and willing he is to help you. Should you, however, not at once obtain answers to your prayers, be not discouraged; but continue patiently, believingly, perseveringly to wait upon God: and as assuredly as that, which you ask, would be for your real good, and, therefore, for the honour of the Lord; and as assuredly as you ask it solely on the ground of the worthiness of our Lord Jesus, so assuredly you will at last obtain the blessing. I myself have had to wait upon God concerning certain matters for years, before I obtained answers to my prayers; but at last they came. At this very time, I have still to continue to renew my requests daily before God, respecting a certain blessing for which I have besought him for eleven years and a half, and which I have as yet obtained only in part, but concerning which I have no doubt that the full blessing will be granted in the end. So also, when I was led to build the New Orphan House, and waited upon the Lord for means for it, it took two years and three months, whilst day by day I brought this matter before him, before I received the full answer.—But to return to my journal. This donation of 50*l.* from Melbourne refreshed my spirit greatly, and quickened me yet further to prayer.—On the same day, I received from Sheffield 5*l.*, and from Tottenham 10*l.*

Sept. 29. From Cheltenham 85*l.*, of which the donors kindly intend 40*l.* for the Building Fund, 20*l.* for present use for the Orphans, 5*l.* for missionary work, 5*l.* for the Sunday Schools, 5*l.* for my own personal expenses, 5*l.* for Mr. Craik, 1*l.* for Mr. * * * *, 3*l.* for the poor saints at Bethesda, and 1*l.* for the Chapel expenses. The whole is intended to be "A thank-offering to the Lord for his great mercy and loving-kindness."

Sept. 30. From Blackrock, Dublin, 10s.—From Stafford 10s.—During this month, application has been made for the admission of twelve other Orphans.

Oct. 23. From a lady in Paris 3 francs.

Oct. 24. From Clifton 10s.—From Paris 5*l.*; and also 5s. from another donor in Paris.

Oct. 31. Thirteen more Orphans have been applied for during this month.

Nov. 2. Anonymously 10*l.*, from W. H. D., of which the donor intends 5*l.* for the Orphans, and 5*l.* for the Building Fund.—There was a letter left for me at the Bible and Tract Warehouse, No. 34, Park Street, Bristol, containing a Five Pound Note, and these words: "5*l.* for the new Orphan House for 700 Orphans, from G. M. L., Birmingham, 14th October, 1852."—From Tunbridge 5*l.*

Nov. 3. This evening I received a check for 300*l.* for the Building Fund.—I am continually looking out for help. I am sustained in waiting upon God, and in being enabled daily, and generally several times every day, to bring the matter about the Building Fund before God; and I know that God hears me, on the ground of the worthiness of the Lord Jesus, and that at last he will give me the full amount which I need for accomplishing this work. *How* the means are to come, I know not; but I know that God is almighty, that the hearts of all are in his hands, and that, if he pleaseth to influence persons, they will send help. In this donation of 300*l.*, received this evening, I have seen afresh, how easily God can send means. The donor, who sent it, was not even known to me by name this day month; but, on Oct. 12th, he sent me 200*l.* for the Orphans, and now 300*l.* for the Building Fund. Nothing had come in during the former part of the day; still, I was looking out, and, when I returned from the Orphan House, I found that this 300*l.* had arrived at my house. But I expect far larger sums.

Nov. 11. From London three boxes and two parcels of books, containing 275 volumes in all, to be sold for the Building Fund.—From Devonshire: a ring, an old silver thimble, five copper coins, and one brass coin.

Nov. 16. 50*l.*—From the neighbourhood of Stroud 10s.—From a brother in the Lord in Bristol 1*l.*—From one of the former Orphans 10s., being a part of her first quarter's wages. Sent as a token of gratitude.—From Bath 1*l.*

Nov. 19. 200*l.*, which, being left to my disposal, I took of it 100*l.* for the Building Fund, 60*l.* for preachers of

the Gospel at Home and Abroad, 20*l.* for the circulation of the Holy Scriptures, and 20*l.* for the circulation of Tracts.

Nov. 21. From Malta 5*l.*

Nov. 27. "From the neighbourhood of Leominster, as a thank-offering," 2*l.*—Day by day I am waiting upon God, concerning this object. I firmly believe that the Lord will give me all I require for the accomplishment of it, though I am utterly unworthy. I believe that I shall also have large sums, very large sums, when the Lord has been pleased sufficiently to exercise my faith and patience. To-day I received 250*l.*, the disposal of which was left to me. I took, therefore, 125*l.* for the Building Fund, 25*l.* for current expenses for the Orphans, 40*l.* for the home and foreign labourers in the word, whom I seek to assist, 20*l.* for gratuitous circulation of the Holy Scriptures among very poor persons, 20*l.* for gratuitous circulation of Gospel Tracts, and 20*l.* for all the various Day schools, Sunday schools, and the Adult school, which the Scriptural Knowledge Institution either assists or entirely supports.—From Newport, near Barnstaple, 5s.—Also from Newport 15s.—By sale of articles 9s. 4d.

Nov. 30. During this month, again 25 children, bereaved of both parents by death, born in wedlock, and in destitute circumstances, have been applied for, not one of whom I have any prospect of being able to admit, until the Lord shall have been pleased to enable me to build another Orphan House. The crowd of Orphans waiting for admission, whose number is increasing every month, leads me to continue in earnest supplication, that the Lord would be pleased to furnish me with means whereby I may be enabled soon to take active measures for the erection of another Orphan House. Nor do I doubt that he will help me.

Jan 2, 1853. From Worcester 5*l.*—10*l.*, of which 5*l.* is intended for the Building Fund, 3*l.* for the Orphans, and 2*l.* for the other objects, accompanied by this letter:

"Bristol, Jan. 1, 1853.

"Beloved Brother,

"Through grace I have a desire that the first check, drawn by me this year, should be for the Lord, in

acknowledgment of his goodness to me, for the measure of success he has been pleased to grant me in business.—Ect."

Jan. 3. From the neighbourhood of Stroud 1*l.* 15s. 3d. —Anonymously in a letter 8d.—From Newtown Limavady 1*l.*—Also 252*l.* 17s. 1d., which, being left to my disposal as most needed, I portioned out thus: 75*l.* for the Orphans, 75*l.* for the School, Bible, Missionary and Tract Fund, and 102*l.* 17s. 1d. for the Building Fund.

Jan. 4. From London 2s. 6d.—Day by day I have now been waiting upon God for means for the Building Fund for more than nineteen months, and almost daily I have received something in answer to prayer. These donations have been, for the most part, small, in comparison with the amount which will be required for the completion of this object; nevertheless they have shown that the Lord, for the sake of his dear Son, listens to my supplications and to those of my fellow labourers and helpers in the work; and they have been precious encouragements to me to continue to wait upon God. I have been for many months assured that the Lord, in his own time, would give larger sums for this work; and for this I have been more and more earnestly entreating him, during the last months. Now at last he has abundantly refreshed my spirit, and answered my request. I received to-day the promise, that, as *the joint donation of several Christians*, there should be paid to me a donation of Eight Thousand and One Hundred Pounds for the work of the Lord in my hands. Of this sum I purpose to take 6,000*l.* for the Building Fund, 600*l.* for the current expenses for the Orphans, and 1,500 for the other objects of the Scriptural Knowledge Institution for Home and Abroad. [This joint donation of several Christians was paid in four instalments during January, February, March, and April.]

It is impossible to describe the spiritual refreshment which my heart received through this donation. Day by day, for nineteen months, I had been looking out for more abundant help than I had had. I was fully assured that God would help me with larger sums; yet the delay was long. See how precious it is to wait upon God! See how those, who do so, are not confounded! Their

faith and patience may long and sharply be tried; but in the end it will most assuredly be seen that those who honour God he will honour, and will not suffer them to be put to shame. The largeness of the donation, whilst it exceedingly refreshed my spirit, did not in the least surprise me; *for I expect* GREAT *things from God.* I quote a paragraph from the Twelfth Report, page 27, where under Jan. 4, 1851, this will be found written: "I received this evening the sum of Three Thousand Pounds, being the largest donation which I have had as yet. I have had very many donations of 100*l.* and of 200*l.*, several of 300*l.*, one of 400*l.*, several of 500*l.*, some of from 600*l.* to 900*l.*, four of 1,000*l.*, two of 2,000*l.*, and one of 2,050*l.* But I never had more than this given to me at one time; yet I have expected more than 2,050*l.* in one donation, and, accordingly, it has pleased the Lord to give me 3,000*l.* this evening. I now write again that I expect far larger sums still, in order that it may be yet more and more manifest, that there is no happier, no easier, and no better way for obtaining pecuniary means for the work of the Lord, than the one in which I have been led." This, you perceive, dear Reader, was written more than two years ago. Since then I have again received many considerable donations, besides thousands of pounds in smaller sums. And now the largest donation of 3000*l.*, which I had had before, was surpassed by the one of 8,100*l.* Have I then been boasting in God in vain? Is it not manifest that it is most precious, in every way, to depend upon God? Do I serve God for nought? Is it not obvious that the principles, on which I labour, are not only applicable to the work of God *on a small scale*, but also, as I have so many times affirmed during the past nineteen years, *for the most extensive operations for God?* I delight to dwell upon this, if, by any means, some of my beloved fellow believers might be allured to put their *whole* trust in God for *every* thing; and if, by any means, some unbelievers thereby might be made to see that God is verily the Living God now as ever, and might be stirred up to seek to be reconciled to him by putting their trust in the atonement of the Lord Jesus Christ, and thus find in God a friend for time and eternity.

But to return to the subject of the Narrative.—I received

to-day still further a fifty pound note. At another time I might have employed this for other parts of the work; but now, having an abundance of means for all the various objects, I took the whole 50*l.* for the Building Fund; for my soul longs to be allowed of God, soon to be able more abundantly to help destitute Orphans, for whom I get continually fresh applications.

Jan. 12. Anonymously, through the Bristol Post, 10*l.*, with the following words:

"A well-wisher to your excellent Institution begs to present you with Ten Pounds towards the Fund for building the *intended second Orphan House*, being a thank-offering on the recovery of a debt, which he considered very doubtful. Bristol, Jan. 12, 1853."

Jan 25. From Oxfordshire 10*l.*

Jan 28. From Hampton Court Palace: A gold watch and watch key, a fine gold chain, a small gold seal, a gold bodkin case, a ring, an ear drop, a silver mounted corkscrew, a shaving brush in silver case, a silver strainer, and several broken pieces of silver. All to be sold for the Building Fund.

Feb. 19. *Saturday Evening.* The Lord has been pleased to send in the means as sparingly this month, as he was pleased to send them in abundantly during the last. But this is for the trial of my faith and patience. While, however, these graces are exercised by the Lord, he kindly sustains both. With unshaken confidence and joyful anticipation am I, by the help of God, enabled to go forward day by day, looking on to the day when I shall have the whole amount requisite for this object, just as it was with reference to the building of the New Orphan House on Ashley Down. I know that I shall not be confounded; for I trust in God, and for the honour of his name I proposed the building of this second Orphan House. Yet my soul longs, to be able to declare to the Church of Christ at large, that I have obtained an answer to this my oft repeated request, which again and again, *every* day, is brought before him, and in which request I am joined by my fellow labourers in the work. Moreover, I long to be able to show to an unbelieving world afresh, by this my petition being granted, that verily there is reality in the things of God. And lastly, I long to be able to commence the building

of this second Orphan House, because there are now 438 Orphans waiting for admission. I have not yet received anything to-day for this object; but the Lord can even now give me something when I get home this evening; but be that as it may, I know that, when his time is come, and when my patience has been sufficiently exercised, he will help me abundantly. That word respecting Abraham: "And so, after he had *patiently endured*, he obtained the promise" (Hebrew vi. 15), has been repeatedly a precious word to me during the last days, it having come of late in the course of my reading through the New Testament.

Feb. 23. This evening, after another long season of prayer respecting the work of God in my hands, and especially also, that it might please the Lord to give me soon what I need for the Building Fund, so that I may be enabled to take active steps in the erection of another Orphan House, came in the course of my reading and meditation James I. This forcibly reminded me of the close of November and the beginning of December in 1845, when, whilst I was labouring for a season in the Word at Sunderland, this portion also came in the course of my meditation on the whole New Testament. James i. 4; "But let patience have her perfect work, that ye may be perfect and entire, wanting nothing," was then particularly impressed on my mind as a portion which I should need to keep before me. I was at that time, day by day, waiting upon the Lord for means and every other help which I might need in connexion with the Orphan House, which I had purposed to build in dependance upon the Lord for help. I had not the least doubt that God would help me through all the difficulties connected with this work. I felt as sure that God would enable me to accomplish this work, as if I had actually seen the house before me and actually seen it inhabited by Orphans; but I had reason to believe, at the same time, that great and many and varied would be my trials of faith and patience, before all would be accomplished. I had at that time not yet one single shilling in hand towards this work, but often, even then, whilst staying at Sunderland, and meditating on this first chapter of the Epistle of James, did I praise God before hand, that he would give me everything that I should need in connexion

with this intended Orphan House. Now this evening, February 23, 1853, I am writing in that very house, the New Orphan House, with its 300 Orphans, about which I was then praying. Nearly four years it has been already inhabited by the Orphans. And I now say again to myself, "Let patience have her perfect work," with reference to the intended Orphan House for 700 more Orphans; but also, at the same time, am I assured that the Lord will enable me to accomplish this also.

Feb. 24. From a gentleman and lady at Edinburgh 3*l.*—From a lady of title 1*l.*, from two noble ladies 1*l.*, and from another noble lady 2*l.* Of this 7*l.* the donors kindly wish me to take 2*l.* for my own personal expenses, and the other 5*l.* have been taken for the Building Fund. —By sale of books, given for the purpose, 21*l.* 10s.

Feb. 25. From Somersetshire 2*l.*—From Yarmouth 1*l.*

Feb. 26. From Saltcoats 1*l.*—From Paisley 5s.

March 3. Anonymously 5s.—From Swansea 10*l.*—From Ayrshire 23*l.* 18s. 2d.—From Clifton 5s.

March 14.—From Scotland 200*l.*, of which the donor kindly wished me to give 10*l.* to Mr. Craik, to take 10*l.* for my own personal expenses, and to use the 180*l.* as most needed. I took, therefore, 100*l.* for the Building Fund, and 80*l.* for the current expenses for the Orphans. This donation has been a great refreshment to my spirit; for since Jan. 4th only little, comparatively, has come in either for the Building Fund or for the current expenses.

March 17. From Kendal 2*l.*, with 2*l.* for the Orphans, and 1*l.* for myself.

March 29. For nearly three months the Lord has been pleased to exercise my patience by the comparatively small amount of means which has come in. It was more an exercise of *patience* than of *faith;* for, during all this time, we not only abounded, with regard to means for the current expenses, through the large sums, which had come in at the beginning of the year, but I had also even now considerable sums in hand, for the current expenses of the various objects. Still, though not actually in need of means, yet my spirit had been enabled to labour on in prayer for means for the Building Fund in particular, and also for means for current expenses, in order that it may become more and more manifest what a happy, easy, and successful way this is. Now, this evening, when I

came home, I found that 300*l.* had come in. This is a great refreshment to my spirit.—As the amount is left to my disposal as may be most needed, I have taken one half of it for the Building Fund, and the other half for the current expenses for the Orphans. The other objects abound at present with means, and even for the Orphans I had yet above 200*l.* in hand.

April 20. Received from a most unexpected quarter 100*l.*, which I took half for the Building Fund, and half for the Orphans, as the other objects were not in immediate need of means. This donation has much refreshed my spirit.

May 14. Received 260*l.*, of which I took 100*l.* for the Building Fund, and 160*l.* for the current expenses for the Orphans.

May 26. From Gloucester 5s.—Through the box at the Bible and Tract Warehouse in Park Street, Bristol, 2*l.* 11s. 10d.—By sale of an old gold watch, a few trinkets, some old silver coins, and some small pieces of broken silver articles, 10*l.* 7s. 8d.—Also 80*l.* 15s. 11d., being the proceeds arising from the sale of a work published in English; and 2*l.* 10s., being the proceeds arising from the sale of a work published in French; were given for the Building Fund.—To these sums is to be added 334*l.* 16s. 9d., received during this period for interest; for I felt it my duty, as has been stated before, to invest the money given to me for the Building Fund, until actually required.

Thus closes this period, from May 26, 1852, to May 26, 1853. All the donations received during this period for the Building Fund, together with the 3530*l.* 9s. 0¼d. in hand, on May 26, 1852, made the total of 12,531*l.* 12s. 0¼d. in hand on May 26, 1853.

The following paragraphs were printed in the Report of 1853, respecting the intended Orphan House, which are here reprinted for the better understanding of the subject.

A. Besides having the means to meet all the demands which came upon me in connexion with the various objects of the Scriptural Knowledge Institution for Home and Abroad; and besides enlarging almost all of them considerably, so that the sum of 7035*l.* 12s. 0¼d. altogether was expended; I have been enabled to add,

during the past twelvemonth, 9,001*l.* 3s. to the Building Fund. The total sum which God has been pleased to give to me, during the year, both for current expenses and the Building Fund, amounts to 16,042*l.* 8s. 11d.

B. It is true that very much yet is needed for the Building Fund, before I shall be enabled to accomplish the desire of my heart, in building another House for 700 more Orphans. I may have also yet many trials of faith and patience to pass through; but what the Lord has done for me during the past 24 years in particular, and all his dealings with me in connexion with the Scriptural Knowledge Institution; and all his help afforded for Building the New Orphan House on Ashley Down, Bristol, which has been now already inhabited for four years; encourage me to continue to wait upon God. By his grace I am not tired of waiting upon him for means. Yea, I confess to his praise, that, the longer I live, the more I am practically assured of the blessedness of waiting upon God for every thing.

C. There is no decrease as to the application for the admission of Orphans. This, in addition to all the help and support which the Lord has granted to me for these many years in the work, and in addition to the means received for the Building Fund during the past year, encourages me greatly to continue to wait upon God for help, to be enabled to build another Orphan House for 700 Orphans. On May 26, 1852, there were 326 Orphans waiting for admission. Since then there have been 184 Orphans applied for, making in all 510. Of these, as only few vacancies have occurred during the past year, not more than 13 could be received into the New Orphan House, and 17 besides, as I have been informed by applicants, were otherwise provided for, so that 30 are to be deducted from 510, which leaves 480 Orphans waiting for admission. Many of these are very young, some even under one year old. But I have the fullest reason to believe, that many persons are kept from applying for the admission of Orphans, because there are already so many waiting, else the number would be greater still. With such a number of poor destitute Orphans before me, bereaved of *both* parents by death, how can I but labour on in prayer for means, for the accomplishment of this object; and I have not

the least doubt that, after the Lord may have been pleased to exercise my faith and patience yet somewhat more, unworthy though I am of it, he will condescend to grant the request for the whole amount of the means which are needed for the building of this second Orphan House, in answer to the supplications which my fellow-labourers and myself continually bring before him.

D. It must not be supposed that I am discouraged, because two years have elapsed since I first began to receive donations towards this object, and as yet only 12,531*l.* 12s. 0½d. is in hand. I expected trials of faith and patience, both for my own profit, and for the benefit of others, who might hear of the Lord's dealings with me. I was not without trials, yea, not without *many* trials of faith and patience, in building the New Orphan House for 300 Orphans; nor did I obtain the means then till after the lapse of two years and three months; therefore, in seeking to build this house for 700 Orphans, I am not surprised that I should have to wait patiently. But of this I have never had a doubt that, after the Lord had sufficiently tried my faith and patience, he would supply me with all I need. I therefore wait for the Lord's time. Moreover, the Lord, in a very short time, can give me all I need. It is not necessary that twice or thrice as much time as has already elapsed should have to pass away, before I am in a position to be warranted to take active measures; yet, be this as it may, by the grace of God I am content to wait his time.

E. Should it be asked, whether I intend to wait till I have the whole sum of Thirty-Five Thousand Pounds, which will be needed; or whether I purpose to begin the building before; my reply is this: I do not purpose to delay the beginning of the building till I have what is required for fitting up and furnishing the house, which is included in that sum; for I may well trust in the Lord for that amount whilst the House is being built; but as I, on Scriptural grounds, neither for my own personal expenses, nor for the work of God, go into debt, I should not begin building, till I have sufficient to meet the amount of the contracts of the builders, for which, together with the land, I consider not less than 25,000*l.* would be needed, so that I have just half the amount requisite for that.

Supplies for the School—Bible—Missionary and Tract Fund, sent in answer to prayer, from May 26, 1852, *to May* 26, 1853.

On May 26, 1852, when the accounts were closed, there was left in hand for these objects the balance of 45*l.* 5s. 7½d. Before this balance was expended, I received, on May 27, 1852, from the neighbourhood of Whitehaven, 2*l.* 10s. for missions. On May 29, from Belper, 5s. 7d. for missions. On May 30, through Bethesda boxes, 2s. 6d. and 4d. for missions. On June 7th, I received from Somersetshire 10*l.*; and on the same day I found that a Christian bookseller in London had paid into the hands of my bankers 34*l.* 14s. 4d., which he had been ordered to pay to me, on behalf of a Christian gentleman, to whom this amount was due. This sum I took for these objects. But the Lord helped still further. June 8. 10*l.* from Y. Z.—June 13. From Y. Z. 33*l.* 3s. Through Bethesda boxes for missions 1s. Ditto 1s. Through Salem boxes 1s. 8d. From "P." 1s. Ditto 4d. —June 15. From one engaged in the work 1*l.*—June 16. From Clifton 4d.—June 18. From W. W. 10*l.* "for missionary brethren, labouring in dependance upon God for their temporal supplies." Also 200*l.* came in, of which I took 60*l.* for these objects, as stated with reference to this donation, in giving an account of the donations for the Building Fund.—June 22. 500*l.* came in, as stated under Building Fund, of which one-third or 166*l.* 13s. 4d. was taken for these objects.

This is just a specimen of how the Lord helped me week after week to meet the expenses during this period. About Six Hundred Pounds a month, or above Seven Thousand Pounds during the year, I had to expend for the various objects of the Institution; but I had sufficient to meet every demand; and over and above I was helped by the Lord to increase the Building Fund Nine Thousand Pounds above what it was the year before. The current expenses of the Institution were never so great during the previous nineteen years; but the extent of its operations, and the means which the Lord was pleased to send in, were also never so great.

I stated, however, before, that I could not give here in detail an account of every donation. I, therefore, single

out a few more instances, to show the manner in which the Lord helped me.

Aug. 4. The funds for these objects were now reduced to about 4*l.*; but there was much required in order to be able to go on with the circulation of the Holy Scriptures and Tracts, and to assist missionary brethren; when I received this evening 200*l.*, which was left to me to be applied as seemed best to me. I took therefore one half for the current expenses for the Orphans, and the other half for these objects, and was thus again supplied for the present.

Aug. 14. 20*l.* for missions from W. W.

Sept. 8. Little, comparatively, has come in since August 4th. Only twenty-seven donations altogether, of which only a few were rather large sums. Therefore all our means were now gone. On the 3rd of this month I sent out 40*l.* to six brethren who labour in the Word, and would on that day have sent out 35*l.* more to other six brethren, but had not the means; and, therefore, all that I could do was, to wait upon God. I also desired to order more Bibles and Tracts; but had to delay this likewise, as I would not go into debt for them. Now this morning I received 280*l.* 10s. 6d. [referred to under the Building Fund], of which 86*l.* 13s. 4d. was taken for these objects. Thus I am helped again for the present, and look for further supplies.

Oct. 9. Only nineteen donations, almost all small, have come in for these objects since September 8th. For the last three days I have especially desired means for these objects. Gladly would I have helped brethren who labour in the Word at home and abroad; but I was unable to do so. I could only pray for means. Now this morning the Lord gave me the desire of my heart in this respect. I received a donation of 230*l.* 15s., which, being left at my disposal as most needed, I took one half for these objects, and the other half for the current expenses for the Orphans.

Nov. 3. "From an Irish friend" 10*l.* for missions.—I have particularly prayed within the last few days for means for missionary objects, as all means are gone, therefore this donation is very refreshing as an answer to prayer. But I expect more, as I desire to send out shortly at least 200*l.* to brethren who labour in the Word.

This I wrote, as the date shows, on November 3rd, and that which follows will now show to the Reader, that I did not wait upon God in vain. During no period, within the nineteen years previously, was I enabled to do so much in the way of aiding missionary operations, as during this period; and during no previous period was I enabled to do so much in the circulation of the Holy Scriptures and Tracts, as during this; yet once or twice all the means for these objects were expended, and I had *to stand still* and to wait upon God for further supplies. The servant of Christ, who knows that he is not occupied about his own work, but about that of his master, can, however, be quiet, and ought to be quiet, under such circumstances, in order to prove that he is only the servant and not the master. If he cannot be quiet, and if, in the restlessness of nature, he will work and take steps, when he ought to stand still, and wait upon God; then let him suspect himself, and let him see well to it, whether the work in which he is engaged is God's work or not; and whether, if it be God's work, it is done for the honour of the master or for the honour of the servant. In this case God abundantly recompensed me for standing still for a little, and for calling upon him. I had not to wait long before he was pleased to help me. I now go on with my journal, to show to the Reader how the Lord answered prayer in this instance.

Nov. 5. I received from Okehampton six silver tea spoons, to be sold for foreign missions.

Nov. 6. Received 5*l.* with the following words: "Enclosed is a Post Office Order, drawn out in your favour by * * * * *, Three Pounds of which my dear husband is constrained to send to you for the foreign *missions*. The other two *I* send; one for your own personal expenses, and the other to be used for the Orphans, as their need may require, &c."

I have especially prayed, for several days past, for help for brethren who labour in the Word at home and abroad, as I have no means left for them, and could lay out at once 200*l.* or 300*l.* on their behalf. Therefore this donation is particularly precious. But I expect more.

Nov. 7. From Braunton 2*l.* for *missions*.—Anonymously 2s. 6d. for *missions*.

Nov. 10. From some believers at Ludlow 6*l.* 14s. for foreign *missions*.

Nov. 11. During the last ten days I have especially asked the Lord for means for home and foreign labourers. This also was particularly dwelt upon at our usual weekly prayer meeting of the labourers in the work on Saturday the 6th of November. Now to-day I received 237*l.* 10s. for the work of the Lord in my hands. As the application of the money was left to me, I took the whole of this amount for home and foreign labourers in the Word, as they greatly need help; and I expect by to-morrow evening to have sent out the whole amount.—In the course of my reading through the Holy Scriptures there came to-day John xvi. 23, "Verily, verily I say unto you, whatsoever ye shall ask the Father in my name, he will give it you." I turned to my Father in heaven and said: "Be pleased, Holy Father, to hear me for the sake of thy Holy Child Jesus, and give me means for these dear brethren who labour in the word and doctrine, whom I seek to help." In about half an hour afterwards I received this 237*l.* 10s.—There came in also from Spaldwick 2s. 4d. and 6d. for *missions*.

Nov. 13. To-day were paid to me two legacies, left by a lady at a distance whom I have never seen, and whose name even I had never heard, till I was informed about the payment of the legacies. I received the legacy of 100*l.* for the Orphans (being 101*l.* 4s. with the interest due), and 50*l.* for the various Schools for poor children under my direction (being 50*l.* 12s. with the interest due.)—In portioning out yesterday the means for the brethren who labour in the Word at home and abroad, to whom I desire to send help, I found that the 237*l.* 10s. was not enough, and also that I needed more means for the various Schools and the circulation of Bibles and Tracts. On this account the payment of this legacy of 50*l.* 12s. for the Schools came in very seasonably. But the Lord helped still further this evening by a donation of 60*l.*, the application of which is entirely left to me. I have therefore taken of it 20*l.* for missionary brethren, 20*l.* for the circulation of the Holy Scriptures, and 20*l.* for the circulation of Gospel Tracts.

Nov. 14. From Glasgow 1*l.* for the circulation of the

Holy Scriptures.—From Old Aberdeen 10*s.* for native missionaries in China.

Nov. 15. From Aberdeen 1*l.* 15*s.* 7*d.* for missions.

Nov. 16. From Bath 2*l.* 0*s.* 1*d.* for foreign missions.

Nov. 19. From Yorkshire 3*l.* for foreign missions. —From Cumberland 13*s.* 10*d.* for missionaries in Demerara.—Also 200*l.*, left to my disposal, as I might be directed by the Lord. I took of it 100*l.* for the Building Fund, 60*l.* for foreign and home labourers in the word, 20*l.* for the circulation of the Holy Scriptures, and 20*l.* for the circulation of Gospel Tracts.—During the last eight days I had sent out 252*l.* to home and foreign labourers in the Word, and 65*l.* I had paid out for the circulation of Tracts and the Holy Scriptures. I desired, however, still further means for brethren who labour in the Word, for I wished to send out at once 70*l.* more, and also to lay out more on the circulation of the Holy Scriptures and Gospel Tracts; but I had only about 90*l.* altogether left for these various objects, when I received today the 3*l.*, the 13*s.* 10*d.*, and this 200*l.* The Lord be praised for this help, and may he recompense the donors!

You see, dear Reader, by these instances, that we are richly recompensed for our waiting upon God. You perceive the readiness of his heart to listen to the supplications of his children who put their trust in him. If you have never made trial of it, do so now. But in order to have your prayers answered, you need to make your requests unto God on the ground of the merits and worthiness of the Lord Jesus. You must not depend upon your own worthiness and merits, but solely on the Lord Jesus, as the ground of acceptance before God, for your person, for your prayers, for your labours, and for every thing else. Do you really believe in Jesus? Do you verily depend upon him alone for the salvation of your soul? See to it well, that not the least degree of your own righteousness is presented unto God as a ground of acceptance. But then, if you believe in the Lord Jesus, it is further necessary, in order that your prayers may be answered, that the things which you ask God should be of such a kind, that God can give them to you, because they are for his honour and your real good. If the obtaining of your requests were not for your real good, or were not tending to the honour of God, you

might pray for a long time, without obtaining what you desire. The glory of God should be always before the children of God, in what they desire at his hands: and their own spiritual profit, being so intimately connected with the honour of God, should never be lost sight of, in their petitions. But now, suppose we are believers in the Lord Jesus, and suppose we make our requests unto God, depending alone on the Lord Jesus as the ground of having them granted; suppose also, that, so far as we are able honestly and uprightly to judge, the obtaining of our requests would be for our real spiritual good and for the honour of God; we yet need, lastly, to *continue* in prayer, until the blessing is granted unto us. It is not enough to begin to pray, nor to pray aright: nor is it enough to continue *for a time* to pray; but we must patiently, believingly continue in prayer, until we obtain an answer, and further, we have not only *to continue* in prayer unto the end, but we have also *to believe* that God does hear us, and will answer our prayers. Most frequently we fail *in not continuing* in prayer until the blessing is obtained, and *in not expecting* the blessing. As assuredly as in any individual these various points are found united together, so assuredly answers will be granted to his requests.

From what I have stated, the Reader will have seen that my prayer had been especially, that the Lord would be pleased to furnish me with means for the circulation of Bibles and Tracts, and for missionary operations; and it has been shown how he granted this my request through the large sums which he sent me (entirely unasked for, as always, so far as man is concerned), on November 11, 13 and 19; but even this was but little in comparison with what he did for me afterwards, when he was pleased to place far greater sums at my disposal for these objects, to which reference has been already made, when speaking about the donations which came in for the Building Fund on November 27, 1852, and on January 3 and 4, 1853.

Thus I was carried through all the expenses for these various objects, and was enabled to enter into every open door which the Lord set before me for circulating the Holy Scriptures and Tracts, and for aiding missionary operations; and not only so, but was enabled to do for these various objects more than during any one period within the nineteen previous years.

Means for the support of the 300 *Orphans already under my care, sent in answer to Prayer, from May* 26, 1852, *to May* 26, 1853.

When we began this period, we were not only not in debt, but had in hand the balance of 134*l.* 8s. 10¾d. To those who are in very poor circumstances, this amount would appear a considerable sum, and they might think, this sum would last a long time. Such need, however, to know, that it would only furnish the *current* expenses of two weeks, and that often in one week much more than that sum has been disbursed for the Orphans. To those, on the other hand, who would say, "This is very little, and what will you do, with so small a sum in hand, when day by day 330 persons need to be provided for?" our reply is, God is able to send us more, before this sum is gone. We seek for grace, to live by the day. We seek to be enabled to attend to the commandment and affectionate counsel of the Lord, to be anxious about nothing. It was in this way that no care came over our mind with regard to the future, when we looked at this large Orphan Establishment, with all its large daily wants; for we were assured that the Lord would surely give us something, before all was expended. And thus it was.

I will now furnish the Reader with a few instances from my journal of the particular providence of God, manifested in caring for us, and granting us help in answer to our prayers: for I do especially desire it to be understood, that, though the work is now so very much larger than it was in former years, and therefore far larger sums are needed than before; yet the principles of trusting in God, and depending upon God alone, are now acted upon as formerly, only with this difference, that year by year, by the grace of God, my soul becomes more and more rooted and established in them. It would therefore be entirely a mistake, to suppose that it is no longer a work of faith. If it was formerly a work of faith on a small scale, it is now a work of faith on a large scale. If we had trials of faith formerly, about comparatively little things; we have now trials of faith about comparatively great things. If we formerly had no certain income, so now have we none. We have to look to

God for every thing in connexion with the work, of which often, however, the pecuniary necessities are the smallest matter; but to him we are enabled to look, and *therefore* it is, that we are not disappointed.

During the very first month, from May 27th to June 27th, 1852, there came in, by ninety-two different donations or sums, 354*l.* 1s. 5d.: so that we had, after a month, more in hand than before. Unbelief, which said, what will you do with so little as 134*l.*? was therefore confounded. The Lord increased this little, before it was expended.

June 29, 1852. To-day I received one of the most remarkable donations which I ever had. I give the whole account, without the name of the donor.

"Lyons, June 24, 1852.

"Dear Brother in Christ,

"It is now several years, that I read with great interest, and I hope with some benefit to my soul, the account of your labours and experiences. Ever since then your work was the object of many thoughts and prayers, and I gave many copies of your book to christian friends. One of them has read it in Syria, on Mount Lebanon, where he is for commercial business; and, whilst praying for you and your dear Orphans, the Lord put it in his heart to send you 2*l.*, to which my husband added two others: and we beg you to accept that small offering in the name of the Lord. If you have published any thing of the Lord's dealings with you since the year 1844, we shall be very happy to receive it. You could forward it to Messrs. * * * *, London, for * * * * of Lyons. And now, dear Brother, may the grace and peace of the Lord rest on you and your dear home's inhabitants.

"Affectionately yours in the Lord,

* * * * *."

I have had donations from Australia, the East Indies, the West Indies, the United States, Canada, from the Cape of Good Hope, from France, Switzerland, Germany, Italy, &c.; and now comes also this donation from Mount Lebanon, with the prayer of a christian brother, whose name I never heard, nor know even now. See, dear Reader, this is the way in which the Lord has helped

me in this precious service for twenty-two years. With my fellow-labourers, or without them, and they without me, our prayers are offered up unto the Lord for help, and he is pleased, for Jesus' sake, to listen to our supplications, and to influence the hearts of some of his children, known to us or not, to send us help. The donors may be rich or poor; they may live near or at a distance of more than ten thousand miles; they may give much or little; they may have often given before or never; they may be well known to us or not at all: in these and many other things there may be constant variations; but God continually helps us; we are never confounded. And why not? Simply because we are enabled, by the grace of God, to put our trust in him for what we need.

On the very next day, June 30th, I received another donation from a believing farmer in Jersey of 3*l.* 1s., which, with 15s. sent by him on June 8th, were the proceeds of a small field of potatoes, which he had cultivated for the benefit of the Orphans. See in what various ways the Lord helps me! This dear man sent me once more in April 1853, with an affectionate letter in French, 2*l.* for the Orphans, and shortly afterwards fell asleep in Jesus. While I am writing this account, I meet with many names of worthy disciples of the Lord Jesus, who have entered upon their rest, since I received their donations; may this speak to my heart, and to the heart of the reader, and may we learn the lesson which God intends to teach us thereby!

July 10. 50*l.* from Liverpool.

Aug. 4. To-day I received 200*l.*, of which I took one-half for the Orphans, and the other half for the other objects, the disposal of this sum being left with me, as the need of the work might most require it. This is a precious answer to prayer. There will be about 400*l.* required during this month for the current expenses for the Orphans, but there was only about 170*l.* in hand, when this donation came in.

As the 127 donations which had come in since Aug. 4th were of a smaller kind, we had on Sept. 8th scarcely any thing left, when I received the 280*l.* 10s. 6d. spoken of (Sept. 8th, 1852) under the Building Fund, of which

86*l.* 13s. 4d. was taken for the current expenses for the Orphans.

Oct. 7. This evening I found that there was only 8*l.* left in hand for the current expenses for the Orphans. Hitherto we had generally abounded. But though much had come in, since the commencement of this new period, yet our expenses had been greater than our income, as every donation almost of which the disposal was left with me, had been put to the Building Fund. Thus the balance in hand on May 26, 1852, notwithstanding the large income since then, was reduced to about 8*l.* I therefore gave myself particularly to prayer for means, that this small sum might be increased. When I came home this evening from the New Orphan House, I found a letter from London, containing 2*l.*, being two donations from Kelso, of 1*l.* each, and another letter from Peterborough, containing 1*l.*

Oct. 8. This morning I received 5*l.* 5s. more from Willenhall. Thus the Lord has already been pleased to add 8*l.* 5s. to the little stock in hand, which is now increased to 16*l.* 5s.—Another 6d. was added, by sale of a Report.—This evening the matron told me that to-morrow she would need to have more money. I generally advance 30*l.* at a time for housekeeping expenses, but I had now only 8*l.* 14s. left, as I had to pay out this afternoon 7*l.* 11s. 6d. This I purposed to give to her, should it not please the Lord to give more in the meantime, being assured that, before this amount was gone, he would give more. My prayer to the Lord, however, was, that he would be pleased to send help, and *I looked out* for means. When I came home this evening, I found a letter from Gosport, containing 1s., which a little boy has sent for the Orphans, having received it as a reward for picking up a ring, and giving it to the owner. Also a letter from Kingstown, Ireland, containing a Post-office Order for 1*l.* 7s., of which 1*l.* 2s. 6d. are for the Building Fund, and 4s. 6d. for Reports.—I likewise received 6d. for missions and 6d. for the Orphans, from two boys in the neighbourhood of Stroud. Thus I have 9*l.* to advance to-morrow for housekeeping.

Oct. 9. This morning Luke vii. came in the course of my reading before breakfast. While reading the account

about the Centurion and the raising from death of the widow's son at Nain, I lifted up my heart to the Lord Jesus thus: "Lord Jesus, thou hast the same power now. Thou canst provide me with means for thy work in my hands. Be pleased to do so."—About half an hour afterwards I received 230*l.* 15s. Also 1s. This 230*l.* 15s. was left at my disposal, as most needed. I took one half of it for the current expenses for the Orphans, and the other half for the other objects. I am now amply provided for meeting the demands of this day.

The joy which such answers to prayer afford, cannot be described. I was determined to wait upon God only, and not to work an unscriptural deliverance for myself. I have thousands of pounds for the Building Fund; but I would not take of it, because it was once set apart for that object. There is also a legacy of 100*l.* for the Orphans two months overdue, in the prospect of the payment of which the heart might be naturally inclined to use some money of the Building Fund, to be replaced by the legacy money, when it comes in; but I would not thus step out of God's way of obtaining help. At the very time when this donation arrived, I had packed up 100*l.* which I happened to have in hand, received for the Building Fund, in order to take it to the Bank, as I was determined not to touch it, but to wait upon God. My soul does magnify the Lord for his goodness!

This last paragraph is copied out of my journal, written down at the time. I add a few words more to the last sentences.

The natural mind is ever prone *to reason*, when we ought *to believe;* to be *at work*, when we ought to be *quiet;* to go our own way, when we ought steadily to walk on in God's ways, however trying to nature. When I was first converted, I should have said, What harm can there be to take some of the money, which has been put by for the Building Fund? God will help me again after some time with means for the Orphans, and then I can replace it. Or, there is this money due for the legacy of 100*l.* This money is quite sure, may I not, therefore, on the strength of it, take some of the money from the Building Fund, and, when the legacy is paid, replace the money which I have taken? From what I have seen of believers, I know that many would act thus.

But how does it work, when we thus anticipate God, by going our own way? We bring, in many instances, guilt on our conscience; but if not, we certainly weaken faith, instead of increasing it; and each time we work thus a deliverance of our own, we find it more and more difficult to trust in God, till at last we give way entirely to our natural fallen reason, and unbelief prevails. How different, if one is enabled to wait God's own time, and to look alone to him for help and deliverance! When at last help comes, after many seasons of prayer it may be, and after much exercise of faith and patience it may be, how sweet it is, and what a present recompense does the soul at once receive for trusting in God, and waiting patiently for his deliverance! Dear christian reader, if you have never walked in this path of obedience before, do so now, and you will then know experimentally the sweetness of the joy which results from it. I now return to Oct. 9, 1852.

Received still further to-day, from Cirencester 2*l.*, and also 10*l.*

Oct. 10. From two little girls at Clifton, 5s.—By sale of a silver watch, given for the purpose, 1*l.* 10s.—From a donor in Maryport Street 3s. 4d.—Through Bethesda boxes 1s. Ditto 2s. 6d. Ditto a sovereign.—From a believer in Bristol 5s.—By sale of empty oatmeal barrels 15s.

Oct. 11. From Sutton Pointz 13s. 7d.—Through the boxes in the New Orphan House 3s.—From an Orphan, formerly under our care, and now in service, 10s., with 10s. for the Building Fund.—From a Christian lady, recently come from Edinburgh, 1*l.*—Through a Christian lady, staying at Clifton, 5s.

Oct. 12. By sale of rags and bones 12s. 6d. [I copy literally from the receipt book. We seek to make the best of every thing. As a steward of public money, I feel it right that even these articles should be turned into money; nor could we expect answers to our prayers if *knowingly* there were any waste allowed in connexion with this work. For just because the money is received from God, simply in answer to prayer only, therefore it becomes us the more to be careful in the use of it].—By sale of Reports 5s.—From an Orphan box at Plymouth 3s. together with 8s. as a donation added, and 9s. for

Reports.—Still further help: This afternoon a lady of Clifton called at my house, and brought a check for 200*l.*, which a gentleman, whose name even I had never heard of, had sent her for the benefit of the Orphans. We are not now in actual need, yet as 62*l.* has already been paid out of what I have received since the 9th, and as other heavy payments are before me, in a few days, it is particularly kind of the Lord to send me this donation from a perfect stranger.

Nov. 13. To-day was paid to me the legacy for the Orphans, to which reference has been made. I had no doubt it would come in in good time. Thus it is. The expenses are heavy, week after week. The day after to-morrow, I shall have again to pay out above 100*l.* for the Orphans.

On Dec. 20th, in the evening, I had only 16*l.* 9s. left. Think of this, dear Reader. So little, for so large an Establishment! From Dec. 20th to the evening of Dec. 26th, there came in only about 18*l.*; and as I had paid out above 13*l.*, I could only advance 15*l.* for housekeeping on Dec. 27th, instead of the usual 30*l.*, and had then about 5*l.* left for petty expenses. I knew that on the 31st I should have to advance again at least 20*l.* for housekeeping. Now see how the Lord was pleased to send in the means from the morning of Dec. 27th to Dec. 31st. Dec. 27: From Alcombe, near Minehead, 10s.—From a poor widow in Bristol 5s.—Anonymously 1*l.* Ditto a sovereign, with these words: "An Orphan's mite, for the Orphan House."—From Clifton 1s., and 1s. besides.—Dec. 28: From Newport, in Monmouthshire, 10s. and 10s.—From Birmingham 2*l.* 10s., with the same for my own personal expenses.—From Roscrea 7d. from three children.—From Lenwade 10s.—Dec. 29: From E. B. at Leamington 5*l.*—Anonymously, from London, 2s. 5d.—From three Sisters 10s., 5s., 1*l.*, also 10s. 8½d.—By sale of Reports 3s.—Through the boxes in the New Orphan House 1*l.* 6s. 9½d.—Dec. 30: By sale of Reports 2s. 6d.—From Clifton 5*l.*—From two Christian ladies in Buckinghamshire 20*l.*—From some pupils on Kingsdown 5s. Thus I had on Dec. 31st money enough to advance 25*l.* for housekeeping expenses, besides having had the means to pay away 20*l.* 5s. 9d. After I had given

the money in advance for housekeeping expenses, I had, at the close of the year, not 2*l.* left. But my mind was in full peace. Now see how, before the 25*l.* which had been advanced was expended, and before other expenses came upon me, the Lord was pleased to send in the means from the 1st to the 4th of January 1853.—Jan. 1: Anonymously 1s.—From Sherborne 1*l.*—From Colchester 10s.—From Manchester 10s.—From a distance 1*l.* 2s. 6d. —From Gloucestershire 14s. 6d.—From a brother in the Lord in Bristol 3*l.* 12s., together with 5s. 7d. from his Orphan box. This brother had it on his heart, more than a twelvemonth ago, to dispose of an article for the benefit of the Orphans, but could not meet with an opportunity till to-day. Thus, in this time of need, the Lord sends in this money.—Jan 2: By sale of Reports 12s.—From two Christian sisters 5s., as a thankoffering to the Lord for the mercies of the past year.—From a lady at Clifton 10s.—From a brother in Bristol 1*l.*—From Torquay 3s., with 3s. for Reports.—From Worcester 2s. 2d.—From a brother in Bristol 3*l.*—Jan. 3: From Waterford 1*l.*—From Liverpool 5*l.*—Also the 75*l.*, being part of the 252*l.* 17s. 1d. spoken of under the Building Fund.—From Clifton 10s.—Through Salem boxes 2s. 6d.—From "P." 1s.—Jan. 4: From Ryde 2*l.* —From Tottenham 10s. Thus God helped me in a time of great, great need. But before this 4th of January was over, he did far more than ever in the way of supplying me with means, for the largest of all the donations I had ever had, and of which mention has been made before, was given to me, of which 600*l.* was portioned out for the current expenses for the Orphans. Before this day was over, I also received from Stoke Newington 1*l.*, from Norwich 2*l.*, and from Islington 2*l.*—Also from a German in Bristol 10s.

Jan. 5. To-day I have received still further from Tottenham 20*l.*—From Hackney 5s.—By sale of Reports 13s. 6d.—Through the boxes in the New Orphan House 18s. 8½d.—From a brother in Bristol 15s. Thus, having been brought low as to means, the Lord has been pleased abundantly to supply our wants.

I have been thus particular in these last paragraphs, on purpose, to give a practical illustration that those are

entirely mistaken who suppose that the work is now *no longer* a work of faith, as it used to be in former years. It is true, we have now a larger income, than we used to have in the years 1838, 1839, and 1840; but it is also true that our expenses are three times as great. We have no regular income now; even as we had not then. We ask no human being now for help; even as we did not then. We depend alone upon God, by his grace; even as we did then. Who is there in the whole world who will state that I ever asked him for help in this Orphan work, from its commencement, on Dec. 9, 1835, up till now? Now, as we have no funds to live upon; as we have no regular subscribers or donors upon whom we could depend; as we never ask help from man but God alone; and as, finally, we never did go into debt for this work, nor do we now: why is it not now a work of faith as formerly? Will those, who say it is not, place themselves in the position in which I was, when, at the close of the year 1852, I had not two pounds left, and about 330 persons were day by day to be provided for, with all they need, and prove whether it is now anything else than a work of faith? But perhaps I have said too much about this. For every one, except those who are *determined* not to see, will have no difficulty in perceiving that now, as formerly, one could only be kept from being overwhelmed in such a position by looking day by day to the Lord, and that not merely for pecuniary supplies, but for help under the numberless difficulties, which continually are met with in such a work.

On account of the abundance which came in at the beginning of the year, together with what was received afterwards, there was not the least difficulty felt, in the way of means, for many weeks afterwards. Of the donations that came in from Jan. 5 to April 20, and which amounted altogether to 648*l.* 8*s.* 8½*d.* in 314 different sums, large and small, I will only mention the following: Jan. 25. From an aged Christian merchant at Clifton 50*l.*—From a Christian merchant in London 20*l.*, on Feb. 11.

April 20. In the prospect of having to pay away yet about 500*l.* before the accounts are closed on May 26th, and having only 236*l.* in hand, I asked the Lord especially this evening that he would be pleased to help me w[illegible]

means for the current expenses for the Orphans, for which I might have far more in hand, had I not with all my might given myself to the Building Fund, in order that I might be soon able to commence the building of this second Orphan House. Now, when I came home this evening from the New Orphan House, I found that a donation of 100*l.* had come in at my house during my absence, the disposal of which was entirely left to me. I took not the whole of this donation for the current expenses for the Orphans, but only one half, and the other half for the Building Fund. The funds for the various Schools, for the circulation of the Holy Scriptures and Tracts, and for missionary objects, need nothing for at least six weeks to come, and, therefore, I took nothing for them. This donation has greatly refreshed my spirit, especially as it came from a most unexpected quarter.

Before the accounts were closed, I received, between April 20th and May 26th, 1853, in just One Hundred different sums, 422*l.* 3s. 11½d. more, so that I was able amply to supply all demands, and had the balance of 117*l.* 10s. 9d. left in hand. It was chiefly through a donation of 260*l.*, given to be employed as most needed, spoken of under the Building Fund Income on May 14th, 1853, of which I took 160*l.* for the Orphans, that we had so large an amount in hand. This donation was indescribably precious, as it not only, in conjunction with the other money which came in, carried me easily through all the expenses which absolutely needed to be met, and which were heavier than they ever had been up till then, during any one month since the Orphan work had been in existence; but also enabled me to do things which were most desirable, though not absolutely needful.

How can I sufficiently praise, and adore, and magnify the Lord, for his love and faithfulness, in carrying me thus from year to year through this his service, supplying me with all I need in the way of means, fellow labourers, mental strength, and, above all, spiritual support! But for his help and support I should be completely overpowered in a very short time; yet, by his help, I go on, and am very happy spiritually, in my service; nor am I now generally worse in health than I was twenty years ago, but rather better.

Miscellaneous points respecting the Scriptural Knowledge Institution for Home and Abroad, with reference to the period from May 26, 1852, *to May* 26, 1853.

1. During this period there were four Day Schools, with 235 children in them, entirely supported by the funds of the Institution. Further, one Sunday School in Bristol, with 150 children, was entirely supported, and three others in Devonshire, Somersetshire, and Gloucestershire, with 280 children, were assisted. Lastly, one Adult School, with 103 Adult Scholars, was entirely supported by the funds of the Institution. There were under our care, from March 5, 1834, to May 26, 1853, in the various Day Schools 5686 children, in the Sunday Schools 2673 children, and in the Adult School 2132 persons. There was expended of the funds of the Institution during this year, for the various Schools, 349*l.* 12s. 11d.

2. During this year there was laid out of the funds of the Institution, on the circulation of the Holy Scriptures, 431*l.* 5s. 1½d., and there were circulated 1,666 Bibles and 1,210 New Testaments.—There were circulated from March 5, 1834, up to May 26, 1853, 10,476 Bibles, and 6,061 New Testaments.

We sell Bibles and New Testaments to poor persons at reduced prices, or, if the cases be found suitable, give them altogether gratuitously. In cases of needy schools, carried on in the fear of God, it would be joy in the Lord to us, to supply them with as many copies of the Holy Scriptures, as they may require. This applies especially to all missionary efforts in foreign lands, or to any Scriptural means which are used to spread the truth of God in the dark places of our own land.

For several years past this part of the work has appeared more and more important to me, on account of the fearful attempts which have been made by the powers of darkness to rob the church of Christ of the Holy Scriptures. I have on this account sought to embrace every opportunity to circulate the Holy Scriptures in England, Ireland, Canada, British Guiana, the East Indies, China, Australia, &c. Every open door which

the Lord was pleased to set before me in these or other parts of the world, I have joyfully entered; yea, I have counted it a privilege, indeed, to be permitted of God to send forth his Holy Word. Many servants of Christ, in various parts of the world, have assisted me in this service, through whose instrumentality copies of the Holy Scriptures have been circulated. Our endeavour has been, to place the word of God in the hands of the very poorest persons, and also, in particular, to supply very aged persons with copies of the Scriptures, printed in *large* type, as such copies still remain expensive, considering the means of the poor. Nor have our efforts been in vain. For we had several cases of direct conversion, simply through circulating the Holy Scriptures, brought before us during this year. But we are fully assured, that the fruit which we have *seen*, as resulting from this part of the work, is but little in comparison with what we shall see in the day of Christ's appearing. The disciples of the Lord Jesus should labour with all their might in the work of God, as if everything depended upon their own exertions; and yet, having done so, they should not in the least trust in their labour and efforts, and in the means which they use for the spread of the truth, but in God; and they should with all earnestness seek the blessing of God, in persevering, patient, and believing prayer. Here is the great secret of success, my Christian Reader. Work with all your might; but trust not in the least in your work. Pray with all your might for the blessing of God; but work, at the same time, with all diligence, with all patience, with all perseverance. Pray then, and work. Work and pray. And still again pray, and then work. And so on, all the days of your life. The result will surely be, abundant blessing. Whether you *see* much fruit or little fruit; *such* kind of service will be blessed. We should labour then, for instance, with all earnestness in seeking to circulate Thousands of copies of the Holy Scriptures, and Hundreds of Thousands of Tracts, as if everything depended upon the amount of copies of the Holy Scriptures and Tracts which we circulate; and yet, in reality, we should not in the least degree put our dependance upon the number of copies of the Holy

Scriptures, and upon the number of Tracts, but entirely upon God for his blessing, without which all these efforts are entirely useless. This blessing, however, should be sought by us *habitually* and *perseveringly* in prayer. It should also be fully *expected*.

3. During this year there was spent of the funds of the Institution for missionary objects 2234*l*. 2s. 6d. By this sum fifty-four labourers in the word and doctrine, in various parts of the world, were to a greater or less degree assisted.

During no period within the nineteen years previous to May 26, 1853, was so large a portion of the funds of the Institution expended in one year, upon Missionary Objects, as during this year; and in every single case I was enabled to help to the full amount of what I judged to be desirable. Refreshing as this is, and thankful as we desire to be to the Lord for it; yet it were but a very little thing, had there not been corresponding results. But I have to record to the praise of the Lord, and to the enjoyment of the Christian Reader, that not five, nor ten, nor fifty souls only were won for the Lord through the instrumentality of these fifty-four dear brethren, but hundreds. I received a great number of letters from these labourers in the word, both at home and abroad, which brought me heart cheering intelligence. Thank the Lord for this together with me, dear Christian Reader, and continue to help these esteemed brethren with your prayers, some of whom labour for the Lord under peculiar difficulties.

I would repeat that I consider it a great privilege to be permitted to defray in part or altogether, from the funds of this Institution, the expenses connected with the voyage and outfit of brethren who desire to go out as Missionaries, or to help them after their arrival in their field of labour; but I do not bind myself to support them habitually, seeing that thus they would be out of the position of simple dependance upon God for their temporal supplies.

4. There was laid out for the circulation of Tracts, from May 26, 1852, to May 26, 1853, the sum of 555*l*. 16s. 7½d.; and there were circulated within this year 733,674 Tracts.

The total number of Tracts which were circulated up to May 26, 1853, was One Million Eight Hundred, Twenty Thousand and Forty.

The Lord is pleased to increase this part of the work more and more, as will be seen by the comparison of the years in which this part of the Institution has been in operation. From Nov. 19, 1840, to May 10, 1842, the first period that the circulation of Tracts was in operation in connexion with the Scriptural Knowledge Institution for Home and Abroad, there were circulated 19,609; from May 10, 1842, to July 14, 1844, 39,473; from July 14, 1844, to May 26, 1846, 40,565; from May 26, 1846, to May 26, 1848, 64,021; from May 26, 1848, to May 26, 1850, 130,464; from May 26, 1850, to May 26, 1851, 303,098; from May 26, 1851, to May 26, 1852, 489,136; and during this period 733,674.

In these increased opportunities to spread the truth, we rejoice. Moreover, we would, by the help of God, seek to labour still far more abundantly in this particular also, and would seek to press into every open door, which the Lord may set before us. Yea, we would labour, as has been stated before, as if everything depended upon our diligence and carefulness in the use of the means; whilst, in reality, we would not depend upon them in the least degree, but only upon God for his blessing. This blessing of God we have been enabled to seek upon the labours of missionary brethren, the circulation of the Holy Scriptures, and upon the distribution of Tracts. As the days come, so our heart is drawn out in prayer for blessing upon these objects, in connexion with the various Schools and the Orphan Work. How, then, could it be otherwise, but that sooner or later there should come showers of blessing? Thus it was during this year. This year stands alone by itself, in that more money came in, than during any one year previously. It stands alone by itself, in that the operations of the Scriptural Knowledge Institution were extended beyond whatever they had been before. But it stands alone, also, by the abundant blessing, which God granted to our efforts, and which was greater than during any previous period. And, as in other respects, so in particular likewise, the gratuitous distribution of Tracts was

abundantly owned of God. Instance upon instance, not 2, nor 5, nor 10, but many, in the way of conversion, and also in blessing to believers, was I informed of by those godly brethren who in various parts of the world aid me in this service. How can I sufficiently magnify the Lord for this! By his grace I would desire to labour on, though I were not to *see* one single instance of blessing, being assured that "in due season we shall reap," and that our "labour is not in vain in the Lord;" yet how kind of the Lord, to grant such abundant blessing to rest upon our labours!

Often, I fear, Tract distributors have expected little result from their labour; and therefore they have seen little fruit. According to their expectation, they have received. Often, also, I fear, the mere distribution of Tracts has been rested in, and the work done has been estimated by the number of Tracts which were circulated, without earnestly preceding their circulation with prayer, and without earnestly following them with prayer: may I, therefore, be allowed to caution my fellow-believers on these two points? Look out for blessing, but seek also the blessing earnestly in prayer; and you will not fail to receive abundantly.

Should any believer be discouraged, because he has not had much fruit resulting from the circulation of Tracts, let such a one, with renewed earnestness and prayerfulness, go on in his work; let him also expect fruit, and he will surely reap abundantly; if not now, at least in the day of Christ's appearing.

5. At the beginning of this period, there were Three Hundred Orphans in the New Orphan House on Ashley Down, Bristol. During the year there were admitted into it 13 Orphans, making 313 in all. Of these 313, (we own it with thankfulness to God,) not one died during the year; for not a single death occurred for about 15 months. One of the Orphans, who had been received after he had long had his own way, and who, having long been borne with, and repeatedly been received back again on a confession of sorrow, at last ran away again, and had then to be placed by his relatives in the Union Poor House. One Orphan was sent to relatives, who were by that time able to care for her. Five girls were, at the expense of the Establishment,

fitted out for service or learning a business, and were sent out;—also six boys were, at the expense of the Establishment, fitted out and apprenticed. This makes the number removed as great as the number received, so that there were still 300 Orphans in the New Orphan House on May 26, 1853. The total number of Orphans, who were under our care from April, 1836, to May 26, 1853, was Five Hundred and Twenty-Eight.

I notice further the following points in connexion with the Orphan Work.

a. Without any one having been personally applied to for anything by me, the sum of 55,408*l.* 17s. 5½d. was given to me for the Orphans, *as the result of prayer to God*, from the commencement of the work up to May 26, 1853.—It may be also interesting to the reader to know that the total amount, which was given for the other objects, from the commencement of the work up to May 26, 1853, amounted to 19,163*l.* 14s. 1½d.; and that which came in by the sale of Bibles and Tracts, and by the payments of the children in the Day Schools, amounted to 3,490*l.* 7s. 1½d.—Besides this, also a great variety and number of articles of clothing, furniture, provisions, &c., were given *for the use* of the Orphans.

b. Our labours continued to be blessed among the Orphans.

c. The expenses in connexion with the support of the 300 Orphans and the apprentices during this year, were 3,453*l.* 15s. 1½d.

Matters connected with my own personal affairs, or the work of the Lord in my hands, not immediately connected with the Scriptural Knowledge Institution, from May 26, 1852 to May 26, 1853.

Dec. 31, 1852. During this year there have been received into fellowship 35 believers. When Brother Craik and I began to labour in the word in Bristol, we found 68 in fellowship. Since then there have been received into communion altogether 1,403, so that the total number would be 1,471, had there been no changes. But 64 are under church discipline, and separated, for the present, from fellowship; 154 have left us (some of them, however, in love, and merely through circumstances); 421 have

left Bristol, to reside elsewhere; and 197 have fallen asleep. So that there are at present only 685 actually remaining in communion.

The Lord has been pleased to give unto me during this year—

1. Through believers in and out of Bristol, in provisions, clothes, etc., worth to us *at least*	9	0	0
2. Through anonymous offerings in money, put up in paper, and directed to me, and put into the boxes for the poor saints, or the rent, at the chapels .	157	11	4½
3. Through presents in money from believers in Bristol, not given anonymously	121	5	2
4. Through presents in money from believers not residing in Bristol . .	157	12	2
	£445	8	8½

My brother-in-law, Mr. A. N. Groves, of whom mention has been made in the first part of this Narrative, as having been helpful to me by his example when I began my labours in England in 1829, in that he, without any visible support, and without being connected with any missionary society, went with his wife and children to Bagdad, as a missionary, after having given up a lucrative practice of about 1500*l.* per year, returned in Autumn 1852, from the East Indies, a third time, being exceedingly ill. He lived, however, till May 20th, 1853, when, after a most blessed testimony for the Lord, he fell asleep in Jesus in my house. I should more fully dwell on this to myself and my family deeply important event, had not a very full biography been published by the widow of my dear brother-in-law, in which also full particulars are given of the last days of this servant of Christ. I therefore refer the reader to the deeply interesting memoir, which has been published at Nisbet's, London, and may be had at the Bible and Tract Warehouse of the Scriptural Knowledge Institution for Home and Abroad, 34, Park Street, Bristol, and through all booksellers, under

the title: Memoir of the late Anthony Norris Groves, price 6 shillings, 544 pages.

Further account respecting the intended Orphan-House, for Seven Hundred Children, bereaved of BOTH *parents by death, from May* 26, 1853, *to May* 26, 1854.

In the last chapter on this subject I stated, that, on May 26, 1853, I had actually in hand, towards the accomplishment of my object, to build premises large enough for the accommodation of 700 children, the sum of 12,531*l.* 12s. 0½d. I will now give some further particulars as to the manner in which it pleased the Lord to supply me with means, but must confine myself to those donations which more especially may call for notice.

June 28, 1853. From Wakefield 40*l.*, with 5*l.* for Mr. Craik and 5*l.* for my own personal expenses.—Also 220*l.* from the West of England, of which the donor kindly wishes me to take 20*l.* for my own private expenses, and to use the 200*l.* as might be most needed. I have taken, therefore, 100*l.* for the Building Fund; 60*l.* for missionary operations, the circulation of Bibles and Tracts; and 40*l.* for the Orphans.

July 14. Received 541*l.* 10s., which being left to me as most needed, I took of it 100*l.* for the current expenses for the Orphans, 100*l.* for the other objects, and 341*l.* 10s. for the Building Fund. Being just now in great family affliction, this kindness of the Lord has been a great refreshment to my spirit.

July 15. From Clifton 1s.—Received also 110*l.* from one who counts it an honour, to have this sum to lay down at the feet of the Lord Jesus. I took of this amount 60*l.* for the Building Fund, and 50*l.* for the circulation of the Holy Scriptures and Tracts, and for missionary objects.

I cannot help remarking here, that the Lord has used some of the most unlikely persons during the past twenty-two years, in providing me with means for his service. So it was particularly in the case of this brother in the Lord, from whom I received the last-mentioned donation of 110*l.* I had not the least natural expectation of receiving this sum, when this brother, sitting before me at the New Orphan House, took out of his pocket a packet of

Bank Notes, and gave to me this amount, reserving to himself, as his whole property *in this world*, a smaller sum than he gave to me, because of his joy in the Lord, and because of his being able to enter into the reality of his possessions *in the world to come*. I delight in dwelling upon such an instance, because 1, it shows that there is grace, much grace, to be found among the saints even now; 2, it shows the variety of instrumentality which the Lord is pleased to employ, in supplying me with means for his service; and 3, because it so manifestly proves, that we do not wait upon him in vain, when we make known our requests to him for means.

July 20. From Philadelphia, in the United States, 5*l*.

Aug. 20. From the neighbourhood of Mallow in Ireland 17s. 6d. and 2s. 6d.—Anonymously from a "Brother Christian and Well-wisher," through his bankers in London, 100*l*.

Aug. 27. From Caistor 5s.—From Gumeracka near Adelaide, Australia, 2*l*. 10s. Ditto from the same place 10s.—From Cheltenham 2s. 6d.—From Frampton-on-Severn seven small silver coins.

You see, esteemed reader, how much variety there is in the kind of donations as well as in the amount, the places whence they are sent, and the friends who send them. But all these donations come from the living God. All come to us in answer to prayer, and are received by us as answers to prayer: and with every donation, however small, we receive thus a fresh encouragement, to continue in prayer, and have, as it were, another earnest from our Heavenly Father, that at last he not only will give larger sums, but the whole amount which is needed for the Building Fund. Every one of these donations comes unsolicited. Ever since the Orphan Work has been in operation, we have never asked any one for anything. Be therefore, dear reader, encouraged by this, to make trial for yourself, to prove the power of prayer, if you have never done so before.

Aug. 29. "As a thank-offering from a lady at Torquay" 2*l*.—From the Neighbourhood of Norwich 20*l*.

Oct. 31. A box of books, containing 99 volumes, arrived from London, to be sold for the Building Fund.

Nov. 2. Some riband, for sale.—There came in also 13*l*. by sale of the 99 books, which were received on Oct.

21st. There was also sent from London, a foreign marble slab for a table.

Nov. 8. From Islington, a small French gold watch, a watch hook, 2 gold rings, a gold locket, 4 pairs of earrings, a hair brooch, a silver fruit knife, a vinaigrette, 4 waist buckles, 7 bracelets, 2 gold seals, a gold watch key, a key holder, a jet necklace and cross, 2 ladies' combs, 2 pocket books, a purse, "Mental pictures," 2 ladies' baskets, a velvet neckerchief, 9 frocks, 13 pinafores, 2 remnants of print, 2 pincushions, a wire basket, a paper knife, and 5s.

Nov. 14. Received from London another box of books, containing 83 volumes, to be sold for the Building Fund.

Nov. 18. By sale of the 83 books, which arrived on the 15th, 11*l.* 10s.

Nov. 19. This evening arrived 6 other boxes of books from London, from the same donor, who had given many books before, to be sold for the Building Fund, containing in all 419 volumes and two maps.

Nov. 22. By sale of the books, which came on Nov. 19th, 80*l.*—From some Christian brethren at Hull 13*l.* 3s., of which 5s. is for the current expenses for the Orphans, the rest for the Building Fund.

Nov. 25. From the donor of the former boxes of books have been still further received to-day, three boxes and a parcel, containing altogether 305 volumes. This donor, having increasingly been led of late to value the precious word of God, has sent me his considerable library for the Building Fund, reserving to himself only a few books for reference.—Nov. 26. By sale of the books, which arrived yesterday, 35*l.*

Nov. 29. From Leith 10*l.*—Nov. 30. During this month there have been again 20 Orphans applied for, whom we are unable to receive, and 91 altogether within the last five months, so that now 571 are waiting for admission.

Dec. 5. As a thank-offering for the mercies of the past month 2s. 6d.

Dec. 31. This is the last day of another year. Two years and a half I have now been day by day seeking the Lord's help in prayer for this object. He has also been pleased to give me many proofs, that he is remembering our requests, still as yet I have only 13,670*l.* 11s. 7¼d. in

hand. Considerably more than the double of this sum will be needed. But, by the grace of God, I am not discouraged. The Lord is able to help us. He is also willing to help us. This is my comfort. In his own time the Almighty God will manifest his power. In the meantime I desire to be enabled to continue to wait upon him, and to receive every fresh donation, however small, as an earnest, that in his own time he not only will give larger sums, but the whole amount which I need for this object.

Jan. 1, 1854. Anonymously there were put into the letter-box at my house two sovereigns and a half crown from "two servants and a little girl."

Jan. 17. From S. R. and E. R., two poor factory girls, near Stroud, 1s. 7d.—This day I also received the promise, that there should be paid to me, for the work of the Lord in my hands, 5,207*l.*, to be disposed of as I might consider best.

This large donation was shortly after paid to me, and I portioned it out thus: For the Building Fund 3,000*l.*; for the support of the 300 Orphans 707*l.*; for foreign missions 500*l.*; for labourers in the Word in England, Ireland and Scotland 500*l.*; for the gratuitous circulation of the Holy Scriptures among the poor 200*l.*; for the gratuitous circulation of Gospel Tracts 200*l.*; and for all the various Schools, which are supported or assisted by the Funds of the Scriptural Knowledge Institution, 100*l.*

Behold, esteemed reader, the goodness of God! Behold also the recompense, which sooner or later, the Lord gives to his children, who wait upon him and trust in him! Often it may appear that we wait upon the Lord in vain; but, in his own time God will abundantly prove, that it was not in vain. Go on therefore, Christian reader, to wait upon the Lord. Continue to make known your request to him; but do also expect help from him. You honour God, by believing that he does hear your prayers, and that he will answer them.

The joy which such answers of prayer give, cannot be described; and the impetus which they thus afford to the spiritual life is exceedingly great. The experience of this happiness I desire for all my Christian readers. Nor is there anything to hinder any believer from having these joys. If you believe indeed in the Lord Jesus for the

salvation of your soul, if you walk uprightly and do not regard iniquity in your heart, if you continue to wait patiently, and believingly upon God; then answers will surely be given to your prayers. You may not be called upon to serve the Lord in the way in which the writer does, and therefore may never have answers to prayer respecting such things as are recorded here; but, in your various circumstances, as to your family, your business, your profession, your church position, your labour for the Lord in any way, etc., you may have answers as distinct as any which may be here recorded.

Should this, however, be read by any who are not believers in the Lord Jesus, but who are going on in the carelessness or self-righteousness of their unrenewed hearts, then I would affectionately and solemnly beseech such, first of all to be reconciled to God by faith in the Lord Jesus. You are sinners. You deserve punishment. If you do not see this, ask God to show it unto you. Let this now be your first and especial prayer. Ask God also to enlighten you not merely concerning your state by nature, but especially to reveal the Lord Jesus to your heart. God sent him, that he might bear the punishment, due to us guilty sinners. God accepts the obedience and sufferings of the Lord Jesus, in the room of those who depend upon him for the salvation of their souls; and the moment the sinner believes in the Lord Jesus, he obtains the forgiveness of all his sins. When thus the sinner is reconciled to God, by faith in the Lord Jesus, and has obtained the forgiveness of his sins, he has boldness to enter into the presence of God, to make known his requests unto God; and the more he is enabled to realize, that his sins are forgiven, and that God, for Christ's sake, is well pleased with those who believe on him, the more ready he will be to come with all his wants, both temporal and spiritual, to his Heavenly Father, that he may supply them. But as long as the consciousness of unpardoned guilt remains, so long shall we be kept at a distance from God, and especially also as it regards prayer. Therefore, dear reader, if you are an unforgiven sinner, let your first and especial subject of prayer be, that God would be pleased to reveal to your heart the Lord Jesus, his beloved Son.

March 5. To-day it is twenty years since the Scrip-

tural Knowledge Institution for Home and Abroad had its beginning. When I look back upon that day, with reference to this work, I desire with gratitude to exclaim, What has God wrought! His name be magnified for it! I desire to take courage from all his former goodness, and to go on in his service.

March 6. Received 131*l.* 1s. 3d. which, being left at my disposal as the work might most require it, I took of it 31*l.* 1s. 3d. for the Building Fund, and 100*l.* for the support of the Orphans.—Through Bethesda boxes, as a thank-offering for the mercies of the past month, 2s. 6d.

March 9. From one of the Orphans, now in service, 10s.

April 22. From London, six knives, nine silver forks, three silver table spoons, three silver dessert spoons, three silver tea spoons, one silver salt spoon, a silver pencil case, three penholders, one being mounted in silver and two in gold, and a penknife.

May 3. Anonymously, through bankers in London, 100*l.*—May 8. Through Bethesda boxes 2s. 6d., as "A thank-offering to the Lord for the mercies of the past month."

Month after month, for some time past, 2s. 6d. has been given as "A thank-offering for the mercies of the past month." I am delighted with this. Not yearly only may the saints bring their offerings to the Lord, as he may have prospered them, but monthly. Yea the Holy Ghost, by the Apostle Paul, gives this exhortation to the believers of the Church at Corinth, concerning offerings for the poor saints: "Upon the first day of the *week* let every one of you lay by him in store, as God hath prospered him." 1 Cor. xvi. 2. As the Lord had prospered them, so were they not merely yearly, or monthly, but even *weekly* to contribute to the support of the poor. We are strangers and pilgrims on the earth. The time of our pilgrimage here is very uncertain. The opportunities which the Lord gives us for his service are therefore readily to be embraced. All here below is most uncertain. How long we may have the opportunity to work for the Lord, who can tell? Therefore the present hour is to be used with all our might. As encouragement for all this, we have to look to the return of our Lord Jesus.

May 26. 82*l.* 18s. 4d., being the proceeds arising from the sale of a work published in English; and 14s. 3d.., being the proceeds arising from the sale of a work published in French; were given for the Building Fund.—To the donations is to be added 568*l.* 6s. 10d. received for interest; for I felt it my duty, as has been stated before, to invest the money given to me for the Building Fund, until it is actually required.

Thus closes the period from May 26, 1853, to May 26, 1854. The whole income for this object during the year was 5285*l.* 17s. 5d., which, together with the 12,531*l.* 12s. 0½d in hand on May 26, 1853, made the total of 17,816*l.* 19s. 5½d. in hand on May 26, 1854.

I add the following remarks to what has been already stated, with reference to the intended Orphan House for 700 Orphans, which appeared in the Report for 1854, and which are here reprinted.

A.. During this year the current expenses for the various Objects of the Scriptural Knowledge Institution for Home and Abroad, amounted to 7,507*l.* 0s. 11½d., being 471*l.* 8s. 11d. more than during any previous year; yet the Lord not only enabled me to meet them all, but to add the sum of 5285*l.* 7s. 5d. to the Building Fund.

B. There is yet a large sum required, before I shall be enabled to build another house for 700 Orphans; nor have I now, any more than at the first, any natural prospect of obtaining what is yet needed; but my hope is in the living God. When I came to the conclusion that it was the will of God, that I should build another Orphan House, I had not only no natural prospect of obtaining the 35,000*l.* which would be needed for this object, but also I had no natural prospect of being able to provide for the necessities of the 300 Orphans already under my care. Three years have elapsed since then, and I have had all I needed for them, amounting to about 10,500*l.*, and 17,816*l.* 19s. 5½d. I have received for the Building Fund. May I not well trust in the Lord, for what is yet needed for the Building Fund? By his grace I will do so, and delight in doing so; for I know that at last all my prayers will be turned into praises concerning this part of the service.

C. There is one point which is particularly an encouragement to me, to go on waiting upon the Lord for the

remainder of the means, which are required, viz.: applications for the admission of Orphans *continue* to be made. On May 26, 1853, there were 480 Orphans waiting for admission. Since then 181 more have been applied for, making in all 661. Of these, however, thirty have been admitted during the past year into the New Orphan House, and twenty-nine have been otherwise provided for, so that there are actually 602 waiting for admission. These children are from three months old and upwards, and all bereaved of both parents by death.

Supplies for the School—Bible—Missionary and Tract Fund, sent in answer to prayer, from May 26, 1853, to May 26, 1854.

On May 26, 1853, there was left in hand for these objects a balance of 67*l.* 17s. 7¾d.

June 13. When I had very little in hand, comparatively, there being about 30*l.* left, as little only had come in since May 26th, I received a donation of 301*l.*, of which I took 201*l.* for the support of the Orphans, and 100*l.* for these objects. How much is there needed, to go on with all these various objects, and to press into every open door, which the Lord may set before me! How kind, therefore, of him, to have sent me this sum!

July 14. Only about 150*l.* had come in for these objects since June 13. But though I had not much in hand, I sent out 65*l.* on the 11th, three days since, for missionary objects, being assured that the sowing would bring the reaping. On the very next day, July 12th, I received from Chelsea 5*l.* and also 10s. From the north of Devon 10*l.* Anonymously 5*l.* From Norwich, for foreign missions, 5*l.* The day after that, July 13th, I received from the neighbourhood of Leeds 10*l.*, and from Oakhill 1s. Now to-day I received the 541*l.* 10s. spoken of under the Building Fund, of which I took for these objects 100*l.*

July 15. To-day the Lord has been pleased to give still more. I have received 20*l.* for the various Schools, and 50*l.* for these various objects, also 1s., and 1s. 1d., and 3s. 6d.

Sept. 15. During the last two days I sent out 85*l.* to brethren who labour in the Word at home and abroad;

and during the first half of this month I have already sent to them 174*l.* During the last two days, whilst sending out this 85*l.*, almost to the last pound I had in hand for missionary objects, I felt quite comfortable in doing so, and said to myself: "The Lord can give me more." So it has been. This morning I have received from Weston Super Mare, in a registered letter, 100*l.* with these words: "The enclosed 100*l.* for missionaries to the heathen, from H. E. H., Weston Super Mare, Sept. 14th." This is particularly refreshing to me, as I desired still to send out during this month about 200*l.* to other brethren.

Oct. 15. During the last six weeks little only, comparatively, has been received for these objects; but I have sent out much for missionary objects, and for the circulation of the Holy Scriptures and Tracts. Thus the funds for these various objects were this morning reduced to 29*l.* 15s. 6¼d. Yet my heart desired to send out, before the close of this month, a considerable amount to preachers of the Gospel, and to spend further sums on the circulation of the Holy Scriptures and Gospel Tracts. This my desire has been in a measure already granted, for I received this morning 192*l.* 1s. Of this sum I took 100*l.* for these objects, and the remainder for the current expenses for the Orphans. The Lord be magnified for this kindness! There was also much need for fresh supplies for the Orphans, when this donation was received. With more than usual exercise of faith and patience have I had to wait upon God for the last four weeks, during which time the income has been very little, and the outgoings very great.

Dec. 8. To-day I received three autographs of King William IV., one of Sir Robert Peel, and two of Lord Melbourne (with six postage stamps), to be sold for the funds of the Scriptural Knowledge Institution.—See what a variety of donations the Lord sends us for the support of the work!

Dec. 11. For several years I have not been so poor for these objects, as during the last six weeks. Day by day have I besought the Lord for more means, and almost daily has he also sent in something; yet the income has not been adequate to help the 56 brethren, whom I seek to assist as preachers of the Word at home and

abroad, in the measure in which I have desired. I had reason to believe, that several were in need, but I had nothing to send to them. I could only labour on in prayer, and find relief in the knowledge that God could help them irrespective of my instrumentality, and make this their trial of faith and patience to be a blessing to their souls, even as I have found this season to be profitable to myself. But now at the last the Lord has refreshed my spirit exceedingly, by a donation of 300*l.*, left at my disposal as most needed; of which I have taken 150*l.*, for these objects, and 150*l.* for the Orphans, for whom also fresh supplies were greatly needed, so much so, that we had not once been so poor since the New Orphan House was first opened.

Jan. 11, 1854. To-day I received 8 silver spoons, 5 silver dessert spoons, 6 silver tea spoons, a gold watch, and 3 gold seals, with 5s. for the carriage of the parcel. Of the proceeds of these articles the donors wish me to take two-thirds for foreign missions, and one-third for the Orphans.

Jan. 17. Received from an anonymous donor, through London bankers, a Bank Post Bill for 50*l.* "for general purposes." I took of this amount one-half for these various objects, and the other half for the benefit of the Orphans. This donation came at a time of great need.

But the Lord helped me still more bountifully; for I received also, on that day, the promise of the donation of 5,207*l.*, of which I have spoken already under the Building Fund, and of which donation, as there stated more minutely, I took for these objects altogether 1,500*l.*, whereby I was so abundantly helped, that, with what the Lord was pleased to send in besides for these objects, up to May 26, 1854, I was enabled to meet all their many and heavy expenses.

The following circumstance is so remarkable, that I give it at full length, as an illustration of the various ways, and the remarkable manner, in which the Lord is pleased, in answer to prayer, to supply me with means.

On Aug. 9th, 1853, I received a letter, from a christian brother, accompanied with an order for 88*l.* 2s. 6d. on his bankers, of which 3*l.* 2s. 6d. were the proceeds of an Orphan Box in a meeting place of believers, and 85*l.* from a poor widow, who had sold her little house, being

all her property, and who had put 90*l.*, the total amount of what she had received, into that Orphan Box two months before, on June 9, 1853. In this box the money had been for some time, without its being known, till the Orphan Box was opened, and the 90*l.*, with a few lines, without name, were found in it. As, however, the fact of her intending to sell the little house, and her intention of sending me the money, for the Lord's work, had been known to the brother, who sent me the money, he did not feel free to send it to me, without remonstrating with her through two brethren, whom he sent with the money, offering it again to her; for he knew her to be very poor, and feared that this might be an act of excitement, and therefore be regretted afterwards. These brethren could not prevail on her to receive back the money, but they did *persuade* her to receive back 5*l.* of the amount, and then the brother, referred to, felt no longer free, to keep the money from me, and hence sent me the 85*l.*

On the receipt of this, I wrote at once to the poor godly widow, offering her the travelling expenses for coming to Bristol, that I might have personal intercourse with her; for I feared lest this should be an act of excitement, and the more so, as she had received back 5*l.* of the sum. This sister in the Lord, a widow of about 60 years of age, came to Bristol, and told me in all simplicity how that ten years before, in the year 1843, she had purposed that, if ever she should come into the possession of the little house in which she lived with her husband, she would sell it, and give the proceeds of it to the Lord. About five years afterwards her husband died, and she, having no children, nor any one having particular claim upon her, then sought to dispose of her little property, as had been her mind all those years before. However one difficulty after the other prevented her being able to effect a sale. At last she felt in particular difficulty on account of her inability to pay the yearly ground rent of the little house and garden, and she asked the Lord to enable her to sell the property, in order that she might be able to carry out her desire, which she had had for ten years, to give to him the proceeds of this her possession. He now helped her; the house was sold, the money paid, and she put

the whole 90*l.* into the Orphan Box for me, being assured that the Lord would direct me how best the money might be used for him.—I still questioned her again and again to find out, whether it was not excitement which had led her to act as she had done; but I not only saw that her mind had been fully decided about this act for ten years before, but that she also was able to answer from the word of God all the objections which I purposely made, in order to probe her, whether she had intelligently and from right motives acted in what she had done. At last I was fully satisfied that it was not from impulse nor under excitement that she had given the money. I next stated to her something like this: "You are poor, and you are about sixty years old, therefore decreasing in strength, and may you not therefore keep this money for yourself?" Her reply was, as nearly as I remember, something like this: "God has always provided for me, and I have no doubt he will do so in future also. I am able to work, and to earn my bread as well as others, and am willing to work as a nurse, or in any other way." What could I say against this? This was just what a child of God would say, and should say.—But the greatest of all the difficulties to the accepting of the 85*l.* remained in my mind, and I state it, as I relate the whole for the profit of the reader. It was this. The house had been sold for 90*l.* The whole amount had been put into the box, but, on the persuasion of those two brethren who were requested to remonstrate with this widow, she had been induced to take back 5*l.* out of the 90*l.* I therefore said to myself, might she not be willing, after a time, to take back the whole 90*l.*, how therefore can I feel happy in accepting this money. On this account I particularly laid stress upon this point, and told her, that I feared she might regret her act altogether after some time, as she had taken back this 5*l.* I now learned the circumstances under which she had been induced to take back this 5*l.*

The two brethren who had called on her, for the purpose of pointing out to her the propriety of receiving back again the 90*l.*, or part of it, told her that Barnabas sold his land, but afterwards lived with others on that which he and others had thrown into the common stock, and that therefore she might receive at least part of the 90*l.* back again, if she would not take the whole. She

then said to herself that, "as a child of God she might take the children's portion," and, as she had given to God this 90*l.*, she might receive 5*l.* back again. She told me, that she considered the brethren had shown her from the Holy Scriptures what she might do, and therefore she had taken this 5*l.* I did not myself agree with the judgment of those brethren who had said this (as there is no evidence that Barnabas ever was supported out of the common stock, the proceeds of the sale of houses and lands, out of which the poor were supported); but I purposely said nothing to the widow, lest she should at once be induced to give me this 5*l.* also. She had, however, this 5*l.* untouched, and showed it to me; and before she left she would make me take 1*l.* of it for the benefit of the Orphans, which I did not refuse, as I had no intention of keeping the 85*l.* She also gave me a sixpence for the Orphans, which some one had given her for herself, a few days before.

I now asked her, as this matter concerning the retaining of the 5*l.* was satisfactorily explained, as far as it respected her own state of heart, what she wished me to do with the money, in case I saw it right to keep it. Her reply was, that she would leave that with me, that God would direct me concerning it; but that, if she said any thing at all about it, she should most like it to be used for the support of brethren who labour in the Word without any salary, and who hazarded their lives for the name of Christ. She wished *me* to have a part of the money; but this I flatly refused, lest I should be evil spoken of in this matter. I then offered to pay her travelling expenses, as she had come to me, which she would not accept, as she did not stand in need of it. In conclusion I told her, that I would now further pray respecting this matter, and consider what to do concerning it. I then prayed with this dear godly woman, commended her to God, separated from her, and have not seen her since.

I waited from Aug. 9, 1853, to March 7, 1854, when I wrote to her, offering her back again the whole 85*l.*, or a part of it. On March 9, 1854, just seven months after I had received the money, and just nine months after she had actually given it, and ten years and nine months after she had made the resolution to give her house and garden to God, I heard from her, stating that she was of the

same mind as she had been for years. I, therefore, disposed of the money, to aid such foreign missionary brethren as, according to the best of my knowledge resembled most the class of men whom she wished to assist.

The reasons why I have so minutely dwelt upon this circumstance are: 1, If, as a steward of the bounties of the children of God, I should be blamed for receiving from a poor widow almost literally her all, it may be seen in what manner I did so. To have refused, on March 9, 1854, also, would be going beyond what I should be warranted to do. 2, I desired also to give a practical illustration, that I only desire donations in God's way. It is not the money only, I desire; but the money received, in answer to prayer, in God's order. 3, This circumstance illustrates how God helps me often in the most unexpected manner. 4, I have also related this instance, that there may be a fresh proof, that even in these last days the love of Christ is of constraining power, and may work mightily, as in the days of the Apostles. I have witnessed *many* such instances as this, in the twenty years during which I have been occupied in this my service. Let us give thanks to God for such cases, and let us seek for grace rather to imitate such godly men and women than think that they are going too far.

I cannot, however, dismiss this subject, without commending this poor widow to the prayers of all who love our Lord Jesus, that she may be kept humble, lest, thinking highly of herself, on account of what she has been enabled to do, by the grace of God, she should not only lose blessing in her own soul, but this circumstance should become a snare to her. Pray also, believing Reader, that she may never be allowed to regret what she has done for the Lord.

May 23. Yesterday I looked over the list of the 56 labourers in the Word, whom I seek to assist, in order to see to whom it would be desirable to send help; and, having drawn out a list, with the respective amounts for each, I found that it would be desirable to send out this week 327*l.*, but I wanted at least 50*l.* more, to be able to accomplish this. Accordingly I gave myself to prayer, if it might please the Lord to send me the means for it. And now, this morning, in answer to prayer, I

received anonymously from bankers in London 100*l.*, respecting which sum it was stated, that the donor desired it to be applied for the current expenses for the Orphans, and for labourers in the Gospel at Home and Abroad. I took therefore 50*l.* for the Orphans, and 50*l.* for home and foreign labourers.

By the same post I received also from the neighbourhood of Shrewsbury 10*l.*, the disposal of which being left to me, I took for missionary objects.—I have now the desire of my heart granted, being able to send out the full amount of what it yesterday appeared to me desirable that I should send to the brethren whom I seek to help.

Means for the support of the 300 *Orphans, already under our care, sent in answer to Prayer, from May* 26, 1853, *to May* 26, 1854.

At the commencement of this period, there was in hand the balance of 117*l.* 10s. 9d. This was the visible support, in the way of pecuniary means, which we had to look to for 320 inmates in the New Orphan House, whilst often two or three days might call for such an amount as this. But we hoped in God, as in former years, and, by his grace, we were upheld, and our faith was not allowed to fail, though it was not a little tried, as the following pages will show.

Of the donations which came in between May 26, and June 13, 1853, I will only mention the following. On June 1st I received from Cape Town 2*l.* for the Orphans, and 3*l.* for tracts. On June 8th I received from Rhode Island, United States, 20 dollars and 5 dollars (4*l.* 15s. 9d. English), when I had scarcely anything left for the Orphans. Observe, dear Reader, from Africa and from America the Lord sends help to us, yea from almost all parts of the World. Thus is he saying to us more and more; "Only believe." On June 10th I received 5*l.* from a brother in the Lord at a distance, as a thank-offering to God, that, having been thrown from his horse, he had not been killed, but only greatly hurt.

June 13. We were now very poor. Not indeed in debt, nor was even all the money gone; for there was still about 12*l.* in hand; but then there needed to be bought flour, of which we buy generally 10 sacks at a

time, 300 stones of oatmeal, 4 cwt. of soap, and there were many little repairs going on in the house, with a number of workmen, besides the regular current expenses of about 70*l.* per week. Over and above all this, on Saturday, the day before yesterday, I found that the heating apparatus needed to be repaired, which would cost in all probability 25*l.* It was therefore desirable, humanly speaking, that I should have 100*l.* for these heavy extra expenses, besides means for the current expenses. But I had no human prospect whatever of getting even 100 Pence, much less 100*l.* In addition to this, to-day was Monday, when generally the income is little. But, in walking to the Orphan House this morning, and praying as I went, I particularly told the Lord in prayer, that on this day, though Monday, he could send me much. And thus it was. I received this morning 30*l.* for the Lord's service, as might be most needed.—The joy which I had cannot be described. I walked up and down in my room for a long time, tears of joy and gratitude to the Lord running plentifully over my cheeks, as I walked, praising and magnifying the Lord for his goodness, and surrendering myself afresh, with all my heart, to the Lord for his blessed service. I scarcely ever felt more the kindness of the Lord in helping me.—I took of this money 20*l.* for the current expenses for the Orphans, and 10*l.* for missionary objects, the circulation of the Holy Scriptures and Gospel Tracts, and for the various Schools.

Of the donations which came in between June 13th and Aug. 31st, amounting to more than 600*l.*, I will only mention: 50*l.*, through a most unexpected circumstance, from Glasgow on June 29th. 2*l.* from Sunderland on July 23rd, of which 1*l.* was made up, by an individual putting by one half-penny daily for the Orphans, and a poor widow one penny per week.—On Aug. 19th I received from a Christian Negro in Demerara an old silver watch, a gold pin and brooch, and Five Dollars.

Aug. 31. When there was less than 20*l.* in hand, I received to-day a donation of 220*l.*, of which the donor kindly wished me to take 20*l.* for my own personal expenses, and to use the other for the work of the Lord as most needed. I therefore took 150*l.* for the Orphans, and 50*l.* for the other objects, and was thus enabled to

advance to-day 30*l.*, as usual, for the housekeeping expenses; money being called for, which, otherwise, I should not have been able to supply.

Of the donations received between Aug. 31st and Oct. 24th, amounting to about 550*l.*, I only notice 2*l.* 7s. 6d. "From South Africa," 1*l.* from Malta, and 6s. 4d. from Demerara.

I will now minutely relate the Lord's dealings with us, with reference to meeting the expenses for the 300 Orphans, for about three weeks, as a specimen of how the Lord was pleased to help us during a period when the flour was twice as dear as for several years before, and when other expenses were much greater than usual.

Oct. 24. This afternoon I was called on to advance more housekeeping money; but as I had only about 26*l.* altogether in hand, I could only give 20*l.* this time, instead of the usual 30*l.* I had then about 6*l.* left for all the many other expenses, large and small, which are connected with the Establishment, and which are not included in the ordinary housekeeping expenses. Before the day is over, I have received this evening the following amounts: Through Salem boxes 1s. By sale of Reports 5s. 1d. with 10s. as a donation. Both sums from Waterford.—From a donor in Bristol 1*l.*—From Bayswater 5*l.*

Oct. 25. From an Orphan-box in Bristol 4s.—From Warminster 1*l.* 1s.—From Seven Oaks 1*l.* 1s. 6d. This was an old debt, owed for a long time to the donor. He expressed in prayer that, if the Lord would cause it to be paid, it should be sent to me; and almost immediately afterwards it was paid.—From Durham 12*l.*, being a dividend on shares in gas-works.—From Braunton 5s.—From Balham Hill, London, 1*l.* 10s., with a variety of articles to be sold for the benefit of the Orphans. By sale of Reports 2s.

Oct. 26. From Keswick 7s. 6d., 2s. 6d., 1s. 6d., and 3s.—By sale of Reports 1*l.* 2s. 11½d.—By sale of some old silver coins, a few old tea spoons, and a few little trinkets 5*l.*—By sale of Reports 9s.—There was found in the visitors' room at the New Orphan House a fourpenny piece.—Through the boxes in the New Orphan House 4*l.* 14s.—This afternoon was the time in the week when visitors see the establishment. It was a wet afternoon, but still above 60 persons went over the house. Being in great

need of means, of which the visitors, however, could perceive nothing, as all our stores were full as usual, I asked the Lord, that he would be pleased to put it into their hearts, to put money into the boxes; and this sum I found in them, when I opened them this evening.—Yesterday I found that it was necessary to purchase ten sacks of flour, which, being just now twice as dear as during the last years, cost 27*l.* 10s.; and this day it was needful to spend 8*l.* 1s. 2d. for smith's work. How kind, therefore, of the Lord, to have sent me to-day, yesterday, and the afternoon of the day before yesterday 34*l.* 11s. 4½d. Thus with the 6*l.* I had left before, I am able to meet these two items of above 35*l.*, and have about 5*l.* left.

Now observe how the Lord further helped, when I had only Five Pounds left.

Oct. 27. By sale of Reports 3s.—From West Brixton 5s., and 5s. from Scotland.—Through a box in the New Orphan House 6d.—By sale of a Report 6d.

Oct. 28. "From Friends of Petersham" 1*l.* 2s. 6d., and from Richmond 7s. 6d.—From the neighbourhood of Stourbridge 1*l.*—From Wells 3s.—From a clergyman at Weston-Super-Mare 5*l.*—Anonymously from Scotland 6d.—From a brother in the Lord 1*l.*, with two pewter plates.—From Clifton 10s.—From Hackney 1s.

Oct. 29. From Chilton Polden 5s., as "A thank-offering that the donor's children have not been left Orphans."—From Kingsbridge 5s. 6d.—From Glasgow 7s. 6d.—By sale of articles and Reports 2*l.* 10s.—From Royston 1*l.*

Oct. 30. From Lichfield 2s. 6d. and 3s. 8d.—From a medical gentleman in Bristol 1*l.*—From Clifton 3s.

Oct. 31. This afternoon more money was required for housekeeping. By the donations which had come in since the 27th, I was able to pay away 7*l.* 13s., and 1*l.* 2s., and had 12*l.* 17s. 2d. besides. This I gave to the last penny for housekeeping, and had now literally not one penny left in hand for the current expenses for the Orphans.

This evening I received, when I had nothing in hand: From Clifton 1*l.*—From a sister in the Lord in Bristol 2s. 6d.—Through Bethesda boxes 5s., "from servants in Scotland."—From Wiveliscombe 1*l.*—From Clifton 10s.—Through the Chapel boxes 2s.—A pair of silver-mounted spectacles and 2s. 6d. from Clifton.

Nov. 1. By means of those little sums, which came in last evening, I was able to let the matron have further 2*l.* 17s. early this morning. Thus we were able to meet this day's demands.—There came in further to-day: By sale of old clothes 6s. 4d., and from Launceston, by sale of Reports, 7s. 6d.—There was put into the letter box at my house, anonymously, 1s. 6d., with these words: "I had worked hard for this money, and could not get paid. A thought passed lately through my mind, if I ever get it, I will devote it to some charitable purpose. To my surprise, without asking for it, it is paid. I now send it for the Orphans."—*Evening.* By sale of Reports 3s.—From Spaldwick 2s. 6d. and 1s.—From the neighbourhood of Arundel 11s. 6d.

Nov. 2. From Hull 5s.—From Knapp 1s.—From Gosport 2*l.*—From six servants at Hampton Court Palace, a parcel, containing a variety of articles, for the use of the Orphans, or to be sold for their benefit, with 4s.—Through the boxes in the New Orphan House 1*l.* 16s. 5½d. Given also by a visitor from Cornwall 10s., Ditto by another 10s., Ditto by another 2s. 6d., Ditto by another 1s.—By sale of Reports 6s.—I was thus further able to advance last evening for housekeeping expenses 1*l.* 0s. 4d., this morning 3*l.* 1s., and this evening 3*l.* 12s. 11½d. Thus, though we are living by the day, as it respects supplies out of the hands of our Heavenly Father, yet we have lacked nothing!

I have received further 12s. by sale of Reports.

Nov. 3. From Helensburgh 2s. and 6d.—From Bideford 12s.—From Islington 2*l.*—From Clifton Park 5*l.*—By sale of some books 3*l.*—From a donor in Bristol 5*l.*—From Norwich 5s.—Thus we have wherewith to meet the expenses for to-day and to-morrow, and, it may be, of the day after to-morrow. At all events, before this is gone, the faithful Lord will send in more.

Nov. 4. By sale of old clothes 11s. 2½d.—From Whitby 1*l.* Ditto 5s.—From Bodmin 1s.—By sale of rags 7s. 3d. [I transcribe from the Income book. We think it right to turn every thing to account, so that nothing be wasted, and that the expenses of the Institution be not needlessly increased.]

Nov. 5. From Swansea 5s.—From Willenhall 5s.—From Bridgewater 5s.—From Worcester 5s. and 1s.—

Evening, Saturday. Thus we have had during another week every thing that we needed.

Nov. 7. There came in yesterday 1s. from Stafford, and 3s. from Worksop.—To-day from Kilkenny 1*l.*—When I had nothing at all in hand, having paid out the last money to-day, and when more would be needed this evening or to-morrow morning, I received this afternoon, from a most unexpected quarter, 6*l.* This morning the matron had between 11*l.* and 12*l.* in hand for housekeeping expenses, but, by the time I arrived at the New Orphan House, it had all been expended through unexpected demands, so that she had had to add half a crown of her own. I had received, however, this morning, at the very time while I was in prayer for means, 1*l.* from Kilkenny, which, with 9s. 3½d. besides, in hand, I gave to her. Now this afternoon came in the 6*l.*, and we have thus a manifest answer to prayer. The Lord be magnified.—*Evening.* Through Salem boxes 1s. Through Bethesda boxes 2s. 6d. Do. 6d. From P. 2s. 6d.

Nov. 8. From Guildford 1*l.* 1s.

Nov. 9. By sale of Reports 3s. 6d.—From Clonmell 9s. 5d.—Our need of means is great, very great. The Lord tries our faith and patience. This afternoon, a brother and sister in the Lord from Gloucestershire, called to see me at the New Orphan House, before going through the house. After a few minutes I received from the sister a sovereign, which she had been requested to bring to me for the Building Fund, and she gave me from herself 1*l.* for my own personal expenses, and 1*l.* for the Building Fund, and her husband gave me 5*l.* for the Orphans, and 5*l.* for Foreign Missions. Thus the Lord has refreshed my spirit greatly; but I look for more, and I need much more.—*Evening.* By sale of Reports 13s. 2d. By the boxes in the New Orphan House 3*l.* 1s. 10½d. I received also this evening from Walmer 10*l.*, of which the donor kindly wished 2*l.* to be used for the personal expenses of my family, and the rest for missionary work and the support of the Orphans. I took therefore one half for missions, and the other half for the Orphans.

Nov. 10. From Oakhill 5s.—By sale of Reports 15s. 10d.—From Swansea 10s., 4s., and 6s.—From Anglesey 5s. and 2s. 6d.—From Bath 2*l.*

Nov. 11. Anonymously from Banbury 1*l.*

Nov. 12. From Bideford 1*l.*—From Perth 1*l.* This evening, just while praying for means, came a little parcel, containing Ten Sovereigns, from a christian lady, living not far from the New Orphan House. This was a very great refreshment to my spirit. Also from Clydach 10s. and 1s.

Nov. 13. Further precious help. Received this morning, through Bankers in London, an anonymous donation of 50*l.* in a Bank Post Bill, with the words: "To be applied to general purposes; to be used as you may judge best." I took therefore the whole of this donation for the current expenses for the Orphans. A most welcome and refreshing donation, the fruit of many prayers, as just now the expenses are very great, and there were no means in hand to meet them! From Clifton 16s. 5d. From Easton 5*l.*

Nov. 14. From Melton Mowbray 2s. By sale of Reports 1s.—From Norwich 2s. 6d. Ditto 2s. 6d.—From Kingsbridge two brooches.—Through the boxes at Bethesda 1s.—From Clevedon 1*l.*—From F. E. B. 2s. 6d.

Nov. 15. Anonymously from Nottingham 10s.—From Cheltenham 5*l.*—From the Isle of Wight 10s.—This evening I received from a christian lady: a brooch set with amethysts, another brooch set with eight brilliants and six other small diamonds, and a small gold necklace. My heart was exceedingly refreshed by this donation, not only because we are still in need of supplies on account of our heavy daily expenses just now; but also, because this valuable donation consists of articles which the christian donor can spare, without the slightest inconvenience.

Nov. 16. Anonymously in postages 3s. 6d.—From London 10*l.*, with 5*l.* for my own expenses.—By sale of Reports 7s.—Left by a visitor from Aberdeen at the New Orphan House 10s. Through the boxes at the New Orphan House 2*l.* 11s. 6½d.—From South Brent 1s. 6d.

I have thus given, minutely, the manner in which the Lord was pleased, for 24 days in succession, to supply us with means for the Orphans, from which the spiritual reader may easily perceive our position. Thus it was with us not merely during the 24 days, of

which I have now given the history, but also to a greater or less degree at other times during this year. But I refrain from giving minutely the account of every day, for the sake of brevity.

The particular end, why I have been so minute, is, *to show that the work is now, as much as ever, a work carried on entirely in dependance upon the Living God, who alone is our hope, and to whom alone we look for help, and who never has forsaken us in the hour of need.* There is, however, one thing different with reference to this year, when compared with former years, and that is, that, while our trials of faith during this year were just as great as in previous years, the amount needed in former times was never so great as during this year, especially as the bread during the greater part of this year was about twice as dear as for several years before.

But then, it may be said, if you have had this trial of faith, with these 300 Orphans, why do you seek to build another Orphan-House for 700 more, and thus have a thousand to care for? Will you not have still greater trials of faith?

My reply is: 1, God has never failed me all the 20 years of this my service. 2, I am going on as easily now, with 300 Orphans, as with 30, the number with which I commenced. Their number is ten times as large, as it was at the first; but God has always helped me. 3, Trials of faith were anticipated, yea were one chief end of the work, for the profit of the Church of Christ at large. 4, I had courage given me to go forward, solely in dependance upon God, being assured that he would help me; yet I waited in secret upon him for six months, before I made this my intention known, in order that I might not take a hasty step; and I have never regretted my having gone forward. 5, But it needs to be added, that the very abundance which the Lord gave me at the time, when my mind was exercised about this matter, was a great confirmation to me, that I had not mistaken his mind. And even during this year, how great has been his help; for the income for the work altogether has been 12,785*l.* 15s. 7¼d. I am therefore assured that the Lord will, in his own time, not only allow me to build another Orphan-House, but that he

will also, when he shall have been pleased to fill it, find the means to provide for these children.

I give now a brief reference to some of the more remarkable donations, which came in between Nov. 16, 1853, and May 26, 1854.

Jan. 1, 1854. Received three old guinea pieces, with the following words: "The enclosed has been too long held in reserve, as an esteemed memento from a dear departed parent (for which may the Lord grant a pardon). A conviction of its wrong overpowers the natural desire, of its being retained, and not expended to the glory of God: for which purpose it is now sent to dear Mr. Müller, as a new year offering, to be used in the way he thinks most conducive to the same."—In this instance I had a double answer to prayer; for we were not only much in need of means, when the donation came in, but I had also again and again asked the Lord, to incline the hearts of his dear children to send me their jewellery, their old gold and silver coins, and other valuable, but needless, articles, that they might be turned into money for the work of the Lord.

Jan. 17. Memorable day. To-day, in much need, was received from Glasgow 10*l.*, with 10*l.* for Mr. Craik, and 10*l.* for my own personal expenses.—There came in also, as has been already stated in speaking about the income for the other objects, a Bank Post Bill for 50*l.*, anonymously, through London Bankers, which amount was taken half for the Orphans and half for the other objects. —Likewise from Stroud 10s.—From Reading 6s. 3d.—From Gloucester 2s. 6d.—But the Lord over and above all this allowed me to have this day the promise of that large donation which has been spoken of under the Building Fund, of which 707*l.* was taken towards the support of the Orphans, by which, together with 1,119*l.* 8s. 2½d. which came in for the support of the Orphans from Jan. 17th up to May 26, 1854, we were helped to the close of this period.

March 1. There was left to me, for the benefit of the Orphans, a year ago, by an individual in Bristol, whom I had never seen, a legacy of 100*l.*, which was paid this day, less 10*l.* legacy duty.

April 9. This morning I received from an anonymous

donor, through Bankers in London, a Bank Post Bill for 50*l.*, the application of which was left with me. I took the whole of it for the support of the Orphans. This donation has been a great spiritual refreshment to me, as the expenses for the Orphans are now so very great, and as for five weeks no large sums have come in.

April 17. Received 150*l.*, of which the donor kindly wished me to take 20*l.* for my own personal expenses, and to use the rest as might be most needed for the Lord's work in my hands. I took, therefore, 100*l.* for the current expenses for the Orphans, and 30*l.* for the other Objects.—This donation has greatly refreshed my spirit, as the expenses for the Orphans were never so great at any period, since the work commenced, as during the last six months, on account of the high price of provisions; and as the income, compared with the expenses, has been small of late, though considerable, were not the expenses so very great.

May 14. This morning I have received 150*l.*, of which I have taken for the current expenses for the Orphans 100*l.*, and for the other Objects 50*l.*—To-morrow I shall have to pay out for the Orphans 107*l.* 4*s.* The total amount I had in hand for them, before this donation was received, was only 120*l.* How kind, therefore, of the Lord to replenish our means again, before they were almost entirely exhausted!—I received, also, this morning from Clifton 5*l.*

During the following 12 days there came in yet further 107*l.* altogether for the support of the Orphans.

Miscellaneous points respecting the Scriptural Knowledge Institution for Home and Abroad, with reference to the period from May 26, 1853 *to May* 26, 1854.

1. During this year 4 Day Schools, with 202 children, were *entirely supported* by the funds of the Institution. Further, one Sunday School in Bristol, with 137 children, was *entirely supported*, and three others in Devonshire, Somersetshire, and Gloucestershire, with 300 children, were *assisted*. Lastly, one Adult School, with 154 Adult scholars, was *entirely* supported. The total amount which was spent during this year, in connexion with these schools,

was 359*l.* 15s. 10½d.—The number of all the children, who were under our care, merely in the schools which were *entirely* supported by this Institution, from March 5, 1834, to May 26, 1854, was 5,817 in the Day Schools, and 2,748 in the Sunday Schools; and 2,315 persons in the Adult School.

2. During this year was expended on the circulation of the Holy Scriptures, of the funds of the Institution, 433*l.* 2s. 9d. There were circulated during this year 1890 Bibles and 1288 New Testaments; and from the commencement of the work up to May 26, 1854, Twelve Thousand Three Hundred and Sixty-six Bibles, and Seven Thousand Three Hundred and Forty-nine New Testaments.

3. During this year there was spent of the Funds of the Institution for Missionary objects the sum of 2,249*l.* 10s. 8½d. By this sum fifty-six labourers in the word and doctrine, in various parts of the world, were to a greater or less degree assisted. The amount sent to each of these servants of the Lord Jesus is as follows.

To No. 1.	Labouring in British Guiana (a European)		98*l.*	
To No. 2.	Ditto	(Ditto)	75*l.*	
To No. 3.	Ditto	(Ditto)	74*l.*	17 0
To No. 4.	Ditto	(Ditto)	24*l.*	
To No. 5.	Ditto	(Ditto)	23*l.*	
To No. 6.	Ditto	(Ditto)	20*l.*	14 6
To No. 7.	Ditto	(a Native)	16*l.*	
To No. 8.	Ditto	(Ditto)	12*l.*	
To No. 9.	Ditto	(Ditto)	8*l.*	
To No. 10.	Ditto	(Ditto)	8*l.*	
To No. 11.	Ditto	(Ditto)	6*l.*	
To No. 12.	Labouring in China (an American)		110*l.*	
To No. 13.	Labouring in the East Indies (a European)		146*l.*	
To No. 14.	Ditto	(Ditto)	60*l.*	
To No. 15.	Ditto	(a Native)	30*l.*	
To No. 16.	Ditto	(Ditto)	14*l.*	
To No. 17.	Labouring in Canada		70*l.*	
To No. 18.	Ditto		60*l.*	

To No. 19.	Labouring in the United States	20*l.*
To No. 20.	Labouring in France	36*l.*
To No. 21.	Labouring in Belgium	30*l.*
To No. 22.	Labouring in Switzerland	36*l.*
To No. 23.	Labouring in Ireland	50*l.*
To No. 24.	Ditto	50*l.*
To No. 25.	Ditto	8*l.*
To No. 26.	Labouring in Scotland	60*l.*
To No. 27.	Labouring in England	120*l.*
To No. 28.	Ditto	100*l.*
To No. 29.	Ditto	70*l.*
To No. 30.	Ditto	62*l.*
To No. 31.	Ditto	60*l.*
To No. 32.	Ditto	52*l.*
To No. 33.	Ditto	50*l.*
To No. 34.	Ditto	50*l.*
To No. 35.	Ditto	50*l.*
To No. 36.	Ditto	45*l.*
To No. 37.	Ditto	40*l.*
To No. 38.	Ditto	37*l.*
To No. 39.	Ditto	35*l.*
To No. 40.	Ditto	34*l.*
To No. 41.	Ditto	32*l.*
To No. 42.	Ditto	30*l.*
To No. 43.	Ditto	30*l.*
To No. 44.	Ditto	25*l.*
To No. 45.	Ditto	20*l.*
To No. 46.	Ditto	20*l.*
To No. 47.	Ditto	20*l.*
To No. 48.	Ditto	20*l.*
To No. 49.	Ditto	14*l.*
To No. 50.	Ditto	14*l.*
To No. 51.	Ditto	13*l.*
To No. 52.	Ditto	11*l.*
To No. 53.	Ditto	10*l.*
To No. 54.	Ditto	6*l.*
To No. 55.	Ditto	5*l.*
To No. 56.	Ditto	5*l.*

There was also expended for renting, lighting, cleaning, &c., some preaching rooms in spiritually dark villages near Bristol . . . 28*l.* 19 2½

During this year, the Lord was pleased to bless again

abundantly the labours of many of those servants of Christ, who were assisted through the funds of this Institution, and this has been the case in foreign countries as well as at home.

4. There was laid out for the circulation of Tracts, from May 26, 1853, to May 26, 1854, the sum of 563*l.* 5*s.* 0½*d.*; and there were circulated 869,636 Tracts.

The total number of all the Tracts which were circulated from the beginning up to May 26, 1854, was Two Millions Six Hundred and Eighty Nine Thousand Six Hundred and Seventy-six.

We desire to be grateful to the Lord, that, during no period previously we were enabled to circulate more Tracts, and more copies of the Holy Scriptures, and aid to a greater degree missionary labours, than during this period; yet we would not rest in that. It is the blessing of the Lord upon our labours which we need, which we desire, and which, by his grace, we also seek. If never so many millions of Tracts, yea even copies of the Holy Scriptures, were circulated, and the Lord did not give his blessing, all these efforts would produce no results to the glory of his name. Yea, if even tens of thousands of preachers of the gospel could be supported with means, in the darkest places of the earth, and they enjoyed not the blessing of the Lord upon their labours, they would labour in vain. For this blessing God will be asked, in order that he may bestow it; but, when it is sought at his hands, he delights in giving it. By God's help we were enabled to seek this blessing, and we obtained again precious answers to our prayers, during this year. It is not merely that the Lord was pleased to give us answers to our prayers with regard to means for carrying on the work; but also in that the various objects of the Scriptural Knowledge Institution were abundantly blessed to the conversion of very many souls: and this was particularly also the case again with reference to the circulation of Tracts.

If any of the Christian Readers are in the habit of circulating Tracts, and yet have never seen fruit, may I suggest to them the following hints for their prayerful consideration. 1, Seek for such a state of heart, through prayer and meditation on the Holy Scriptures, as that you are willing to let God have all the honour, if any

good is accomplished by your service. If you desire for yourself the honour, yea, though it were in part only, you oblige the Lord, so to speak, to put you as yet aside as a vessel not meet for the master's use. One of the greatest qualifications for usefulness in the service of the Lord is a heart, truly desirous of getting honour for him. 2, Precede all your labours with earnest, diligent prayer; go to them in a prayerful spirit; and follow them by prayer. Do not rest on the number of Tracts you have given. A million of Tracts may not be the means of converting one single soul; and yet how great, beyond calculation, may be the blessing which results from one single Tract. Thus it is also with regard to the circulation of the Holy Scriptures, and the ministry of the word itself. Expect, then, everything from the blessing of the Lord, and nothing at all from your own exertions. 3, And yet, at the same time, labour, press into every open door, be instant in season and out of season, as if everything depended upon your labours. This, as has been stated before, is one of the great secrets in connexion with successful service for the Lord: to work, as if everything depended upon our diligence, and yet not to rest in the least upon our exertions, but upon the blessing of the Lord. 4, This blessing of the Lord, however, should not merely be sought in prayer, but it should also be *expected, looked for, continually looked for*: and the result will be, that we shall surely have it. 5, But suppose, that, for the trial of our faith, this blessing were for a long time withheld from our sight; or suppose even, that we should have to fall asleep, before we see much good resulting from our labours; yet will our labours, if carried on in such a way and spirit as has been stated, be at last abundantly owned, and we shall have a rich harvest in the day of Christ.

Now, dear Christian Reader, if you have not seen much blessing resulting from your labours, or perhaps none at all, consider prayerfully these hints, which are affectionately given by one who has now for about thirty years in some measure sought to serve the Lord, and who has found the blessedness, of what he has suggested, in some measure in his own experience.

5. At the beginning of this period, there were Three Hundred Orphans in the New Orphan House on Ashley

Down, Bristol. During the year there were admitted into it 30 Orphans, making 330 in all. Of these 330, four died, three were received back again by their relatives, who by that time were able to provide for them, 17 boys were, at the expense of the Establishment, fitted out and apprenticed, and eight girls were fitted out and sent to situations, at the expense of the Establishment; so that there were only 298 Orphans in the house at the close of the period. The total number of Orphans, who were under our care from April, 1836, to May 26, 1854, was Five Hundred and Fifty Eight.

I notice further the following points in connexion with the New Orphan House.

A. The expenses during this year for the support of the Orphans, were 3,897*l.* 2s. 0½d.

B. Without any one having been personally applied to for anything by me, the sum of 64,591*l.* 6s. 11½d. was given to me for the Orphans *as the result of prayer to* God from the commencement of the work up to May 26, 1854.—It may be also interesting to the reader to know that the total amount, which was given for the other objects, from the commencement of the work up to May 26, 1854, amounted to 22,268*l.* 2s. 11½d.; and that which came in by the sale of Bibles and Tracts, and by the payments of the children in the Day Schools, from the commencement up to May 26, 1854, amounted to 3,989*l.* 4s. 5½d.—Besides this, also a great variety and number of articles of clothing, furniture, provisions, &c., were given *for the use* of the Orphans.

C. Our labours continued to be blessed among the Orphans. We saw also again fruit of our labours, during this year, with regard to Orphans who formerly were under our care.

Matters connected with my own personal affairs, from May 26, 1853, to May 26, 1854.

In July 1853 it pleased the Lord to try my faith in a way in which before it had not been tried. My beloved daughter, an only child, and a believer since the commencement of the year 1846, was taken ill on June 20th. This illness, at first a low fever, turned to typhus. On July 3rd there seemed no hope of her recovery. Now

was the trial of faith. But faith triumphed. My beloved wife and I were enabled to give her up into the hands of the Lord. He sustained us both exceedingly. But I will only speak about myself. Though my only and beloved child was brought near the grave, yet was my soul in perfect peace, satisfied with the will of my Heavenly Father, being assured that he would only do that for her and her parents, which in the end would be the best. She continued very ill till about July 20th, when restoration began. On Aug. 18th she was so far restored, that she could be removed to Clevedon for change of air, though exceedingly weak. It was then 59 days since she was first taken ill.

While I was in this affliction, this great affliction, besides being at peace, so far as the Lord's dispensation was concerned, I also felt perfectly at peace with regard to the cause of the affliction. When in August 1831 the hand of the Lord was heavily laid on me in my family, as related in the first part of this Narrative, I had not the least hesitation in knowing, that it was the Father's rod, applied in infinite wisdom and love, for the restoration of my soul from a state of lukewarmness. At this time, however, I had no such feeling. Conscious as I was of my manifold weaknesses, failings, and shortcomings, so that I too would be ready to say with the Apostle Paul, "O wretched man that I am," yet I was assured that this affliction was not upon me in the way of the fatherly rod, but for the trial of my faith. Persons often have, no doubt, the idea respecting me, that all my trials of faith regard matters connected with money, though the reverse has been stated by me very frequently; now, however, the Lord would try my faith concerning one of my dearest earthly treasures, yea, next to my beloved wife, the dearest of all my earthly possessions. Parents know what an only child, a beloved child is, and what to believing parents an only child, a believing child must be. Well, the Father in heaven said, as it were, by this his dispensation, Art thou willing to give up this child to me? My heart responded, As it seems good to thee my Heavenly Father. Thy will be done. But as our hearts were made willing to give back our beloved child to him who had given her to us; so he was ready to leave her to us, and she lived. "Delight thyself also in the Lord;

and he shall give thee the desires of thine heart." Psalm xxxvii. 4. The desires of my heart were, to retain the beloved daughter, if it were the will of God; the means to retain her were, to be satisfied with the will of the Lord.

Of all the trials of faith that as yet I have had to pass through, this was the greatest; and, by God's abundant mercy, I own it to his praise, I was enabled to delight myself in the will of God; for I felt perfectly sure that if the Lord took this beloved daughter, it would be best for her parents, best for herself, and more for the glory of God than if she lived: this better part I was satisfied with; and thus my heart had peace, perfect peace, and I had not a moment's anxiety. Thus would it be under all circumstances, however painful, were the believer exercising faith.

Dec. 31, 1853. During this year the Lord was pleased to give me—

1. By anonymous donations through the boxes	£177	9	7½
2. Through donations from believers in Bristol, not anonymously . .	143	8	0
3. Through donations from believers not residing in Bristol . . .	299	16	1
4. Through presents in clothes, provisions, etc., worth at least . . .	18	8	0
	£638	11	8½

Further account respecting the intended Orphan House for Seven Hundred Poor Children, bereaved of both Parents, by death, from May 26, 1854, to May 26, 1855.

On May 26, 1854, I had actually in hand for this intended Orphan House, as has been stated in the last chapter on this subject, 17,816*l.* 19s. 5½d. I will now relate further, how the Lord was pleased to supply me with means, but can only refer, for the sake of brevity, to a few instances out of many. The receipts of the first month of this year, however, shall be given entirely, as a specimen.

May 29, 1854. Through Salem Chapel boxes 6d.

May 31. From Finchdean 5*l.*

June 1. Through the boxes at Bethesda Chapel 1*l.*—Ditto from P. and M. E. 10s.—From London 1s. 6d.

June 4. A gold dollar piece and nearly two pennyweights of Californian gold dust.

June 5. Through Bethesda Chapel boxes 2s. 6d., as a thank-offering to the Lord for the mercies of the past month.—Through Salem Chapel boxes 1s., as a thank-offering for mercies and help during the past week.—Ditto 6d.—From P. 2s.

June 7. Anonymously through London Bankers 100*l.*—Through the boxes at the New Orphan House 1s.

June 8. From E. 2s. 6d.—Anonymously 2s.

June 12. Through Bethesda boxes 3s.—Ditto 1s.—Ditto 1*l.*—Through Salem boxes 6d.

June 14. Through the boxes at the New Orphan House 5s.—Ditto ¼d.

June 17. By sale of articles 17s. 7d.

June 18. 3s.—5s.

June 19. 15s.

June 22. A muslin cape, a lace cape, some worked trimming, and two tassel bags, to be sold for the Building Fund.

June 25. From Glasgow 2s. 6d.—From K. C. 10s.

June 26. Anonymously 2s. 2d.—Through Salem boxes 6d.—From P. 1s.

These were but little sums, esteemed reader, in comparison with the total amount which is required for the accommodation of 700 more Orphans; yea, they were even small in comparison with what was still required, though I had then nearly 18,000*l.* in hand. But as it had been given to me, by God's grace, to expect help from him, yea the full help needed for this object, so the additional income of a few pounds, yea of a few shillings, yea of a penny or two was an encouragement to me for further waiting upon him, as every donation, the smallest even, brings me nearer the time when all my prayers concerning this object also shall be turned into praises.

July 1. A large gold brooch, set with two carbuncles, to be sold for the Building Fund.

July 2. Anonymously through London Bankers 100*l.*—From Bury 10s.

July 19. A silver tea pot.

Sept. 27. From one of the former Orphans, now in

service, 5s.—From the Orphan Girls, now under our care, 15s. for the Building Fund.—From the House Girls, *i.e.* the elder female Orphans, who are more particularly engaged in doing household work, for the purpose of being thus trained for situations, I received likewise 11s.—From the Infant Orphans was also received for the Building Fund to-day, 6s. 8d.; and from the Orphan Boys 15s. 0½d.—Oct. 4. From two little factory girls 1s. 7d.

Oct. 23. From Halifax in Nova Scotia 7*l.*

Nov. 25. From the neighbourhood of Wheatley 10*l.*

Dec. 8. From various believers at Hull 12*l.* 12s.

Dec. 30. From Orleans, in France, five francs.

Thus ended the year 1854. Only 426*l.* 16s. 4d. altogether had come in for the Building Fund from May 26 up to the end of the year. My faith and patience were therefore tried; but, while they were tried, they were, by God's grace, sustained. Day by day I had been enabled from May 26 to Dec. 31, 1854, as well as during the three years previously, to bring this object before the Lord in prayer; and day by day, by God's grace, my heart had been fully assured, without wavering, that he, in his own time, would not only give larger sums, but the whole amount required. I desired only his honour in the building of premises for 700 more destitute Orphans, bereaved of both parents; and as *God*, who cares infinitely more for poor Orphans than I do, did not consider the time to have come for the building of another house, *I* might well be quiet. My heart longed indeed to begin to build; for there were not only 602 Orphans waiting for admission when the last Report was published, but there had been application made for 125 more since then, so that on Dec. 31, 1854, 714 were waiting for admission, as only 13 could be received of the total number of 727, no more vacancies having occurred. But though it was so, I judged that it was the will of God, that, by patiently waiting his own time, I should glorify him.—I now proceed to relate how the Lord further dealt with me.

Jan. 1, 1855. 6s. 3d.—From an Orphan 1s., Ditto 1s. —From Manchester 10s.—From three children in Ireland 5s.—Anonymously from Culworth 1*l.*—From P. 2s. 6d.

Jan. 8. On this day I received from several Christian friends the promise, that 5,700*l.* should be paid to me for the work of the Lord in which I am engaged. This donation was paid to me, in different instalments, by the middle of April. I took of this sum, for the Building Fund 3,400*l.*, for the support of the Orphans 900*l.*, for missionary objects 1,000*l.*, for the circulation of the Holy Scriptures 150*l.*, for the circulation of Tracts 150*l.*, and for the various day schools, Sunday schools, and the adult school 100*l.* Thus the Lord is hastening on the time when the building may be commenced. His name be magnified! How refreshing this help was, and how seasonable with regard to all the various objects, can scarcely be described. The Lord may allow us, to have our faith and patience tried; but if we are enabled to continue to look to him, and to trust in him alone, a rich recompense will result from doing so.

Jan. 10. From the neighbourhood of Aberdeen 1*l.*

Jan. 11. From a distance of several hundred miles 13*l.* 15s., with a letter containing the following paragraph: "For the last six months, we (*i. e.* the donor and his wife) have laboured in prayer for the different departments of the Scriptural Knowledge Institution, and especially, that our Heavenly Father would be pleased this year largely to increase the Building Fund, and let the work proceed. Two months ago, while continuing in prayer, it was laid upon our minds, that we should set apart, whatever monies the Lord might send us between that time and the new year. The sum contained in the order is what the Lord has given us, and we rejoice in our being able to send it." What various ways has the Lord to help us! The donor of the 13*l.* 15s. is a brother who serves the Lord in the ministry of the Gospel among very poor and wretched persons, whilst he labours in dependance upon him for his temporal supplies. He has been greatly encouraged by the accounts of the Lord's dealings with the Scriptural Knowledge Institution; and now he is a fellow helper in prayer, and, as this instance shows, also in contributing out of that which the Lord gives to him as the fruit of prayer. This donation greatly refreshed my spirit; for it is so manifest a proof that the Lord is mindful of this work, and that he surely, in his own time, will provide for the accommodation of 700

more Orphans, and that thus this dear donor's prayers, and our prayers, will be turned into praises.

Feb. 7. From London 400*l.*, of which the donor kindly wished me to keep 20*l.* for my family expenses, and to lay out the 380*l.* for the Lord's work, as I might think best. I took therefore 100*l.* for the Building Fund, 140*l.* for the support of the Orphans, and 140*l.* for the other objects.

Feb. 10. Received 197*l.* 17s. 3d., of which the donor kindly wished me to take 20*l.* for my own expenses, and the rest to be used as might be most needed for the Lord's work. I took therefore 57*l.* 17s. 3d. for the Building Fund, 60*l.* for the support of the Orphans, and 60*l.* for the other objects.

March 23. From the Church assembling at Bethesda Free Chapel, Sunderland, 6*l.*, with 1*l.* for myself, as a small part of their yearly church thank-offering to the Lord.

March 28. From one of the Orphans, formerly for many years under our care, but now in service, 10s., with the following letter:

"Dear Sir,—Will you graciously accept this mite, from one who thinks of you and yours with gratitude. It is indeed a very small sum. I regret that I have not more to bestow upon such a noble work. It will perhaps put a corner stone in the wall of the intended Orphan House. I think I should like to labour for the Lord in that blessed house, if it is his own will, and the means in the Lord's hand of bringing many of the dear Orphans to know the truth as it is in Jesus. It was in the Orphan House in Wilson Street, 1846, that first the light of life dawned upon my benighted soul. It was there, that I first learned to call God my Father. I have need therefore to love the Orphan House, not only as concerns temporal things, but especially as its being my spiritual birth place. May the Lord reward you, dear Sir, for all you have done for me. I am sure he will.

"I am, dear Sir, yours most respectfully,

* * * * *."

I have at full length inserted this one letter out of very many of that kind, which I have received during the

past twenty years that I have been engaged in the Orphan work; for many of the Orphans who have been with us since April 11, 1836, have not only been fitted for this life, through being under our care, but have been manifestly brought to the knowledge of the Lord.

April 22. 50*l.*, with 50*l.* for the labourers in the Gospel.

April 28. From B. S. 5*l.*

May 6. From Clifton 20*l.*, with 10*l.* for missions.—From Bassenthwaite 1*l.*

May 21. From Toronto, Canada, 1*l.*

May 26. By the sale of a publication 69*l.* 18s. 1½d.—To the sums received during this year is to be added 767*l.* 7s. 0d., received for interest; for I felt it my duty, as has been stated before, to invest the money, given to me for the Building Fund, until it will be actually needed. Thus ends the period from May 26, 1854, to May 26, 1855. The amount which came in during this year for the Building Fund, together with the 17,816*l.* 19s. 5½d. in hand on May 26, 1854, make the total of 23,059*l.* 17s. 8½d. in hand on May 26, 1855.

In addition to what has been stated relative to the income for the Building Fund during this year, I furnish the Reader with the following particulars respecting the building for 700 Orphans, which are reprinted from the Report for 1855.

When I had received the kind information, in January 1855, respecting the donation of 5700*l.*, which should be paid to me by several Christian friends, of which I was at liberty to take such portion for the Building Fund as I might deem desirable, I judged, that, though I had not such an amount of means in hand as I considered necessary before being warranted to begin to build, yet that I might make inquiries respecting land. Accordingly, I applied in the beginning of February for the purchase of two fields which join the land on which the New Orphan House is built. On these two fields I had had my eye for years, and had purposed to endeavour to purchase them, whenever I might be in such a position as to means for the Building Fund, that it would be suitable to do so. I found, however, that, according to the will of the late owner of these fields, they could not be sold *now*. Thus my prospects were blighted. When I obtain-

this information, though *naturally* tried by it and disappointed, I said, by *God's grace*, to myself: "The Lord has something better to give me, instead of these two fields;" and thus my heart was kept in peace. But when now the matter was fully decided that I could not obtain those fields, which had appeared to me so desirable for the object, the question arose, what I was to do for the obtaining of land. Under these circumstances some of my Christian friends again asked, as they had done before, why I did not build on the ground which we have around the New Orphan House? My reply was, as before, that it could not be done:—1. Because it would throw the New Orphan House for nearly two years into disorder, on account of the building going on round about it. 2. There would not be sufficient room without shutting in the present house to a great extent. 3. That, as the New Orphan House stands in the centre of our ground, there would not be sufficient room on any of the sides for the erection of a building so large as would be required.—I was, however, led to consider whether there was any way whereby we could accomplish the building on the ground belonging to the New Orphan House. In doing so, I found that—1. By having a high temporary boundary made of old boards, the building ground could be entirely distinct from the present establishment. 2. By building on an entirely different plan from that of the present house, we should not only have room enough; but that also, 3. The present house would not be so enclosed, that the health of the inmates of the establishment would thereby be injured.

But there was in connexion with this another point, which now came under consideration in addition to the particulars already mentioned: it was this. Though for four years past I had never had a doubt as to its being the will of God that I should build accommodation for 700 more Orphans; yet, at the same time, I had for a long time seen the desirableness of having two houses, instead of one, for the 700 Orphans. This previously formed judgment of having two houses for 350 Orphans in each, or 400 in the one, and 300 in the other, led me now to see whether there could be another house built on each side of the present New Orphan House; and I judged, from measuring the ground, that there was

no objection to this plan. I then called in the aid of architects, to survey the ground, and to make a rough plan of two houses, one on each side, and it was found that it could be accomplished. Having arrived thus far, I soon saw, that we should not only save expense by this plan in various ways, but especially that thus the direction and inspection of the whole establishment would be much more easy and simple, as the buildings would be so near together. This, indeed, on being further considered, soon appeared to be a matter of such importance, that, if even land could be had but a quarter of a mile off, the difficulties would be greatly increased thereby. At the same time I found that we still should retain so much land for cultivation by the spade, as would furnish some out-door employment for many boys, and would produce such kind of vegetables as are the most important for young children, to be had fresh out of the ground; or that we could easily *rent* a piece of ground near for that purpose, though it could not be *bought*.

The result, then, to which I have arrived at present is this, that, having seen what could be accomplished on the ground which we have already, I decided to build, without any further delay than was necessary for preparing the plans, at the South side of the New Orphan House, another house for 400 children. The plans are now ready, and in a very short time, God willing, *i. e.* as soon as all the necessary preliminary arrangements can be made, the building will commence, which I think will be in the early part of July of the present year, (*i. e.* 1855). Indeed, the first actual steps are already taken, since, on May 29th, the sinking of four wells for the new house was commenced.

This house is intended for 400 female Orphans, bereaved of both parents, from their *earliest* days, until they can be placed out in service. With regard to the other house for 300 Orphans to be built at the North side of the New Orphan House, nothing definitely can be stated at present. There is enough money in hand to build, fit up, and furnish the house for 400 Orphans, and it is expected that something will be left; but there is not sufficient money in hand, at present, to warrant the commencement of the building of both. As soon, however, as there

is, I shall be delighted to take active measures with regard to that for 300 Orphans also. I do not ask persons to help me with their means. I speak to the Lord about my need in prayer, and I do not wait upon him in vain. At the same time I feel it right to state, that there is a loud and an abundant call for caring for destitute Orphans. On May 26, 1854, I had 602 waiting for admission, each bereaved of both parents by death. Since then 197 more have been applied for, making in all 799. Of these I have been able to receive only 39 during the past year, and 45 who were waiting for admission have been otherwise provided for, or have died since application was made for them; so that still 715 Orphans are waiting for admission, from three months old and upward. But this number, I state unhesitatingly, would be much larger, had not very many persons refrained from making application, because they judged it would be of no use, as there are already so many waiting for admission. Indeed there is every reason to believe, that there are many tens of thousands of destitute Orphans in this country. And what provision is there in the way of Orphan establishments, it may be asked? At the last census in 1851, there were in England and Wales 39 Orphan Establishments, and the total number of Orphans, provided for through them, amounted only to 3764; but at the time the New Orphan House was being built, there were about 6000 young Orphans in the prisons of England. To prevent their going to prison, to prevent their being brought up in sin and vice, yea, to be the honoured instrument to win their souls for God, I desire, by his help, to enlarge the present establishment, so as to be able to receive 1000 Orphans; and individuals who have purposed not to live for time but for eternity, and to look on their means as in the light of eternity, will thus have an opportunity of helping me to care for these children. It is a great honour to be allowed to do anything for the Lord; therefore I do not press this matter. We can only give to him of his own; for all we have is his. When the day of recompense comes, the regret will only be that we have done so little for him, not that we have done too much.

Supplies for the School—Bible—Missionary and Tract Fund, sent in answer to prayer, from May 26, 1854, to May 26, 1855.

On May 26, 1854, when the accounts were closed, there was in hand 55*l.* 15s. for these objects. I now mention a few of the instances in which the Lord, in answer to prayer, supplied us with means.

July 6, 1854. As only about 100*l.* had come in for these objects during the past five weeks, all our means were now expended. I desired to help brethren who labour in the word, but was unable to do so, when I received to-day 50*l.* from London, which being left to my disposal, I took half of it for these objects, and half for the support of the Orphans.

July 8. Further, from the North of Devon 14*l.*

July 12. Day by day I have been waiting upon the Lord for means for home and foreign labourers in the Gospel, for whom I had no means, though greatly desiring to send them help. To-day I received, as the fruit of many prayers, from London the sum of 100*l.*, of which I took 50*l.* for the Orphans, and 50*l.* for these objects. It was the more remarkable that this donor should have sent me help at this time, as I had received 25*l.* from him on the first day of this month.

About this time I received several other donations for missions.

On July 13th from Bath 5s.—On July 18th from Clifton 6*l.*—On July 20th from Philadelphia, U. S., 11*l.* 14s. 3d.—On July 21st from Bath 4*l.*—From Tavistock 10s. 8d.—From Dublin 2*l.* 19s. 6d.—On July 22nd from London 10s., and from a Bristol donor 10s.—On July 23rd from Edinburgh 10s.—On July 24th I received a small plate-chest, containing 14 table spoons, 6 dessert spoons, 11 tea spoons, 2 gravy spoons, 2 sauce ladles, 12 forks, 4 salt cellars, 4 salt spoons, a pepper box, a pair of sugar tongs, a wine funnel, a cream jug, a small salver, a small goblet, a larger ditto, a fish knife, and a coffee pot, all of silver, 3 pairs of plated nut crackers, a plated salver and a pewter can. The donor, who desires to be his own executor, wished me to sell these articles, keep 10*l.* for myself, and to use the rest for missionary objects. The contents of the box realized 44*l.* 5s. 10d.,

and I was thus enabled on August 1, 1854, to send 40*l.* to seven brethren labouring in British Guiana: and about ten weeks afterwards I heard that the Lord had sent them this help at a time of great need.—On July 25th from Kendal 1*l.* for missions.—On July 26th from a visitor at Clifton 30*l.* for missions.—From Bath 10s.—From Hackney 10s.—From Broseley 2s. 6d.—July 29. From Whitehaven 2*l.* 5s. 6d. for missions.—July 30. From Uppingham 2s. 6d.—August 8. 40*l.* from a distance, of which 30*l.* was for missions.—August 18. From C. W. 20*l.* for missions.

I had thus the joy of being able to send some assistance to some of the brethren whom I desire to help as labourers in the Gospel at Home or Abroad; yet all this was little in comparison with what I desired to do. For several months, during this period, that is in June, July, August and September, up to October 17th, I was day by day waiting upon the Lord for means for labourers in the Word, as I had reason to believe that many of them were in need; but little only, comparatively, came in. I was able to send up to October 17th not more than about one half of what I had been able to send them for several years previously. My desire to help these dear brethren was as great as ever. My earnestness in prayer for them, by God's grace, had not decreased. Their need, I had full reason to believe (and in some instances I knew) was great. I could, therefore, only conclude that the Lord allowed these dear brethren thus to have their faith tried, in order that they might the better become acquainted with himself. At last, however, the Lord refreshed my spirit greatly, first on October 17th, and then especially by that large donation at the commencement of the year 1855, of which I took a considerable portion for missionary objects, so that especially during the last five months of this period I was able to send help to brethren who labour in the Gospel to such an extent, as that about the same amount was disbursed for that object as for several years previously, but a greater amount for the circulation of the Holy Scriptures and Tracts than formerly. Of the donations which came in for these objects between Aug. 18 and Oct. 17, 1854, I only mention the following—On Sept. 21st, anonymously from Exmouth, a bank post bill for 20*l.*, of which the donor designed 10*l.* to be applied to the Missionary Fund, 5*l.* for the

Orphans, and 5*l.* where most needed, or for my own necessities, as a thank-offering for unmerited mercies. This latter 5*l.*, left at my disposal, I took for the circulation of the Holy Scriptures and Gospel Tracts. I wrote in my journal, concerning this donation: "A precious answer to prayer! Great, great is the need."—On Sept. 23rd a deeply-afflicted mother left at my disposal 20*l.* I took it for missionary objects, the circulation of the Holy Scriptures and Gospel Tracts; for which objects much then was needed. Almost all the Tracts for gratuitous circulation were gone, and many brethren who labour in the Word I desired to help, but had not the means.—Sept. 26. From Kensington 11*l.*, which was taken for the circulation of Tracts and missions, as the disposal of it was left with me.—From Worcestershire 8*l.* 6s. 7d., being the balance of an account. It was taken for missions and the circulation of Gospel Tracts. A most seasonable help!—Sept. 28. "From two of God's children who can say, 'Our hearts trusted in Him, and we are helped,'" Psalm xxviii. 7, 1*l.* for missions, 1*l.* for the Orphans, with 1*l.* for myself.—Sept. 30. This morning, at our usual prayer meeting with my fellow-labourers, the need of brethren, who labour in the Word, was again especially brought before the Lord, as I had reason to believe many were in need, and I had nothing to send them. This evening I received from Shropshire a large gold chain, a small gold chain, a diamond brooch, and a topaz brooch, with the request of the donor to sell them for the benefit of brethren who labour in the Word. This donation has greatly refreshed my spirit, but I look out for more, far more.—Oct 4. From E. B. 5*l.* for missions.—From a Missionary box at Stroud 3*l.* 0s. 7d.—Oct. 8. From a distance 20*l.* for brethren who labour in the Gospel at Home and Abroad, 40*l.* for the Orphans, and 20*l.* for my own expenses. Precious answer to prayer. Great, great is the need for labourers in the Word. I had, therefore, particularly again waited upon the Lord yesterday, together with my fellow-labourers, for this object.—From B. S. 1*l.* for missions.—Oct. 11. From Austin Friars, London, 20*l.*—Oct. 12. From Philadelphia 1*l.*—From Cotham Lane 1*l.*—Oct. 14. 2s. 6d.—From Weymouth was received 2*l.*, the disposal of which

was left to me. Having just sent out, to the last pound I had, 40*l.* to Demerara, I took it for Missionary objects. —Oct. 15. 2s. for missions.—Oct. 16. Anonymously 4s., ditto 1s., ditto 2s. 6d., ditto 1s.

Oct. 17. This morning at family prayer, in my own family, came in the course of reading Exodus v, which shows, that, just before the deliverance of the Israelites out of Egypt, their trials were greater than ever. They had not only to make the same number of bricks as before, but also to gather stubble, as no straw was given them any longer. This led me, in expounding the portion, to observe, that even now the children of God are often in greater trial than ever, just before help and deliverance comes. Immediately after family prayer it was found, that by the morning's post not one penny had come in for the work of the Lord in which I am engaged, though we needed much, and though but very little had come in during the three previous days. Thus I had now to remember Exodus v, and to practise the truths contained therein. In the course of the day nothing was received. In the evening I had, as usual, a season for prayer with my dear wife, respecting the various objects of the Scriptural Knowledge Institution, and then we left the New Orphan House for our home. When we arrived at our house, about nine o'clock, I found that 5*l.* and also 5s. had been sent from Norwich in two Post Office Orders for the Building Fund, and that 8*l.* 3s. 11d. had been sent in for Bibles, Tracts and Reports, which had been sold. This called for thanksgiving. But a little later, between nine and ten o'clock, a Christian gentleman called and gave me 1*l.* for the Orphans and 200*l* for foreign missions. He had received these sums from an aged Christian woman, whose savings as a servant, during her WHOLE life, made up the 200*l.*, and who, having recently had left to her a little annual income of about 30*l.*, felt herself constrained, by the love of Christ, to send the savings of her whole life for foreign missions. This gentleman stated to me at the same time, that she had not had more than 5*l.* or 6*l.* wages a-year, during her whole life. Moreover, I ought to add, that out of this she has sent me, year by year, 1*l.* or more for the benefit of the Orphans, for many years; though I never knew

her circumstances till now, as she resides at a distance, and I have never seen her. What various ways has the Lord to supply us with means! I add the following remarks: 1, For several months past no donation as large as 200*l.* has been received, a circumstance which has not occurred for about ten years past. 2, Now an aged servant is used by the Lord to send this donation as the fruit of her earnings, from about fifty years' service. 3, Our especial prayer had been again and again, that the Lord would be pleased to send in means for missionary brethren, as I had reason to believe they were in much need of help; and only at eight o'clock this evening I had particularly besought the Lord to send help for this object. By the last mail I had sent off 40*l.* to British Guiana, to help seven brethren there in some measure. This amount took the last pound I had in hand for this object. How gladly would I have sent assistance to other brethren also, but I had no more. Now I am in some degree supplied for this object. 4, Very recently our tracts for gratuitous circulation were almost entirely gone; but, before they were quite exhausted, the Lord sent more means, so that about 200,000 could be ordered.

Oct. 23. Received 149*l.* 8s., the disposal of which was left with me. I took of it 100*l.* for the support of the Orphans, for whom I had not 5*l.* in hand, when it came, and the remainder for these Objects, for which still much is needed, in order to help labourers in the Gospel at home, as well as foreign labourers, and in order to be able to go on with the circulation of the Holy Scriptures and Tracts, and to meet the expenses for the various schools. This morning I had also the promise, that in about a month 400*l.* should be paid to me for the work of the Lord. Thus, after a season of several months, during which scarcely any large sums have been received, the Lord is pleased, in answer to many prayers, to cause the streams of his bounty to flow again more abundantly.

Oct. 26. From a visitor at Clifton 50*l.*, which I took for the School, Bible, Missionary and Tract Objects.—Also from Cumberland an air-bed with its bellows, a small gold seal, 4 silver table spoons, 4 silver dessert spoons, some books, several little plaister cases, a half sovereign,

and a few other little articles: to be disposed of for foreign and Irish missions.

A few days later I heard how the money, sent to home labourers in the Gospel, of the 49*l.* 8s. and the last mentioned 50*l.*, came in a time of great need to these brethren, some having literally expended the very last money they had.

Oct. 27. From Birmingham 1*l.* for the Orphans, 1*l.* for the gratuitous circulation of the Holy Scriptures, and 1*l.* for missions to the heathen; with a silver snuff box and two gold breast pins, to be disposed of for the spread of the Gospel.

Nov. 6. From a Gloucestershire farmer 10*l.* for missions, with 10*l.* for the Orphans.

Nov. 27. In great need there came in 100*l.*, which was left to my appropriation as it might be most required. I took, therefore, 50*l.* for the Orphans, for whom there was scarcely any thing in hand, and 50*l.* for these objects, for which we needed much in every way.

Dec. 30. Received 100*l.*, in the greatest need for these objects, and for the support of the Orphans. I took one-half for these objects, and the other half for the Orphans, and am thus again helped, in answer to many prayers.

Jan. 1, 1855. As the year closed with mercies, so another has commenced with mercies. I received from one engaged in the work 2*l.* for missions.—From M. E. for missions 5s.—From E. C. 5s.—From M. A. F. 4s. 4d. —From B. S. 1*l.* for missions.—Also 10*l.* for the support of the Day Schools.

Jan. 2. From a few believers in Huntingdonshire 15s. 2d. for missions.

Jan. 3. From two Christian ladies in London 10*l.* for missions, with 10*l.* for the Orphans.

Thus we were helped on till I received on Jan. 8th, the promise of the donation of 5,700*l.*, of which, as has been stated, 1,400*l.* was taken for these objects. This, with what came in besides, from Jan 8, to May 26, 1855, enabled me so amply to meet every demand afterwards, that no further difficulty was experienced during this period, in the way of means.

Means for the support of the 300 *Orphans, already under our care, sent in answer to prayer, from May* 26, 1854, *to May* 26, 1855.

At the beginning of this period, there was in hand the balance of 123*l.* 0s. 7½d. To the poorer class of readers this might appear a considerable sum; but to such we would say, that often the expenses of three or four days are more than this for the Orphan Establishment, with which 335 persons are connected; and, certainly, the average expenses, even if no extraordinary demands were to be met, amount to about Twelve Pounds per day in these dear times; and therefore 123*l.* would only be enough for about ten days. We had then, so far as it regarded a *visible* support, only enough for about ten days; but, whilst we had so little as to a visible support, we looked by faith to Him who is *invisible*, the Living God, who has upheld this work for so many years. We believed that he would help us still; and we were not confounded, though our faith was again and again tried. I can, however, give only a few out of the many instances which might be recorded.

June 15, 1854. Though this is only the third week since the new period commenced, yet as only about 60*l.* had come in for the support of the Orphans, in addition to the balance of 123*l.* 0s. 7½d., we were to-day reduced to less than Five Pounds. This had led to much waiting upon the Lord; and again the Lord gave a gracious answer to prayer. I received 151*l.* 5s. 8d., which, being left to my disposal, I took the whole of it for the support of the Orphans. Also from two little girls was sent to me 8s., with the information that one of their sisters had set apart a swarm of bees, the honey of which should be sold for the benefit of the Orphans. Also from Weston-Super-Mare came in 10s. Thus the Lord has again helped in the hour of our need.

July 12. Our means were now again reduced to about 30*l.*, as only about 150*l.* had come in since the reception of the 152*l.* 3s. 8d. on June 15. In addition to this, we had very heavy expenses before us. This morning, in reading through the book of Proverbs, when I came to chapter xxii. 19—"That thy trust may be in the Lord," &c., I

said in prayer to him: "Lord, I do trust in thee; but wilt thou now be pleased to help me; for I am in need of means for the current expenses of all the various objects of the Institution." By the first delivery of letters I received an order on a London bank for 100*l.*, to be used for all the various objects, "as the present need might require." I took, therefore, 50*l.* for the support of the Orphans, and 50*l.* for the other objects, which are also in great need. I received also from Wandsworth Road 1*l.* 10s. 8d.; and in the course of the day 2*l.* 3s. 3d., through the boxes at the New Orphan House. Thus we are again helped for the present.

July 19. For some time past I have been under an engagement to leave Bristol at the end of this month, or in the beginning of August, for about four weeks, to labour at Sunderland. On this account I have besought the Lord during the last days that he would be pleased to send me some means for my own expenses, but especially that I might be able to leave some money behind, to last at least for some time. Yesterday the Lord was pleased to begin answering my request, in sending means for the support of the Orphans. I received from Lymington 5*l.* —From Tregenda 10s.—From Thetford 10s.—From Perth 1*l.*—From Kilmarnock 5*l.*—By sale of Reports 18s. 10d.—Proceeds of an Orphan Box 1*l.* 5s. 9½d. To-day I have received from South Brent 1s.—From Middlesex 50*l.*—Ditto 18s.—From Clifton 5*l.*—From Dudbridge 8s.—Through the boxes in the New Orphan House 7*l.* 1s. 3d.—By sale of Reports 1*l.* 8s.—Returned on paying an account 2s. 4d.—From a visitor at Clifton 50*l.* and a gold chain. The donor kindly wished me to retain 10*l.* for my own expenses.—From Kingsbridge 2s.

Thus the Lord began to answer prayer; but I expected more, and he sent me more on the following days. I record the income for the Orphans:—

July 20. From Homerton 3*l.* 3s.—Anonymously from Birmingham 1s.—Anonymously left at my house 5*l.*

July 21. From Bideford 10s.—By sale of Reports 1s. —From Tavistock 4s. 9d.—In a box from Tavistock, containing specimens of ores, &c. 3s.

July 22. From Wotton-under-Edge 10s.—By sale of Reports 7s.—From West Brixton 2*l.*—From the Isle of Wight 1s. 6d. and 3s. 6d.—By sale of Reports 2s.—

From Chippenham 2*l.* 10s.—From College Green, Bristol, 10s.

July 23. From Bodmin 5s. and 1s.—From Clifton 5s. Ditto 5s. Ditto 1*l.* Ditto 1*l.*

July 24. From Dudley 1*l.* 0s. 6d. Ditto 1s. 8d.—From Clifton 10s.—With James i. 17. 2s. 6d.—From P. 2s. 6d.—Through Salem boxes 1s. Ditto 6d.—From Stourbridge 1s. 6d.—From Hastings 1*l.* 10s.—From E. B. Esq. 2*l.*

July 25. From Wells 3s.—12s.—2s. 6d.—From Kendal 2*l.*—From London 10*l.*

July 26. Through the boxes at the New Orphan House 5*l.* 18s. 11d.—By sale of Reports 14s. Ditto 6s.—From Torquay 3s. 4d.—From the neighbourhood of Newton Abbot 11s., with three old silver pencil cases, and two little pieces of old silver.—From a visitor at Clifton 100*l.*, of which the donor wished me to take 20*l.* for myself, and to use the other as most needed. I took, therefore, 50*l.* for the Orphans, and 30*l.* for missions and the circulation of the Holy Scriptures and Tracts.—From Hackney 1*l.* 5s.—From Taunton 2s. and ¼ lb. of tea.—There were anonymously left at the New Orphan House two vases, a Chinese tea caddy, a mosaic box, a ring set with a ruby and two brilliants, a double gold serpent bracelet, a large cameo brooch, a silver snuff box, a double gold pin set with two brilliants, a pair of gold earrings, a pair of gold ear-rings set with pearls and emeralds, a gold brooch set with pearls and emeralds, a gold pin set with pearls and garnets, three gold shirt studs, a large gold cameo ring, a gold masonic medal, a pair of small gold earrings, a gold ring set with topazes, a gold watch ring, and a rupee. (These valuable articles did not merely refresh my spirit on account of their value; but they came as an answer to prayer for means, and also that the Lord would incline the hearts of his children to send such valuable, but needless, articles.) There were also given by the same donors, six Indian table mats, a white lace scarf, a black lace cap, and two pamphlets.

July 27. "20*l.* tendered as some thank-offering for singular deliverance at Llanberis." Ditto 1s. for a Report.—From Reading 1*l.*—From a Christian gentleman of Edinburgh, then near Glasgow, 3*l.* Through ditto 1*l.* Ditto 1*l.*—From Grundisburgh 5s. Ditto 1s. Ditto 6d.

—Anonymously in postages 2s. 6d.—From Bath 5s.—From Chillington 10s. 6d.—From Nottingham 10s.

July 28. From Pentonville 1*l.*, with a little box of articles.—From Yeovil 1s. and 3s. 6d.—From Cannock 3*l.* Ditto 1*l.*, and ditto 1*l.*—From Blackrock 10s. Ditto 1s. Ditto 1s.

July 29. From Higham Ferrars 10s.—From G. D. 1s.—From Colsterworth 10s.—From Wellesborne 10s.—Anonymously 2s.—By sale of Reports 3s. 6d.—From Whitehaven 2*l.* 14s. 6d.—By sale of a Report 6d.—From a gentleman of Largs 4*l.*—"From an Orphan Sailor," through C. M. 2*l.*

July 30. From Uppingham 2s. 6d.—From Newton Ferrars 2s. 6d.

July 31. From Lenton 6s. 6d.—From Edinburgh 3*l.* 10s.

Aug. 1. From London 1*l.* Ditto 1s. 6d. Ditto 5*l.* from a donor at Kilburn.—From Chillington 2s.—From Broseley 5s.—From Warmley 5s. and an old silver watch.—A little gold dust, from a dying believer.—From F. E. B. 2s. 6d.—From Barnstaple 1*l.* 3s.—From Northam 5s.—From Hereford 10s.—By sale of Reports 1s. 6d.—From Newport, near Barnstaple, 1*l.* Ditto 10s.—From Barnstaple 1*l.* Ditto 10s.—From P. 2s. 6d.—Through Bethesda boxes 1s. Ditto 2s. 6d.—By sale of articles 4*l.* 13s. 3d.—By sale of Reports 10s.

Aug. 2. By sale of Reports 1*l.* 6s. 6d.—Anonymously 3s.—From a lady in Bath 1*l.* Ditto 10s.—From Ilfracombe 10*l.*—From Mundesley 2*l.*—Anonymously given at the New Orphan House 1*l.* Ditto 1s.—From Kilmersdon 6s.

Aug. 3. By sale of Reports 3s. 6d.—From Birmingham 6s. 6d.—Through the boxes at the New Orphan House 3*l.* 18s. 3d.—From Chapeltown 10s.—From London 5*l.*—From Tavistock 2s. 6d.—Returned on paying an account 2s. 4d.—By sale of Reports 2s. 6d.—By sale of trinkets 38*l.* 11s. 6d.—By sale of Reports 12s. 10d.—Received also a letter from the neighbourhood of Gumeracha, in Australia, enclosing a bank order for 10*l.*, of which 2*l.* was intended for aged or blind saints in Bristol, 1*l.* for Bibles and Testaments, and 7*l.* for the Orphans or the other objects of the Scriptural Knowledge Institution. I took this 7*l.* for the Orphans.

Aug. 4. From Plymouth 2*l.*—From Ilfracombe 10s. —From London 1*l.* 13s. 4d.

Aug. 5. From Manchester 10s.—By sale of Reports 3s. 4d.

Aug. 6. From Greenock 5*l.*—From Cockermouth 1*l.* —From Islington 1*l.* 1s.—From Child Okeford 2s. 6d.— From Clifton 2s. 6d. and 3s.—From Horfield Road 10s. —From Henbury 2*l.*

Aug. 7. From Melton Abbot 2s. 6d. and 6d.—From Cheltenham Road, Bristol, 1*l.* 1s.—From Islington 1*l.* 4s. —By sale of articles 17s. 3½d.—From Fowey 5*l.*— Through Bethesda boxes 6d. Ditto 2s. 6d. Ditto 1s. Ditto 2s. 6d.—From St. Philip's, Bristol, 5s.—From three children 3s. 6d.—From Clifton 1*l.* 10s.—Through Salem boxes 1s.

Aug. 8. From Lichfield 1*l.* Ditto 5s.—By sale of books 4*l.*—From Calstock 2s. 6d.—From Freshwater 1*l.*

Aug. 9. Anonymously 10s.—By sale of Reports 2s. —From Yaxham 1*l.*—From Gravesend 1*l.*—Through the boxes in the New Orphan House 4*l.* 4s. 10d., with 1s. in postages.—From Norwich 15s. Ditto 1s.—From a brother in the Lord 5*l.* Ditto from his box 17s. 4d.— From Plymouth 10s.—By sale of Reports 14s. 6d.

Thus the Lord, in answer to prayer, had supplied me so bountifully, that, when I left home on August 10th, I could leave sufficient in the bank to last for a little time, and I hoped in God that, by the time that was gone, he would kindly give more. And thus he did. I have also given the income for the Orphans day by day, for the above 23 days, in order that thus the Reader may see how, in large and small sums, and from various parts of the world, the Lord is pleased to send in the supplies.

I shall now give a few more instances in which the Lord manifestly, in answer to prayer, helped us in the time of need.

Aug 26. A Christian widow, having had left to her by a friend a few articles, among which was a diamond brooch, sent it to me for the benefit of the Orphans, and thus had the desire of her heart granted, which she had often had, to be able to send something for them. On the other hand we receive it in answer to prayer, as there is very little in hand for the Orphans, and as I have

again and again asked the Lord to lead his children to send me such like articles for his own work.—There came in also from Kirriemuir 1*l.*—From Kingsbridge an old guinea piece. Ditto 10s. Ditto 10s.—From the neighbourhood of Ryde 10s.

Aug. 27. From Douglas 1*l.*—From the neighbourhood of Sunderland 5s.—From Sunderland 5s.—Through Salem boxes 1s.—With James 1, 17, 2s. 6d.—From E. T. and E. E. 2s.

Aug. 28. From Captain J. K., Royal Navy, 2*l.*—From Mr. C. K. 2*l.*—From Mr. P. 1*l.*—From Bury 10s.

Aug. 29. From Sunderland 1*l.* Ditto 1s.—From Gloucester 5s. Ditto 1s.—By sale of articles 1*l.* 4s.—From one engaged in the work 2*l.*—From the neighbourhood of Cirencester 1*l.*

Aug. 30. From the neighbourhood of Southampton 5*l.*

Aug 31. Anonymously, through the boxes at Bethesda chapel, Sunderland, 5*l.* Ditto 1s.—From Ilfracombe 2s. 6d.—Through the boxes at the New Orphan House 5*l.* 1½d.—By sale of Reports 16s.—From one engaged in the work, as a thank-offering for journeying mercies, 10s.—From the neighbourhood of Sudbury in Derbyshire 10*l.*—From Grosmont 5s. Ditto 1s. 1d.—From Chillington 13s. 6d. Ditto 3s. 6d.—From Hayle 1*l.* By sale of Reports 2s. 6d.—By sale of the above-mentioned brooch 6*l.* 11s.

Sept. 1. From the Isle of Wight 2s. 6d.—Anonymously, "from a lady at Birmingham," 5*l.*—From a brother in the Lord in Bath 5*l.* Through ditto, from a Christian lady in Bath, 10*l.*

See, dear reader, how good the Lord is, and how ready to help in answer to prayer! I was then 300 miles from the work in which I am more especially engaged; but the Lord's assistance was to be obtained at this distant place. Day by day I sought his help whilst absent, and day by day I received intelligence from Bristol. And thus, my fellow-labourers in Bristol, and I at Sunderland, were seeking the help of the Lord, and he did condescend to listen to our supplications on account of his dear Son, the Lord Jesus, and to grant us our requests.

On this day, Sept. 1st, I also received a precious letter, enclosing a Post Office Order for 2*l.* 14s., from a donor,

who, for many years, took a lively interest in the work in which I am engaged. This letter was doubly precious, not only because of its containing 2*l.* 14s., which came just then so particularly in answer to prayer, as since August 26th, I had been especially looking to the Lord for means, there being then scarcely any thing left; but also because it so strikingly proved the power of the divine life.

* * * * *Aug.* 30, 1854.

"Dear Mr. Müller,

"Having been a constant sufferer now for a year, the money I send you is (humanly speaking) consequently less; and as there is likely to be a crisis soon, in the shape of a large abscess, and I know not what the Lord is about to do with me, I send you all the money I have in hand; and if it should be the last, may the Lord add a double blessing to it. The Lord does not want *my* poor help to do his own work; but I feel privileged to be allowed to contribute, if it is but a nail, or a cup of milk, to his service. My peace is great—that is, *his* peace is with me, though tribulation, to some extent, is mine also. I desire your prayers, and remain,

"Yours in our precious Lord,

"* * * * *

"P.S.—I expect to be able to send a box of, it may be, almost useless articles soon. Whither shall I send it?"

This Christian lady, whom I have never seen in the body, though I corresponded with her for many years, has entered upon her rest. She fell asleep at the beginning of the year 1855. In looking over my account books, I meet again and again with the name of one and another who has finished his course. Soon, dear Reader, your turn and mine may come. Are you prepared for eternity? Affectionately I press this question upon you. Do not put it away. Nothing is of greater moment than this point; yea, all other things, however important in their place, are of exceedingly small importance, in comparison with this matter. Do you ask, how you may be prepared for eternity, how to be saved, how to obtain the

forgiveness of your sins; the answer is, believe in the Lord Jesus, trust in him, depend upon him alone as it regards the salvation of your soul. He was punished by God, in order that we guilty sinners, if we believe in him, might not be punished. He fulfilled the law of God, and was obedient even unto death, in order that we disobedient guilty sinners, if we believe in him, might, on his account, be reckoned righteous by God. Ponder these things, dear Reader, should you have never done so before. Through faith in the Lord Jesus alone can we obtain forgiveness of our sins, and be at peace with God; but, believing in Jesus, we become, through this very faith, the children of God; have God as our Father, and may come to him for all the temporal and spiritual blessings which we need. Thus every one of my readers may obtain answers to prayers, not only to the same extent that we obtain them, but far more abundantly. It may be that few, comparatively, of the children of God are called to serve the Lord in the way of establishing Orphan Houses, &c.; but all of them may, yea, are called upon, to trust in God, to rely upon him, in their various positions and circumstances, and apply the word of God, faith, and prayer, to their family circumstances, their earthly occupation, their afflictions and necessities of every kind, both temporally and spiritually; just as we, by God's help, in some little measure seek to apply the word of God, faith, and prayer to the various objects of the Scriptural Knowledge Institution for Home and Abroad. Make but trial of it, if you have never done so before; and you will see how happy a life it is. You may, perhaps, pity the writer, and think how he must be burdened day by day, and full of care and anxiety; and you may think that he cannot have any quietness and peace, but is worn down by the constant questionings, how the expenses for the various schools are to be met; how further money is to be obtained for the circulation of the Holy Scriptures and Tracts; how the many preachers of the Gospel at Home and Abroad, who are assisted by the Institution, may once more be helped; how the 300 Orphans are to be provided with all they need; how situations for the elder female Orphans are to be found; how suitable places may be obtained for the elder male Orphans when they are ready to be

apprenticed, and so on. Now here is just the true state of the case:—We are not insensible to any of these points; we *do* feel them. We do not put them away lightly and treat them with indifference; but we look them in the face and feel their deep importance. At the same time, while we neither treat them with indifference, nor attempt to carry them in our own strength, we do, by God's grace, cast our burdens upon him, trust in him; and thus are kept in peace in the midst of numberless difficulties and almost constant trials of one kind and another. Truly I may say, that I prefer by far this life of trial, of almost constant trial, if I am only able to roll all my cares upon my Heavenly Father, and thus become increasingly acquainted with him, to a life of outward peace and quietness, without these constant proofs of his faithfulness, his wisdom, his love, his power, his overruling providence, &c.

Of the donations which came in between Sept. 2nd and Nov. 5th, amounting to about 600*l.* in 346 different sums, I mention only, for the sake of brevity, the following.

Sept. 2. From an anonymous donor through Mr. B. at Geneva, by the hands of Count G., 1*l.* 15s.—Sept. 6. Received from Clerkenwell 50*l.*, to be used one half for missions, and the other half as I thought best. I took the one half for the support of the Orphans, and find the following remark in my journal respecting this donation: "What a precious answer to prayer! Since Aug. 26th we have been day by day coming to the Lord for our daily supplies. Precious, also, on account of missionary brethren, whom I seek to help, for whom I had nothing in hand, when this donation was received."—Sept. 22. From Crediton 3*l.* 4s. 8d., as "a thank-offering to God for the very fine harvest which in mercy he has been pleased to grant."

Nov. 5. There was now again only about 5*l.* in hand for the support of the Orphans, when I received 2*l.* 10s. for them, and 2*l.* 10s. for myself, from a donor in London, whom the Lord has been pleased to raise up during the last two years, and who since then has been often used as an instrument in helping the work at times of need. A brother in the Lord also gave me 5*l.* this morning, saying, "I have of late had the Orphans much laid on my

heart."—From Clifton 1*l.* 10*s.*—From H. C. 3*s.*—From F. M. 5*s.*

Nov. 6. Further help. From the Isle of Wight 5*s.*—Through Bethesda boxes 2*s.* 6d.—Ditto 6d.—From P. 1*s.*—Through Salem boxes 1*s.*—From a Gloucestershire Farmer 20*l.*, of which he intended 10*l.* for missions, and the other 10*l.* to be used as most needed. I took it for the support of the Orphans. This same godly farmer was used by the Lord last year, about this time, as the instrument of helping us, when we were in great need.

Nov. 7. By sale of Reports 4*s.* 10d.—Anonymously from York 5*s.*—Received back on paying an account 3*s.* 7½d. —From a relative of one of the Orphans 1*s.*—Having had to pay out 18*l.* for housekeeping expenses, and having had to meet a few little expenses besides, we had again only about 5*l.* left, as was the case three days ago, when I received this afternoon 5*l.* from a Bristol donor.—Also 1*l.* from London.

Nov. 15. Our means were now again gone. We had scarcely anything in hand, with very heavy expenses before us, when this morning a Christian gentleman from Yorkshire called on me, and gave me 50*l.* for the current expenses for the Orphans. This was a most precious encouragement to prayer! There came in further to-day from Manchester 9*s.* 6d.—By sale of Reports 11*s.* 6d.—Through the boxes in the New Orphan House 2*l.* 7*s.* 11d. —Returned on paying an account 3*s.* 1¼d.—From Exeter 1*l.* 10*s.*

Nov. 22. A Brother in the Lord from Manchester came to see the New Orphan House, and gave 10*l.*, which came in a time of great need.

Nov. 27. 100*l.* was sent in the greatest need, from a considerable distance, of which I took 50*l.* for the Orphans, and 50*l.* for the other Objects.

Dec. 20. As since Nov. 27 only about 200*l.* has come in, I found this evening that our means for the support of the Orphans were reduced to 10*l.* 9*s.* 8d., whilst our current expenses of late have been about 12*l.* daily, on account of the high price of provisions. This led to earnest prayer, that the Lord would be pleased to help us.

Dec. 21. The Lord has already sent a precious answer to the prayer of last evening. I received to-day from

a Noble Lady, then in Rutlandshire, 10*l.*—From Devonshire 15*l.*—By sale of Reports 6s. 6d.—From Birmingham 2s.—By sale of a few coins, etc. 19s. 1d.—From Monmouthshire 8s.—By sale of Reports 2s. 6d.—From Worksop 5s., Ditto 6d., Ditto 5s.—Returned on paying an account 3s. 3¾d.

Dec. 23. From Cheltenham 2s. 6d.—From London 10s.—From Clondegad 10s.—By sale of articles 3*l.* 16s. 5d.—By sale of a Report 6d.—From Edinburgh 5*l.*

Dec. 24. Anonymously 1*l.*—From Barking 6s.—From Blackheath Hill 6s.

Dec. 25. From R. S. 2s.—Through Bethesda boxes 1s. 6d.—Ditto 2s. 6d.—Through Salem boxes 3s. 6d.—From P. 2s.

Dec. 26. From a brother in the Lord 6*l.*—From O. O. at Plymouth 10s.

Dec. 27. From two Believers at Plymouth 10s.—From Kingsbridge 10s.—From Falmouth 1s.—From a little girl 3d.—By sale of Reports 6s.—Through the boxes in the New Orphan House 1*l.* 14s. 6¾d.—By sale of Reports 8s. 4d.

Dec. 28. From Adelaide, Australia, 5*l.*

Dec. 29. From Torquay 5s.—From Exmouth 10s.—From Fulbeck 5s.—From Sherborne 2s.

Dec. 30. At the beginning of this day our money was again reduced to 19*l.* 2s. 1½d. for the current expenses for the Orphans, whilst I had before me the prospect of having to advance this day 30*l.* for housekeeping expenses, in order that we might go with ease through the work, and in order that all expenses might be met. Now see how the Lord helped us during this day. There came very early this morning, from the neighbourhood of Norwich, a little box, containing the following articles. A prize medal, 2 salt cellars, 6 pencil cases, 5 thimbles, 2 fruit knives, a watch chain, 2 vinaigrettes (all of silver), a black necklace, a silver chain, 2 silver tookpicks, some pieces of silver, 2 pairs of gilt bracelets, a pincushion, 4 snaps, a pair of gold earrings, a tortoiseshell comb, a pocket comb, a reading glass, a box of paints, a bag of coral and other beads, 2 smelling bottles and 2 gilt chains. Likewise, from another donor: a silver stock buckle, 2 pairs of shoe buckles, 2 pencil cases, a piece of silver chain, 2 seals, a brooch pin, 2 small gold pins, 6 small silver

coins, a metal coin, a small silver medal, a thimble, a pair of silver studs, 9 pairs ditto set with Bristol stone, a tobacco stopper and a gold earring. There was sent with these articles likewise 1*l.*, and from a poor woman 6d. —In the course of the day came in further: From Islington 6s.—From A. W. 2s.—From Islington 5s., with 8 chemises and 4 shirts.—Also from a great distance 100*l.*, which being left at my disposal, I took one half for the Orphans, and the other half for the other Objects. —By sale of articles 2*l.*—Also 2s. 6d., Ditto 2s. 8½d. from an Orphan box.—Thus I was enabled to advance this evening 30*l.* for housekeeping as needed.

This was the last time, during this period of the Institution, that we were brought so low as to means; for the Lord sent in on Dec. 31 6*l.* 10s.; on Jan. 1, 1855, in twenty-eight different donations, 14*l.* 4s. 6d.; on Jan. 2nd 17*l.* 8s. 3d.; on Jan. 3rd 15*l.* 1s. 3d.; on Jan. 4th 34*l.* 11s. 8d., and so on, till the large donation was given, of which, as has been stated, 900*l.* was taken for the current expenses for the Orphans. This, with what came in from Dec. 30th, 1854, up to May 26, 1855, for the support of the Orphans, enabled me to meet all the demands without any difficulty, during the remaining five months. Of all these donations, making up the total of 2226*l.* 10s. 7¼d., I refer only to the following.

Jan 1, 1855. From a clergyman in South Africa 1*l.*

Jan. 4. From a christian merchant at Clifton 30*l.* for the Orphans, with 10*l.* for myself, and 10*l.* for poor believers.

There have been many instances, in which, along with the donations for missions, or for the support of the Orphans, or the Building Fund, there were also presents in money sent for my own personal expenses or those of my family. These instances I have gladly recorded, as they came in connexion with the donations which were referred to, because they afforded me an opportunity of speaking well of the kindness and faithfulness of the Lord, in supplying my own personal or family need. It is now above Twenty Five years, since I have not had any regular income whatever. In the year 1830, I saw it to be the Lord's will to give up my regular income in connexion with the ministry of the Word, and to trust in him alone for the supply of all my temporal necessities.

I have been enabled to continue in this path, and have not been allowed to regret the step which I then took. Thus it is also in my position as director of the various Objects of the Scriptural Knowledge Institution. I have no salary in this position; but the Lord abundantly supplies my need; yea, though there are many expenses connected with this very position, he abundantly meets all my wants, and gives me far more than I need. If with all my might I had sought to obtain a lucrative place, either as a preacher of the Gospel, or in some other way, I should not have had more, I have reason to believe, if as much, as, unsought, unasked for, so far as it regards man, I receive day by day out of the loving hand of my Heavenly Father. When I look at his kindness to me in saving my guilty soul, I am overwhelmed with the boundlessness of his love and grace towards me in Christ Jesus; and when I look at his kindness to me, even as it regards temporal things, I know not where to begin, nor where to end, in speaking well of his name. I do desire to magnify him, and therefore I declare in this public way his great goodness to me in thus so abundantly supplying my temporal necessities; and I do so also, if it may please God by this means to encourage the hearts of his children more and more unreservedly to trust in him. It is now above twenty-five years since I have not asked help for myself from any human being; but God has been indeed my helper. And now the very work even, with which I am connected, respecting which I had every reason to believe, when I commenced it, that it would be connected with great expenses to myself, as well as be the means, *looking at it naturally*, of decreasing my own income, God has, though unsought for on my part, used as the instrument to bring along with it many supplies for myself also, thus not only abundantly meeting my increased expenses, but giving me far more than I need for myself. How great is his goodness! Dear christian Reader, be encouraged by this! Do but trust in God with all your heart, and you will find that you will not be confounded. Only let it be trust *in God*, not *in man*, not *in circumstances*, not *in any of your own exertions*, but real trust in God, and you will be helped, in your various necessities.—I return to the subject of referring to a few more of the donations.

Jan. 25. From various believers at Melbourne, Australia, 20*l.* for the Orphans, and 20*l.* for the other Objects.

Feb. 1. From Stirling 2*l.* Of this amount, 1*l.* 1s. 8d. comes from the Ionian Islands.

Feb. 23. Received a very valuable gold watch, a gold watch chain, 2 gold watch keys, a gold seal, a silver mustard pot and spoon, a silver salt stand, a scent bottle, a little china basket, 3 small china jugs, a little china cup and saucer and mug, 2 taper candlesticks, a ring stand, 2 spell cups, a card stand, a lamp, a claret jug, a pair of decanters, 6 hock glasses, 14 claret glasses, 6 finger glasses, and a set of china tea things. The donor has found true riches and peace to his soul in the Lord Jesus; and he is thus led to send these articles for the benefit of the Orphans.

Feb. 28. Received 9*l.* 14s. 10d. from Hamilton, Canada west. Of this amount 1*l.* is intended for myself and 8*l.* 14s. 10d. for the Orphans.

April 4. From Montreal, Canada, Ten dollars.

April 18. 100*l.* from a distance, of which the donor kindly intends 20*l.* for myself, and 80*l.* for the benefit of the Orphans.

May 5. 219*l.* 9s. 4d. from a distance, of which the donor kindly wished me to keep 19*l.* 9s. 4d. for myself, and use the other as it might be required for the Lord's work. I took of it 100*l.* for the support of the Orphans, and 100*l.* for the other Objects. This donation was especially refreshing to my spirit, because of its coming at this period, when the outgoings are very great.

May 26. Towards the close of this day it was found, that, the balance left in hand for the support of the Orphans, was 116*l.* 17s. 8½d., as the amount with which we should have to begin the new period in providing for the necessities of the Orphans. Before leaving the Orphan House, I had my usual daily season for prayer with my dear wife. Having praised the Lord for his goodness to us and the work, in helping us during another year, and having sought his blessing upon the various objects of the Institution, we commended ourselves again to him, especially, with reference to means for the coming year, and entreating him also to sustain our faith to the end of our course; for the longer I go on in this path, the more I feel my entire dependance upon the Lord and

my need of being sustained by him. When we arrived home, we found two more donations, the last of the present period, sent for the benefit of the Orphans; the one being 2 little dresses, a piece of print, a piece of calico, and 20 pocket handkerchiefs; the other a small gold Geneva watch, quite new. We took these two last donations as the Lord's earnest that he would be with us during the coming period also, and with good courage looked forward to it, by his grace.

I add a few remarks to this part of the Narrative:— 1. Should any one suppose, on account of its having been stated in the previous pages that we were repeatedly brought low as to means, that the Orphans had not had all that which was needful for them; we reply, that *never*, since the work has been in existence, has there a meal-time come, but the Orphans have had good nourishing food in sufficient quantity: and never have they needed clothes, but I have had the means to provide them with all they required. Persons living in Bristol can easily satisfy themselves as to this, not only by seeing week after week our stores for food and clothes; but also the dress and the healthy countenances of these hundreds of children (though very many of them were received in a very weak and diseased state) will amply prove what I state. 2. Never, since the Orphan work has been in existence, have I asked one single human being for any help for this work; and yet, unasked for, simply in answer to prayer, from so many parts of the world, as has been stated, the donations have come in, and that very frequently at a time of the greatest need. If I stated what was not true, persons could easily convict me; to say nothing of the fact that God, whose name I have continually connected with this work, would disown me as an awful deceiver, and bring this work to nought; but if these things are true, as indeed they are, will not my readers own the hand of God, will they not recognise the minute particular providence of God, and the readiness of his heart to listen to the supplications of those who come to him with their requests in the name of the Lord Jesus? I do not seek a name for myself in connexion with this work; I do not wish to draw attention to myself, and am indeed sorry when persons have had their attention directed only to me; but I do seek honour for my

Heavenly Father, and I do desire that his hand may be owned in this work.

Miscellaneous points respecting the Scriptural Knowledge Institution for Home and Abroad, with reference to the period from May 26, 1854, *to May* 26, 1855.

1. During this year four Day Schools in Bristol, with 184 children in them, were *entirely supported* by the funds of the Institution; and several other Day Schools in Devonshire, Cornwall, Suffolk, Ireland, and Scotland were *assisted* with copies of the Holy Scriptures. Further, one Sunday School in Bristol, with 158 children, was *entirely supported*, and seven others in Cornwall, Devonshire, Somersetshire, and Gloucestershire, with about 400 children in them, were *assisted*. Lastly, one Adult School, with 133 Adults, was entirely supported during this year.—The amount expended, during this year, on these various Schools, was 338*l*. 2s. 5d.

In connexion with all these various Schools, I would suggest the following important matter for prayer. From March, 1834, to May 26, 1855, there were 5,956 children in the Day Schools. In the Adult School there were 2,459 persons. The number of the Sunday School children amounted to 2,817. Thus, without reckoning the Orphans, 11,232 souls were brought under *habitual* instruction in the things of God in these various Schools; besides the many thousands in the Schools in various parts of England, Ireland, Scotland, British Guiana, the West Indies, the East Indies, &c., which were to a greater or less degree assisted. Now, what I would especially request is, that all the disciples of the Lord Jesus, who take an interest in this work, would help me and my fellow-labourers with their prayers, that not only those who are at present under our instruction may be spiritually benefited, but particularly also *that God would be pleased to work mightily in the hearts of those who were once under our care, in bringing to their remembrance the truth which was then set before them.* I am the more induced to make this request, as we frequently meet with young men or young women, who many years ago were under our care and instruction, who thankfully own the benefit which

they received when with us, and who are now believers in the Lord Jesus, though at the time they had given us little or no hope. Thus has the Lord afterwards been pleased to cause the seed to spring up and to bear fruit to his praise. During this year also we had again and again most encouraging instances of this kind brought before us.

The total sum which was expended during the 21 years, from March 5, 1834 to May 26, 1855, in connexion with the Schools, which were either entirely, or in part, supported by the funds of this Institution, amounted to 7,204*l.* 12s. 8¼d.

2. Great have been the efforts, made of late years, to spread error; therefore the disciples of the Lord Jesus should be especially active, in seeking to spread the truth. Fearfully great, in particular, have been the efforts, to rob the church of Christ of the Word of God; on this account all who love our Lord Jesus in sincerity should seek, according to their ability, to spread the Holy Scriptures. On account, therefore, of the especial attempts which have been made, of late years, once more to deprive the Church of Christ of God's unerring Holy Word, I have had it particularly laid upon my mind, in every way to embrace opportunities for circulating it, and especially to place it in the hands of the very poorest of the poor. In this way, not only in England and Wales, and Scotland, but particularly in Ireland, we have sought to circulate the Holy Scriptures. And not only there, but also in Canada, British Guiana, the East Indies, Australia, and China. Every open door, which the Lord was pleased to set before us, I have endeavoured to press into; and in this service I have been helped by many servants of Christ, who have sought out the most destitute persons, who were desirous of possessing a copy of the Holy Scriptures. With this we have also particularly sought to combine the supplying of aged persons who are poor, with copies printed in large type. Our efforts have not been in vain. We have had instances brought before us of direct conversion, simply through reading the Holy Scriptures. Again, during this year also, our labours were owned in this part of the work. But though we have *seen* some fruit, we believe that the greater part by far will be manifested in the Day of the Lord. It has been given to us,

by the help of the Lord, day by day to seek his blessing upon the circulation of the Holy Scriptures, and therefore we believe that our labour will not be in vain. We expect results.

The number of Bibles, New Testaments, and Portions of the Holy Scriptures, which were circulated from May 26, 1854, to May 26, 1855, is as follows:

693 Bibles were sold.
890 Bibles were given away.
950 New Testaments were sold.
748 New Testaments were given away.
82 copies of the Psalms were sold.
186 other small portions of the Holy Scriptures were sold.

There were circulated from March 5, 1834, to May 26, 1855, through the medium of this Institution, 13,949 Bibles, 9047 New Testaments, 188 Copies of the Psalms, and 789 other small portions of the Holy Scriptures.

The total amount of the funds of this Institution, spent on the circulation of the Holy Scriptures, from March 5, 1834, to May 26, 1855, is 3389*l.* 10s. 1d. The amount spent during this year, 476*l.* 12s. 8d.

3. During this year there was spent of the funds of the Institution for missionary objects, the sum of 2081*l.* 3s. 2d. By this sum Fifty Seven Labourers in the word and doctrine, in various parts of the world, were to a greater or less degree assisted.

With reference to this part of the operations of the Institution, I have especially the joy of being able to communicate to the Christian reader, that the Lord was pleased, during this year, abundandly to bless the labours of many of the brethren whom I assisted. Again and again I had heart-refreshing intelligence as to the fruit, which resulted from their efforts. Many souls were brought to the knowledge of the Lord, through their labours, during this year. And such heart-refreshing intelligence came to me not only from those labouring in various parts of the United Kingdom, but also from those who are serving the Lord in foreign countries. This calls for especial praise; but, at the same time, I would commend these dear brethren to the prayers of the saints, that they may be upheld by the Lord with reference to their bodily and mental strength, and especially that they

may be sustained with patience, faith, love, perseverance, and endurance; for great and many are their difficulties. I would especially also request all, who love the Lord Jesus, to pray for more labourers in the Gospel; for I hear continually of fields which are unoccupied, and of open doors not entered into for lack of labourers.

The total amount of the funds of the Institution, spent on Missionary operations, from March 5, 1834, to May 26, 1855, was 16,115*l.* 0s. 5½d.

4. The fourth object of the Institution is, the circulation of such publications as may be beneficial, with the blessing of God, to benefit both believers and unbelievers. As it respects *tracts for unbelievers*, I seek especially to aim after the diffusion of such as contain the truths of the Gospel clearly and simply expressed; and as it respects *publications for believers*, I aim after the circulation of such as may be instrumental in directing their minds to those truths which in these last days are more especially needed, or which have been particularly lost sight of, and may lead believers to return to the written Word of God.

There was laid out for this object, from May 26, 1854, to May 26, 1855, the sum of 624*l.* 8s. 4d.; and there were circulated within this year 895,034 Tracts and Books.

The total number of all the Tracts and Books which were circulated from the beginning up to May 26, 1855, was 3,584,710.

The total amount of means, which was expended on this object, from Nov. 19, 1840, to May 26, 1855, was 2868*l.* 15s. 6¾d.

We desire to be truly thankful to the Lord, for having intrusted us with means, and given us open doors, for the circulation of so many copies of the Holy Scriptures, and so many thousands of Tracts; and for having enabled us to assist again to such an extent preachers of the unsearchable riches of Christ; but we do not rest in this. Our trust was in the Lord for his blessing upon our efforts. Nor has he allowed us to wait upon him in vain, during this year. We had not only very many answers to our prayers with regard to the obtaining of means, but also many answers to prayer as it respects fruit resulting from our labours. Thus also with reference to the circulation of Tracts. Again and again instances came before

us, in which souls were converted through the Tracts, which the Lord had allowed us to send out during the year. Among others, I would only mention, that an actor on the stage, to whom one of them was given, was brought to the knowledge of the Lord.

Tract distributors, *who can afford to pay for Tracts*, and who desire to procure Tracts from us, may obtain them for this purpose with a discount of one-third, or 33⅓ per cent., from the retail price. I state this, as many believers may not like to give away that which costs them nothing, and yet may, at the same time, wish to obtain as much as possible for their money. Applications for this would need to be made verbally or in writing to Mr. Parsons, at the Bible and Tract Warehouse, No. 34, Park Street, Bristol. To him, also, application may be made for specimen packets containing an assortment of the Tracts and small books which are kept. By sending 3s., 5s., 7s., or 10s. in postages to Mr. Parsons, No. 34, Park Street, Bristol, packets will be sent to any part of England, Wales, Ireland, Scotland, Jersey, Guernsey, &c., post paid, containing specimens to the amount of the postages which are sent.

A catalogue of the various books and tracts, sold at the above Warehouse, with their prices, may be had there, by applying either personally or by letter to Mr. Parsons.

5. The fifth object of the Institution is to board, clothe, and Scripturally to educate *destitute* children who have lost BOTH parents by death.

At the commencement of this period there were 298 Orphans in the New Orphan House on Ashley Down, Bristol. During the year there were admitted into it 39 Orphans, making 337 in all. Of these 337, two died during the year. Only two! We record this with particular gratitude. And even these two died through water on the brain. God helping us, we desire to trace his hand in everything; at the same time, the longer I am engaged in the Orphan work, and see the effects which are produced by regular habits, cleanliness, nourishing food, proper clothing, good ventilation, a healthy locality, &c., the more I am convinced that atleast one-half of the children among the poorer classes die for want of proper attention. I do not state this to find fault with

them; I rather mention it in the way of pity and commiseration, and if it might be, to draw the attention of the public to the fact. If anywhere the mortality among children should be great, humanly speaking, it should be so among us, because we generally receive the children very young, and also, because the very fact of these children, while so young, having been bereaved of both parents by death, shows that their parents, generally speaking, were of a very sickly constitution. Indeed the greater part of the Orphans whom we have received, lost one or both parents through consumption. And yet, though such is the case, we have seen again and again, how children who came to us in a most diseased state, through proper attention, have, by the blessing of God, been brought out of that state, and are now very healthy. But we often receive children whose countenances at once show that they have not had sufficient food, or were in other respects greatly neglected. It was only as late as April 26, 1855, that the turn of 4 children came to be received, all of the same family, from 5 to 9 years old. When these children were brought, it was evident that they were in a most deplorable state of health from the want of proper food. This was now the painful difficulty in which we found ourselves; if we received them, it was not at all unlikely, humanly speaking, that we should have great trial with them on account of their health, as they had been so long neglected; and yet, if we did not take them, they would, we had great reason to fear, very shortly sink under their position. Trust in God decided the matter. We received all four, hoping that, by God's blessing, they would be thus rescued from sinking under their circumstances. The eldest of the four, a boy of above nine years old, was for the first evening or two so weak, that he could not walk up stairs to the dormitory without stopping. This disappeared, after he had had the food of the New Orphan House for a few days; and now all the four are so greatly improved, that they do not look at all like what they were on April 26th, 1855. I have so minutely entered into this one case out of very many of the kind, which have come before me in connexion with the Orphan work during the last 20 years, in order to show how deeply important it is to care for

such destitute Orphans, to rescue them, humanly speaking, from misery or a premature death, to say nothing now with reference to their spiritual welfare, which is paramount with us.

Besides the two who died out of the 337, we were obliged to expel one from the establishment. This boy was admitted on Oct. 4, 1849. He was then not quite eight years old; but though so young, it was soon found out that he was old in sin, for he was a confirmed liar, thief, &c. He gloried in it among the other boys, and told them that he had belonged to a juvenile gang of thieves before he had been admitted into the Orphan House, that he had often stolen from the ships iron, brass, &c. and sold it. We thought at first that he spoke thus merely in the way of boast, but it proved but too true, that he was experienced in such matters; for twice he ran away from the Orphan House, carrying off things belonging to the other children. Moreover, he could pick locks, &c. We received him back twice after having run away, hoping, that by bearing with him, admonishing him, speaking to him privately, praying with him, and using a variety of other means, he might be reclaimed; but all in vain. At last, having borne with him and tried him for five years and four months, he was solemnly, with prayer, before the whole establishment, expelled, if by any means this last painful remedy might be blessed to him. Yet we follow even this poor young sinner with our prayers, and hope that yet the Lord may show him his evil ways and give us even now joy concerning him, as we have had before in a similar instance. This case afresh deeply impressed upon me the importance of caring for Orphans from their earliest days; for this poor boy, when but eight years old, was already greatly practised in stealing.

One of the children, after having been five years and one month under our care, was taken back by the relatives who had placed him with us, as they were by that time able to provide for him. One of the girls was sent out to learn a business, one to go as a junior teacher in a school, and 13 to take situations; and 21 boys were apprenticed. These 40 vacancies thus occasioned, left at the end of the year only 297 children in the New

Orphan House. The total number of Orphans, who were under our care from April 1836, to May 26, 1855, was 597.

I notice further the following points respecting the New Orphan House:—

1. Persons who desire to make application for the admission of Orphans, are requested to write to me and address the letter to my house, No. 21, Paul Street, Kingsdown, Bristol.

2. I again state, as it regards the funds, that the income for the Orphans is kept distinct from that for the other objects. Donors may therefore contribute for one or the other of the objects exclusively, or have their donations equally divided among them all, just as it may appear best to themselves. If any of the donors would wish to leave the application of their donations to my discretion, as the work of God in my hands more especially may call for it at the time, they are requested kindly to say so, when sending their donations.

3. The expenses for the Orphans, during this year, were 4304*l.* 4s. 7½d.

4. *Without any one having been personally applied to for anything* by me, the sum of 74,132*l.* 6s. 10¾d. was given to me for the Orphans, *as the result of prayer to God*, from the commencement of the work up to May 26, 1855, which sum includes the 15,055*l.* 3s. 2¼d., which was the cost of the building, fitting up and furnishing of the present New Orphan House, and the 23,059*l.* 17s. 8¼d., which was in hand on the 26th May, 1855, for the Building Fund, and the 116*l.* 17s. 8½d., the balance for the current expenses.—It may also be interesting to the reader to know that the total sum, which was given for the other objects, from the commencement of the work up to May 26, 1855, amounted to 25,239*l.* 8s. 10¾d.; and that which came in by the sale of Bibles and Tracts, and by the payments of the children in the Day Schools, from the commencement, amounted to 4,531*l.* 12s. 10¾d.—Besides this, also a great variety and number of articles of clothing, furniture, provisions, &c., were given *for the use* of the Orphans.

5. I have the joy of being able to state that we have great cause for thankfulness, in that, in the midst of many difficulties, our labours among the Orphans continue to

be blessed, and that, especially, again and again instances now come before us in which those, who were formerly under our care, declare themselves on the Lord's side.

6. Besides being able to meet the expenses for the Orphans and the other Objects, amounting altogether to 7832*l.* 7s. 0½d. during this year, I was able to add to the Building Fund 5242*l.* 18s. 3d. The total income during the year was 13,054*l.* 14s. 4d.

7. The audited accounts, together with the books containing the income and expenses, may be inspected by the donors. I particularly state this, because I do not publish a list of the donors, nor do I mention their names otherwise, in order that there may not be held out the least temptation to give for the sake of worldly applause; but, at the same time, as I do this work in the light, it can bear the light, and therefore any donor can satisfy himself, if he please, that his donation is accounted for.

8. The articles which are given for the benefit of the Orphans, are sold by Mrs. Parris, on the first floor of the Bible and Tract Warehouse of the Scriptural Knowledge Institution, No. 34, Park Street, Bristol.

Matters connected with my own personal affairs, or the work of the Lord in my hands, not immediately connected with the Scriptural Knowledge Institution, from May 26, 1854, *to May* 26, 1855.

Dec. 31, 1854. During this year there have been received into fellowship 61.

The Lord has been pleased to give me during this year—

1. In provisions, clothes, etc., worth *at least*	8	14	0
2. In anonymous offerings in money, put up in paper, and directed to me, and put into the boxes for the poor saints, or the rent, at the chapels . .	191	1	11⅓
3. In presents in money from believers in Bristol, not given anonymously . .	143	12	10
4. In money from believers not residing in Bristol	354	2	7⅓
	£697	11	5

One or the other of my readers may be ready to exclaim, 697*l.* 11s. 5d.! What a large sum! Not one out of a hundred ministers has such a large salary, nor one out of twenty clergymen such a good living! Should you, esteemed reader, say so, my reply is: Indeed mine is a happy way for the obtaining of my temporal supplies; but if any one desires to go this way, he must—

1. Not *merely say* that he trusts in God, but must *really do so.* Often individuals profess to trust in God, but they embrace every opportunity where they may directly or indirectly be able to expose their need, and thus seek to induce persons to help them. I do not say, it is wrong to make known our wants; but I do say it ill agrees with trust in God, to expose our wants for the sake of inducing persons to help us. God will take us at our word. If we say we trust in him, he will try whether we *really* do so, or only *profess* to do so; and if *indeed* we trust in him, we are satisfied to stand with him alone.

2. The individual who desires to go this way must be willing to be rich or poor, as the Lord pleases. He must be willing to know what it is to have an abundance or scarcely anything. He must be willing to leave this world without any possessions.

3. He must be willing to take the money in God's way, not merely in large sums, but in small.—Again and again have I had a single shilling given or sent to me. To have refused such tokens of Christian love, would have been ungracious.

4. He must be willing to live as the Lord's steward.—If any one were to begin this way of living, and did not communicate out of that which the Lord gives to him, but hoard it up; or, if he would live up to his income, as it is called, then the Lord, who influences the hearts of his children, to help him with means, would soon cause those channels to be dried up. How it came that my already good income still more increased, so as to come to what it is, I have stated in the early part of this volume; it was when I determined that, by God's help, *his* poor and *his* work should more than ever partake of my means. From that time the Lord was pleased more and more to intrust me with means for my own purse. I request the Reader carefully to read over once more all I

have said in the first volume of this Narrative, third part, from page 581 to 610, on Matthew 6, 19—21, on Matthew 6, 33, and on "Stewardship."

Various reasons might have kept me from publishing these accounts; but I have for my object, in writing, the glory of God, and therefore I delight in thus showing what a loving master I serve, and how bountifully he supplies my necessities; and I write for the comfort and encouragement of my fellow believers, that they may be led to trust in God more and more, and therefore I feel it due to them to state, how, even with regard to this life, I am amply provided for, though that is not what I seek after.

Further account respecting the intended Orphan Houses for Seven Hundred Poor Children, bereaved of both parents by death, from May 26, 1855, *to May* 26, 1856.

On May 26, 1855, I had in hand for this object 23,059*l.* 17s. 8½d., as stated in the last chapter on this subject. I now relate how the Lord was pleased to supply me further with means, but must confine myself, for the sake of brevity, to some of the more remarkable donations.

June 20. A silver medal, "given to the donor for being engaged in the taking of Java; but he desires to lay down his honour at the feet of the Lord Jesus, and to have this medal used to lay a stone in the new building."—By sale of articles 3s.

Aug. 4. From North Malvern 6s. 6d.—From one of the Orphans, formerly under our care, 7s.—From S. S. 5*l.*, with 5*l.* for the circulation of the Holy Scriptures, 5*l.* for Missions, and 5*l.* and the following articles for the support of the Orphans: A pair of gold mounted bracelets, a pair of jet bracelets, an iron watch guard, a pair of iron bracelets and whist buckle, a small gold seal, a ring, 2 pencil cases, a gold brooch, a purse and some mock pearls and beads.

Aug. 22. By sale of articles 7s. 4d.—From P. 1s., with 1s. for the Orphans.—From Devonshire 100*l.*

Nov. 14. Anonymously left at my house, 2 gold breastpins, a watch key and some gilt buttons.

Nov. 18. Through Bethesda boxes 5*l.*, with 5*l.* for the

Orphans and 5*l.* for Missions.—A child's frock, 6 whittles and 4 small petticoats.

Nov. 21. From Ipswich 2*l.*, "The property of a dear child, now in heaven."

Nov. 23. From London 50*l.*, with 5*l.* for the circulation of Bibles and Tracts, 5*l.* for the Schools, 10*l.* for Missions, 10*l.* for the Orphans, 10*l.* for Mr. Craik, and 10*l.* for my own expenses.

Dec. 5. By sale of articles 2s.—This evening I had the kind offer, unsolicited, that all the glass required, for about 300 large windows in the new house which is now being built, should be gratuitously supplied. It is worthy of notice that the glass was not contracted for, this time, as in the case of the house already built. This, no doubt, was under the ordering of our Heavenly Father, who knew beforehand that this offer would be made.

Jan. 10, 1856. From Liverpool: A ring set with a brilliant, a gold bracelet, a Maltese bracelet, a brooch, a Maltese silver clasp and belt, a garnet ring, a pair of gold earrings, a box of whist markers, and a German cross and chain.

Feb. 19. Now at last the Lord has been pleased, in answer to many prayers, to give me to-day 3000*l.*, which being left to my disposal for the work of the Lord, I took of it for the Building Fund 1700*l.*, for the support of the Orphans 300*l.*, and for Missionary objects, the circulation of the Holy Scriptures and Tracts, and the support of the various Schools in connexion with the Scriptural Knowledge Institution, 1000*l.*—It cannot be described how I feel at such times, when, in answer to many prayers, the Lord is pleased to open his bountiful hands, and to prove so abundantly how willing he is to listen to the supplications of his children who put their trust in him, though it may be needful, for their own good and that of others, that for a season he *seem* but little or not at all to regard their supplications.

March 18. Received 4000*l.*, which was left at my disposal as the work of the Lord might require it. I took of this sum 3000*l.* for the Building Fund, and 1000*l.* for Missions, the circulation of Bibles and Tracts, and the various schools, supported by the Institution.—This donation is the fruit of many prayers, and of much looking to the Lord for answers. His holy name be magnified for

it! I am thus drawing nearer and nearer the time, when I shall have obtained from the Lord everything I need for this object. I have not had from the beginning, by God's grace, one moment's doubt, that in his own time he would give me all I required.

May 26. Through the box at the Bible and Tract Warehouse, 1*l.* 3s. 1d., with 2*l* 11s. 8½d. for the Orphans, 1d. for the circulation of the Holy Scriptures, and 1*l.* for Missions.—From P. 2s. 6d., with 5s. for the Orphans and 2s. 6d. for the circulation of Tracts.—By sale of a publication in French 3*l.*—By sale of a publication in English 69*l.* 1s. 10d.—To these donations is to be added 911*l.* 8s. 1d., received during this year for interest, as I felt it my duty to invest the money, until it should be actually required for the building.

I add a few remarks:

A. Up to May 26, 1856, the total income for the Building Fund was 29,297*l.* 18s. 11½d., so that only about 5700*l.* more will be required, as far as I am able to see, in order to accomplish to the full my purpose respecting the accommodation for 700 more Orphans.

B. The house for 400 female Orphans, commenced to be built in August 1855, is expected, with God's blessing, to be ready by about Midsummer 1857 for the reception of 400 Orphans.

C. As soon as my path is made plain, I shall also, God willing, commence the other house for 300 Orphans, but I cannot state, at present, any further particulars respecting this.

Supplies for the School—Bible—Missionary and Tract Fund, sent in answer to prayer, from May 26, 1855, *to May* 26, 1856.

On May 26, 1855, when the accounts were closed, there was in hand 41*l.* 6s. 11½d. for these objects. On June 5, 1855, therefore only a few days after the commencement of the new period, when only 1*l.* 0s. 6d. altogether had come in for these objects, in 8 different donations, I received 211*l.* 9s. 5d., of which the donor kindly wished me to retain 11*l.* 9s. 5d. for my own expenses, and to use the 200*l.* for the work of the Lord, as it might be needed. I took, therefore, 100*l.* for the support of the Orphans,

and 100*l.* for these objects, and had thus some means to go on with the work. This donation was a great refreshment and encouragement to me, at the commencement of this new period.

July 12. Since June 5th little only, comparatively, has come in. All the donations for these objects were under 5*l.* To-day, however, the Lord, in answer to many prayers, has sent me 200*l.*, to be used as needed. I took of this donation 100*l.* for the Orphans, and 100*l.* for these objects, and have thus the means of being able to send some help to brethren who labour in the Gospel.

July 28. A gold chain from Shropshire, to be sold for Missions, together with 5s. for the same object.

Aug. 9. Having had heavy expenses the last ten days, in order to help foreign labourers in the Gospel, and to procure supplies of Bibles, Testaments and Tracts, our means for these objects were now reduced to 7*l.* 7s. 10½d. Yet I desired far more to help brethren who labour in the Word, as the greater part of them had not yet been supplied. I therefore besought the Lord, that he would be pleased to send in means. When I came home this evening from the New Orphan House, I found the following letter, from the same believing farmer, whom the Lord has several times used in previous years, to help me when in need.

"* * * * * Aug. 8, 1855.

"Dear Brother in Christ,

"I feel stirred up to help you in the work in which you are engaged, and therefore beg your acceptance of the enclosed Twenty Pounds, to be used in any way you please, trusting God will direct you.

"Yours affectionately in Christ,

"* * * * *."

I took the whole amount for Missionary objects and the circulation of Bibles and Tracts.

Aug. 25. The outgoings for these objects have been great, during this month, and the income comparatively small. On this account the means for these objects were reduced to-day to a *few shillings*. As the opportunities for the gratuitous circulation of the Holy Scriptures and Gospel Tracts, however, continued to be great, and as I had been only able to send out about the third part as

much to labourers in the Gospel, as I could have desired, my prayer during this week had been especially for means for this object. Now the Lord has somewhat helped us. I have received to-day a donation of 203*l.* 14s., the whole of which I took for these objects, as the application of it was left with me. The Lord be magnified for this precious help! I shall be able to send at least 150*l.* of this sum to labourers in the Gospel.—About 3 hours, before I received this donation, I had been asking the Lord, if he would not condescend to use *me* as an instrument, at this time, in helping these brethren, he would kindly in some other way supply them with means.

Sept. 1. From Dublin 5*l.* for missions.

Sept. 11. From C. W. 20*l.* for foreign labourers in the Gospel. A precious help, in answer to many prayers, as I have been longing to help these brethren.

Sept. 12. From Christian brethren, assembling in Campbell-street, Glasgow, 5*l.* Ditto 1*l.* Ditto 1*l.*

Sept. 20. From the church, meeting at the New Chapel, Surrey Road, Norwich, for foreign missions, 9*l.* 9s.

Sept. 26. Received 190*l.*, of which I took 100*l.* for these objects, in order to be able to send some help to brethren who labour in the Word, and to have means for going on with the circulation of Bibles and Tracts; and the remaining 90*l.* I took for the support of the Orphans. Precious help, the fruit of many prayers!

Sept. 30. From Clerkenwell for missions 10*l.*

Oct. 3. From believers at Eastcott, for missions 2*l.* 17s. —From Glasgow for missions 1*l.* 2s.

Oct. 5. From Whitehaven, for Demerara missions, 2*l.* 9s. 3d.—From Newton Bushel for missions 2*l.* 12s.

Oct. 13. 20*l.* from Austin Friars, London. I had been praying again and again for more means for these objects. I had sent out 160*l.* within the last few days to brethren who labour in the Word, but desired to send out more.

Oct. 23. From London 20*l.*

Nov. 6. Since Oct. 16th I had not been able to send any further help to brethren who labour in the Word, much as I desired to do so, as I had only means enough to meet the necessary demands for the Schools, and the circulation of Bibles and Tracts, which amounted, from

that time, to about 120*l.* But I prayed daily for means for missionary objects and the circulation of Bibles and Tracts. To-day I received 180*l.*, the whole of which I have taken for these objects, as the disposal of it was left to me, having great reason to believe that many labourers in the Gospel are in need of help, and having still so many openings for the circulation of the Holy Scriptures and Tracts. The Lord be magnified for this precious answer to prayer!

Dec. 13. During November I was enabled to send 200*l.* to brethren who labour in the Gospel at Home and Abroad, and also 197*l.* in October; but during this month I have as yet been only able to send out 12*l.* My oft-repeated prayer has been, that the Lord would give me the joy and privilege of sending out a considerable sum during this month also. This prayer was again repeated, when I rose this morning, and saw the windows covered with ice; for I thought then of the needy brethren in this cold weather, connected with the high price of provisions. It was not long after, when I received 153*l.*, to be used in the Lord's service, as most needed. I took of this 100*l.* for brethren labouring in the Gospel at Home and Abroad, and 53*l.* for the support of the Orphans. Thus I have the joy of being able to send at least 100*l.* at once, waiting upon the Lord for more.

Jan. 31, 1856. As the fruit of very many prayers, I have received to-day 100*l.*, the whole of which I have put to these funds, the application of the money being left with me; as there was nothing at all left now for the circulation of Bibles and Tracts, and the various Schools, and as I had often asked the Lord to allow me further the joy of sending help to brethren who labour in the Word, to whom since Dec. 14th I had been able to send scarcely anything.

From this time there was no further difficulty experienced with regard to means, for these objects, as on Feb. 19th there was received the donation of 3000*l.*, and on March 18th the donation of 4000*l.*, of each of which, as stated before, I took 1000*l.* for the School—Bible—Missionary—and Tract objects, whereby, together with what came in besides, I was not only carried to the close of this period, but was enabled to expend more on Missionary objects, and the circulation of the Holy Scriptures

and Tracts, than during any one previous year, since the Institution commenced in March 1834. Let it be especially observed by the godly Reader, that not only does this work continue to exist, after more than 22 years, carried on solely through the power of prayer and faith in the Living God; but also year by year its operations have been extended. Unbelief is thus put to shame. It is plainly proved, that the work of God can be carried on simply by trust in God. If *our work* is indeed *the work of God*, faith and prayer will be found efficient agents; and if they are *not* efficient, we may well question, whether we do *indeed* make use of them; or, if we do, whether the work, in which we are occupied, is *truly* the work of God.

Notice here also, that not only was I enabled, simply through prayer and faith, to procure means for a greater amount of operations than during any year since March 1834, but, over and above all this, I was able to add to the Building Fund during this year 6238*l.* 1s. 3¼d., whilst the income for the support of the Orphans was 4070*l.* 18s. 1¼d., and the income for the other objects 4279*l.* 6s. 6¼d. The total amount, therefore, which the Lord was pleased to send in during the past year, was 14,588*l.* 5s. 10¾d. Behold, dear Reader, how effectual this way is for the obtaining of means; for the amount is large. Behold, too, how pleasant a way it is; for I have not to encounter unpleasant refusals, in applying for money. Behold how cheap a way; for it involves none of the heavy expenses, usually attendant on the collection of contributions; for all I do is, to make known the work in which I am engaged, by means of the Reports, which are for the most part sold for the benefit of the Orphans, and they actually brought in during this year, as the audited accounts show, a little more than they cost.

But, perhaps, you say, Yes, it is just these Reports, why there is nothing at all remarkable in the matter. Our reply is: We do not pretend to miracles. We have no desire even, that the work, in which we are engaged, should be considered an extraordinary one, or even a remarkable one. We are truly sorry that many persons, inconsiderately, look upon it almost as a miraculous one. The principles on which we are acting are as old as the Holy Scriptures. But they are forgotten by many; and they are not held in living faith by others; and by some

they are not known at all; nay, they are denied even to be Scriptural by not a few, and are considered as wild and fanatical. It is ascribed to my being a *foreigner* that I succeed so well, or to the *novelty* of the thing, or to some *secret treasure* that I have access to; but when all will not account for the progress of the work, it is said, the Reports produce it all. My reply to these different objections is: My being a *foreigner*, looking at it naturally, would be much more likely to hinder my being intrusted with such large sums, than to induce donors to give. As to the *novelty* procuring the money, the time is long gone by for novelty, for this is June 1856, and the work commenced in March 1834. As to the *secret treasure* that I have access to, there is more in this supposition than the objectors are aware of; for surely God's treasury is inexhaustible, and I have *that* (though that alone) to go to, and have indeed drawn out of it, simply by prayer and faith, more than 113,000*l.* since the beginning of the work. But now as to the last objection, that the *Reports* are the means by which all the money is obtained: let us consider this a little, for I do heartily desire that the Reader may not lose the blessing, which this Institution is intended to convey to his soul. My reply is: There is nothing unusual in writing Reports. This is done by public Institutions generally, but the constant complaint is, that Reports are not read. Our reports are not extraordinary as to the power of language, or as to striking appeals to feelings. They are the simple statements of facts. These Reports are not taken by me to persons, and accompanied with personal application for means; but they are simply sent to the donors, or to any other individuals who wish to have or purchase them. If they produce results, which Reports generally do not, I can only ascribe it to the Lord.

I do not mean to say, that God does not use the Reports as instruments in procuring us means. They are written in order that I may thus give an account of my stewardship, but particularly, in order that, by these printed accounts of the work, the chief end of this Institution may be answered, which is to raise another public testimony to an unbelieving world, that in these last days the Living God is still the Living God, listening to the prayers of his children, and helping those who put their

trust in him; and in order that believers generally may be benefited and especially be encouraged to trust in God for everything they may need, and be stirred up to deal in greater simplicity with God respecting everything connected with their own particular position and circumstances; in short, that the children of God may be brought to the practical use of the Holy Scriptures, as the word of the Living God.—But while these are the *primary* reasons for publishing these Reports, we doubt not that the Lord has again and again used them as instruments in leading persons to help us with their means. For as I continually stand in need of considerable sums, and as even hundreds of pounds go but a very little way, I entreat the Lord day by day, and generally several times every day, to supply me with means, and to speak to the hearts of his dear children, and to constrain them by the love of Christ to help me out of the means, with which he has intrusted them; and so it comes to pass, I doubt not, that the Lord again and again works by his Spirit in the hearts of those who have read or heard the Reports. But whether we are supplied with means through the Reports or irrespective of them; in either case it is God, who is working for us, and it is to this I wish to direct the mind of the Reader.

Means for the support of the 300 *Orphans, already under our care, sent in answer to prayer, from May* 26, 1855, *to May* 26, 1856.

When this period commenced, I had 116*l.* 17s. 8½d. in hand for the support of the Orphans, an amount so small, looking at it naturally, that one would be ready to say, that there would be soon nothing in hand. Thus indeed it would have been, had the Lord not been pleased further to send in means; but he, in his fatherly care, never ceased to remember our need and to provide for its supply. The expenses were very heavy, month after month, not only because of the greatness of the Establishment, but in particular also on account of the high price of provisions, which prevailed during the whole of the last year; yet, notwithstanding this, there was not a single year, since the Orphan work commenced, in which I went on with greater ease regarding means, than during the last

period. At the close of the first month, June 26th, though the expenses had been great, there remained 192*l.* 9s. 11½d. in hand. At the close of the second month, July 26th, I had a balance left of 259*l.* 4s. At the close of the third month, Aug. 26th, there was left a balance of 291*l.* 19s. 2d. And in like manner the Lord was pleased to supply me with means, month after month, so that when he was pleased to give me on Feb. 19th the donation of 3000*l.*, above referred to, I had still 160*l.* in hand for the support of the Orphans. It is particularly worthy of notice, that the income for the support of the Orphans was not supplied by some very large donations, previous to the one of 3000*l.*; for there was no period for about ten years, when I received fewer large donations for *the support of the Orphans*, than during the last. It was supplied by many donations of 1*l.*, 2*l.*, 5*l.*, 10*l.*, 20*l.* and upwards, but not exceeding 100*l.*, except one of £117. 10s. 0d. received on May 3rd, and the 300*l.* which I took for the Orphans out of the 3000*l.* And again it is remarkable, that while up to Feb. 19th we had always abounded, and were never brought low, but generally had had about 200*l.* in hand; almost immediately after the reception of the 3000*l.*, out of which I took 300*l.* for the support of the Orphans, the balance, before in hand, was all expended, and more money required; so that I had soon to use a part of the 300*l.*, whereby the hand of God in that large donation was so much the more made manifest; and yet again, this 300*l.*, with what the Lord was pleased to send in besides between Feb. 19th and May 26th, not only met all the remaining heavy expenses, but left in hand a balance of 167*l.* 18s. 11¾d.

Observe, dear Reader, while we were in rented houses in Wilson Street, we had our faith greatly tried, year after year, though the expenses were only about one-third as much, as during the past year. And thus also it has been again and again, since the New Orphan House was opened in 1849; but during the past year we were entirely free from trial of faith regarding means for the support of the Orphans, though not without many trials of faith and patience on other accounts. The Lord takes his own way, and therefore he allows this year to stand by itself, in this particular. On this I delight to dwell; for I desire that the hand of God may be recognised in this work,

whether it be by his power being manifested in sustaining us in our poverty from day to day, or by his causing us to go on easily with regard to means for a day, or a month, or a year. You see then, that while there was but like "a handful of flour in the barrel," at the commencement of the period, the Lord was pleased to make it last for a whole year, and yet, at the end of the year, there was more than at the beginning; and during the whole year all these hundreds had been fed and clothed and provided with everything needful, and apprentices placed out and premiums paid for them, and their outfit and that of the young women going out to service had been provided at the expense of the Orphan Establishment. What an answer does all this furnish to unbelief which said, when I was going to build the New Orphan House, How will you find the means for the support of these 300 Orphans? Or, when unbelief said, How will you be able to support a thousand Orphans?

I will now, out of the very many donations, received during this year, single out a few, and make here and there remarks as the subjects may call for it.

June 1, 1855. The balance left, when the accounts were closed, was only enough to supply the average expenses of ten days for the support of the Orphans, and there had only been received during the last 5 days 14*l.* 13s. 7d. How kind therefore of the Lord, to send me to-day 50*l.* from Liverpool, 1*l.* from Preston, and 10s. from Milton Abbot!

June 5. 5*l.* from Lincolnshire "As a thank-offering to the Lord for preserving the only child of a widow from the path of the destroyer."

June 8. A gold chain, some books for sale and 15*l.*

June 19. 5*l.* as "A thank-offering to the Lord for preservation when thrown out of a gig."

July 10. From Worcestershire 25*l.*

July 12. Received from a great distance 200*l.*, of which I took 100*l.* for the support of the Orphans, and 100*l.* for the other objects. There has also come in to-day 20*l.* from Norwich, 1*l.* from Bath, 4s. from Chepstow, 7s. 6d. from Mallow, 1*l.* from Dublin, anonymously from T. B. B. a gold seal and a sixpence in a registered letter, and 13s. and 6s. 9d. besides. The Lord's kindness is great in this, as a fresh supply of oatmeal, flour, etc.

will need to be paid for, and other heavy expences shortly to be met, and there is not much in hand.

July 14. An Israelitish gentleman, an entire stranger, whom I had never seen, brought to my house this morning 5*l.* for the support of the Orphans. See in what a variety of ways the Lord is pleased to supply us with means, and all unsolicited, simply in answer to prayer!

Aug. 17. From Messrs. * * * 7*l.* 10s. 0d., being a portion of the money received for showing the "British Empire," before she left Bristol. Observe again, esteemed Reader, what a variety of ways the Lord uses to supply me with means; for I had not before even heard of the name of this vessel, nor did I know her owners, even by name; yet God inclines the heart of these gentlemen to send me this 7*l.* 10s. 0d. towards the support of the 300 Orphans.—Anonymously from Wilton 4s., as "A thank-offering to God for his mercies on a journey."

Aug. 21. From Worcestershire 30*l.*

Sept. 6. From the Bombay Presidency 25*l.*

On Sept. 12, were sent by the same donor, who gave so valuable a donation of jewellery on July 26, 1854, the following articles of jewellery, etc., being the last the donor possessed, and which the love of Christ led her to give up: A valuable dressing case, 2 little boxes, 2 pomatum pots, a gold thimble, a large gold brooch set with a ruby and 2 brilliants, a gold star necklace set with a brilliant, a gold bracelet, a gold watch guard, a gold cross, 2 rings set with pearls, a ring set with pearls and small rubies, a ring set with 2 brilliants, a ring set with 3 rubies and 2 brilliants, a pair of gold earrings and brooch set with pearls, a large ivory brooch, a silver brooch set with pearls, a small silver pencil case, a paste brooch, 5 loose crystals and some small carved ornaments.

Sept. 26. Received a large cask containing the wearing apparel of the late Mrs. H. at J. in the county of Leicester, which this lady, by her will, had bequeathed to me for the benefit of the Orphans.

This lady I did not only not know personally, but I had not even heard of her name till I received information of the legacy being left. This is another instance as to the variety of ways in which the Lord is pleased to supply me with means, and that through entire

strangers.—These articles were readily sold and realized many pounds.

Oct. 8. To-day has been paid to me 100*l.*, being the legacy of the late Mr. C., left to me for the benefit of the Orphans.

Oct. 9. Received the following letter.

"* * *, Oct. 8, 1855.

Dear Mr. Müller,

The enclosed check for 8*l.* 1s. 4d. is chiefly the product of a sale for the Orphans, which we held on our sister's wedding-day, and hoping it will be acceptable,

We remain,

Yours affectionately,

* * * * *."

The Orphans on Ashley Down were to be benefited by the day of gladness in this godly family.—The godly principle, which brought this donation, refreshed my spirit above the money, and, I doubt not, will refresh other godly readers.—Let me here say, by the way, to believing parents, Seek to cherish in your children early the habit of being interested about the work of God, and about cases of need and distress, and use them too at *suitable times*, and under *suitable circumstances*, as your almoners, and you will reap fruit from doing so.

Oct. 10. From Surrey 5s. and a gold chain.—From a shepherd in Australia, who had read my Narrative while tending his flock, 12s.—See how the lady near London sends her gold chain, and the shepherd in Australia his 12s.—Thus the Lord, in the greatest variety of ways, supplies me with means, for the greater part through persons whom I have never seen, often whose names even I do not know. Thus I received one hundred pounds after another, anonymously, through London bankers, until a particular circumstance made known to me the name of the kind Christian donor, whom I have seen but once years ago, and who had, at the same time, sent me considerable donations with his name, whilst his bankers, anonymously, sent his still larger donations of many hundred pounds. I dwell upon this fact, to lead the reader to own increasingly the hand of God in this work; for I

desire that *he* may be honoured, that *his* hand may be recognised, and that attention may be drawn to *him*, and not to me. It gives me no joy but sorrow, if persons admire *me*, in connexion with this work, as if *I* did anything great; as if *I* acted in a remarkable way. What is it that *I* do? I simply desire, through this work, to direct the attention of those who need it to the precious truth, that God is unchangeably the same, and that those who take him at his word, as given to us in the Holy Scriptures, will find how unspeakably blessed it is, even for this life, to do so. To bring back to the written word of God those of his children, who practically have departed from it, and to sound it again and again in the ears and consciences of the unbeliever that there is verily a living God, and that he listens to the prayers of those who put their trust in him, is, as I have often before stated, the great end of this work.

Oct. 11. To-day I received, unsolicited, the kind and useful present of flannel and calico, to the amount of 10*l.*, from the ladies constituting the Bristol Dorcas Society.

Oct. 18. "Articles forwarded by friends at a distance," an anonymous but most valuable donation, the particulars of which I am not at liberty to state.—The kind unknown donor or donors should, however, know, that very many pounds have been realized through the sale of these articles, and that they were almost all readily sold.

I cannot help noticing here, how much help the Lord has given us, in being able to dispose of the articles, given for the benefit of the Orphans, and what a considerable sum there has come to the funds of the Institution through the fact that believers have been led to send their needless articles. There came in by the sale of articles, during the past year, for the Building Fund 21*l.* 16s. 7d., for missionary objects 15*l.* 6s. 4d., and for the support of the Orphans 426*l.* 14s. 9d.

Oct. 23. From Hamilton, Canada West, 5*l.*

Oct. 27. 1*l.* 11s. "from believers at Crediton, as a thank-offering to God for the fine harvest."—From Devonshire 4*l.* "The proceeds of the sale of the Orphans' pig." A young pig bought, fattened and sold for the benefit of the Orphans, and this 4*l.* was sent as the proceeds.

Nov. 3. From St. Leonard's-on-Sea 50*l.*

Nov. 4. A ring set with 5 brilliants.
Nov. 11. From Madras 2*l.*
Nov. 16. From Yate 10*l.* and also 5s.
Nov. 19. From New York 25*l.*—From Bath 10*l.*
Nov. 20. From a sister in the Lord in New Zealand 1*l.*
Dec. 3. From Newport, R. J., United States, 6*l.*

The flour is now 65s. per sack. When we began to bake in the New Orphan House, it was from 27s. to 32s. We bought at one time 20 sacks at 27s. Now it is 65s. But the Lord provides us with all we need, though other provisions are also expensive, as well as the flour.

Dec. 11. From the north of Devon a brooch, set with an emerald and 10 small and 1 large brilliant.—I took this as a further answer to my prayers for gifts of diamonds, etc.

Jan. 4, 1856. 42*l.* 4s. 6d. with these words: "This is the answer of prayers, we have of late without ceasing offered up on behalf of the Orphans."—This is one of the most remarkable donations received during the whole year. A brother and sister in the Lord, who labour for him in seeking to win souls, whilst depending upon him for all they need, gave themselves to prayer on behalf of the Orphans, and that which the Lord gave them towards the close of the year 1855, for themselves, in answer to prayer, enabled them to send this 42*l.* 4s. 6d. See, dear Reader, that the saints have power with God. This brother and sister have been greatly encouraged by this work, and now, even in the way of means, though they are poor themselves, this work reaps the fruit of their prayers. Be encouraged, then, for yourself to trust in God for all you may need.

Jan. 30. 1*l.* 5s. from Stroud, as "a thank-offering for 25 years of family mercies.

Feb. 3. From Worcestershire 30*l.*

Feb. 6. From George Town, Demerara, 10 dollars.—From South Town 5*l.* and also 5s.—From Liverpool 50*l.*

Feb. 9. From Adelaide, Australia, 2*l.* and also 10s.

Feb. 15. From Hornley, Staffordshire, 20*l.*—From an Orphan-box at Bath 1*l.* 19s. 6½d. with a guinea piece.

April 5. Received 74*l.* 9s. 1d., which being left to my disposal as might be most required for the Lord's work, I took the whole for the support of the Orphans.

April 9. From Worcestershire 50*l.*

April 19. 1*l.* from the Grand Duchy of Baden.

I have thus, out of more than 2,000 donations, taken a few, to show in what way the Lord is pleased to supply me with means.

Miscellaneous points respecting the Scriptural Knowledge Institution for Home and Abroad, with reference to the period from May 26, 1855 *to May* 26, 1856.

1, During this year 4 Day Schools in Bristol, with 203 children, were *entirely supported* by the funds of the Institution; and nine Day Schools in Devonshire, Cornwall, Gloucestershire, Norfolk, Scotland, British Guiana and Africa were assisted with copies of the Holy Scriptures.—Further, one Sunday School in Bristol, with 158 children, was *entirely supported*, and eight others in Gloucestershire, Devonshire, Middlesex, Canada and British Guiana were *assisted*.—Lastly, one Adult School in Bristol, with 158 Adult scholars, was *entirely supported*, and two other Adult Schools, in Kent and Norfolk, were *assisted* with books. The amount which was spent during this year, in connexion with these schools, was 348*l.* 5s. 11¼d.; and the sum total expended during the last 22 years in connexion with the schools, which were either entirely, or in part, supported by the funds of this Institution, amounts to 7552*l.* 18s. 7¼d.—The number of all the children, who were under our care, merely in the Schools, which were *entirely* supported by this Institution, from March 5, 1834, to May 26, 1856, was 6104 in the Day Schools, 2911 in the Sunday Schools, and 2611 persons in the Adult School. Thus, without reckoning the Orphans, 11,626 have been brought under habitual instruction in the things of God in these various Schools; besides the many thousands in the Schools in various parts of England, Ireland, Scotland, British Guiana, the East Indies, etc., which have been to a greater or less degree assisted.

2, During this year was expended on the circulation of the Holy Scriptures, of the funds of this Institution, 496*l.* 10s. 0d. There were circulated during this year 2175 Bibles, 1233 New Testaments, 119 copies of the Psalms, and 155 other small portions of the Holy Scriptures.—There have been circulated since March 5, 1834,

through the medium of this Institution, 16,124 Bibles, 10,280 New Testaments, 307 copies of the Psalms, and 944 other small portions of the Holy Scriptures.—The sum total spent on the circulation of the Holy Scriptures, since March 5, 1834, is 3886*l.* 0s. 1d.

8, During this year there was spent of the Funds of the Institution for Missionary objects 2501*l.* 9s. 1d. By this sum sixty-one labourers in the word and doctrine, in various parts of the world, were to a greater or less degree assisted. The amount sent to each of these servants of the Lord is as follows.

To No. 1.	Labouring in British Guiana	(a European)	171*l.*
To No. 2.	Ditto	(Ditto)	110*l.*
To No. 3.	Ditto	(Ditto)	62*l.*
To No. 4.	Ditto	(Ditto)	58*l.*
To No. 5.	Ditto	(Ditto)	48*l.*
To No. 6.	Ditto	(Ditto)	33*l.*
To No. 7.	Ditto	(Ditto)	8*l.*
To No. 8.	Ditto	(a Native)	17*l.*
To No. 9.	Ditto	(Ditto)	14*l.*
To No. 10.	Labouring in China	(a European)	60*l.*
To No. 11.	Labouring in the East Indies	(a European)	70*l.*
To No. 12.	Ditto	(Ditto)	40*l.*
To No. 13.	Ditto	(Ditto)	25*l.*
To No. 14.	Ditto	(a Native)	15*l.*
To No. 15.	Labouring in Canada		90*l.*
To No. 16.	Ditto		70*l.*
To No. 17.	Labouring in Belgium		45*l.*
To No. 18.	Labouring in Switzerland		30*l.*
To No. 19.	Labouring in France		30*l.*
To No. 20.	Labouring in Ireland		60*l.*
To No. 21.	Ditto		45*l.*
To No. 22.	Labouring in Scotland		60*l.*
To No. 23.	Labouring in England		90*l.*
To No. 24.	Ditto		80*l.*
To No. 25.	Ditto		60*l.*
To No. 26.	Ditto		60*l.*
To No. 27.	Ditto		58*l.*

To No. 28.	Labouring in England	50*l.*
To No. 29.	Ditto	50*l.*
To No. 30.	Ditto	50*l.*
To No. 31.	Ditto	50*l.*
To No. 32.	Ditto	45*l.*
To No. 33.	Ditto	45*l.*
To No. 34.	Ditto	45*l.*
To No. 35.	Ditto	40*l.*
To No. 36.	Ditto	40*l.*
To No. 37.	Ditto	40*l.*
To No. 38.	Ditto	35*l.*
To No. 39.	Ditto	35*l.*
To No. 40.	Ditto	35*l.*
To No. 41.	Ditto	35*l.*
To No. 42.	Ditto	30*l.*
To No. 43.	Ditto	30*l.*
To No. 44.	Ditto	30*l.*
To No. 45.	Ditto	30*l.*
To No. 46.	Ditto	25*l.*
To No. 47.	Ditto	25*l.*
To No. 48.	Ditto	25*l.*
To No. 49.	Ditto	20*l.*
To No. 50.	Ditto	20*l.*
To No. 51.	Ditto	20*l.*
To No. 52.	Ditto	15*l.*
To No. 53.	Ditto	15*l.*
To No. 54.	Ditto	15*l.*
To No. 55.	Ditto	15*l.*
To No. 56.	Ditto	10*l.*
To No. 57.	Ditto	8*l.*
To No. 58.	Ditto	8*l.*
To No. 59.	Ditto	8*l.*
To No. 60.	Ditto	5*l.*
To No. 61.	Ditto	5*l.*
There was also expended for fitting up, or renting, lighting, cleaning, &c., some preaching rooms in spiritually dark villages in Devonshire, Gloucestershire and Somersetshire		38*l.* 9 1

Respecting this part of the work there is great cause for thanksgiving. It has pleased the Lord abundantly to bless the labours of many of these servants of Christ

whom I have assisted. Very many souls have been won through them during the past year. On the labours of some in particular, both at home and abroad, an unusual blessing has rested. But whilst I say this to the praise of the Lord, I add the earnest entreaty also, to the believing reader, to supplicate for these dear brethren, that it may please God to give unto them strength of voice, mind and body for their service; but, above all, to renew them in their inward man day by day, and to make them happy in himself, so that they may out of a happy heart, which is under the power of the truth, set forth the unsearchable riches of Christ. I also request the prayers of the believing reader for an increase of labourers, especially for foreign countries, as almost everywhere there is a great lack of them, and from time to time through death or ill health labourers are removed from their post of service.

Though more has been expended this year of the funds of the Institution, than during any previous year, for Missionary objects; yet I long to be permitted to do far more than this.

The sum total, which has been expended on Missionary operations, of the funds of the Institution, since March 5, 1834, is 18,616*l.* 9s. 6½d.

4, There was laid out for the circulation of Tracts, from May 26, 1855 to May 26, 1856, the sum of 791*l.* 1s. 0½d., and there were circulated 812,970 Tracts and Books.—The sum total, which has been expended on this object, since Nov. 19, 1840, amounts to 3659*l.* 16s. 7½d.—The total number of all the Tracts and Books, which have been circulated since Nov. 19, 1840, is 4,397,680.

During this year, as for many years past, there has not been a single open door set before us, where we could profitably have circulated the Holy Scriptures, or given away Tracts, but the Lord has also been pleased to enable us to enter those doors. These opportunities have of late years increased more and more, but the Lord has also been pleased, along with them, to give increased means; and, we doubt not, he will yet further open his bountiful hand, and supply us with means for the circulation of the Holy Scriptures and Gospel Tracts.

I have heard again and again of instances, during the

past year, in which it had pleased the Lord to bless the circulation of those Tracts and little books, which he had allowed us to issue.

5, At the beginning of this period, there were 297 Orphans in the New Orphan House. During the past year, there have been admitted into it 25 Orphans, making 322 in all. Of these 322, one died. Only one! She had been nine years under our care, and we had the great joy of seeing her depart this life as a decided believer in the Lord Jesus. One boy we were obliged to expel from the Institution, after we had long borne with him; but we follow him still with our prayers. 13 boys were fitted out and apprenticed at the expense of the Establishment. Seven girls were sent to service and one was apprenticed, each having been provided with an outfit, at the expense of the Establishment. Several of those who left the Orphan House, we had the joy of sending out as believers. These 23 vacancies, thus occasioned, left on May 26, 1856, only 299 Orphans under our care. This one vacancy, however, was the very next Friday filled up. The total number of Orphans, who have been under our care since April 1836, is 622.

I notice further the following points respecting the Orphan work:

1, At the beginning of this period, there were 715 Orphans waiting for admission. Since then 201 more destitute Orphans, bereaved of both parents by death, and some only a few months old, have been applied for to be admitted, making 916 in all. Of these 916, we were only able to receive 25, as has been stated, and 44 either died or were otherwise provided for, as their relatives or friends informed us; so that there are still 847 waiting for admission. Dear Reader, think of these 847 destitute Orphans, bereaved of both parents! As for myself, I have now before me the most pleasant and heart refreshing prospect, if the Lord permit, of being able to receive 400 of them about June or July 1857, and also of being permitted to build the third house for 300 more.

2, The average expense for each of the Orphans who were under our care, during the past year, amounted to 12*l.* 6s. 8d.

3, *Without any one having been personally applied to*

for anything by me, the sum of 84,441*l.* 6s. 3¼d. has been given to me for the Orphans, *as the result of prayer to God*, since the commencement of the work, which sum includes the 15,055*l.* 3s. 2¼d., which was the cost of the building, fitting up and furnishing of the present New Orphan House, and the 29,297*l.* 18s. 11¼d., received up to May 26, 1856, for the Building Fund, and the 167*l.* 18s. 11¼d., the balance of the current expenses. The total sum which has been given for the other objects, since the commencement of the work, amounts to 28,904*l.* 11s. 3¾d.; and that which has come in by the sale of Bibles and Tracts, and by the payments of the children in the Day Schools, from the commencement up to May 26, 1856, amounts to 5,145*l.* 17s. 0d. Besides this, also a great variety and number of articles of clothing, furniture, provisions, etc. have been given *for the use* of the Orphans.

4, The Lord is pleased to continue to allow us to see fruit in connexion with the Orphan work, and we hear still again and again of cases, in which those, who were formerly under our care, have been led to declare themselves openly for the Lord, besides those, in whom we saw the work of grace manifestly begun, before they left the Orphan House.

5, The total of the current expenses for the Orphans and the various other objects of the Institution, was 8166*l.* 8s. 5¼d. during the past year.

Matters connected with my own personal affairs, from May 26, 1855, *to May* 26, 1856.

Dec. 31, 1855. During this year the Lord has been pleased to give me—

1. By anonymous donations through the boxes	£202	10	9¼
2. Through donations from believers in Bristol, not anonymously . .	149	13	9
3. Through donations from believers not residing in Bristol . . .	361	15	8
4. Through presents in clothes, provisions, etc., worth at least . . .	12	16	0
	£726	16	2¼

This, dear Reader, is the writer's statement after having acted on these principles for more than 25 years. You see, not for a week, a month, or even a year, how the writer has been dealt with by the Lord, after he had set out in this way; but, in all simplicity he has related to you, how it has been with him year after year. And now, after more than 25 years, he is still acting on these principles, and is more than ever convinced of their truthfulness and their blessedness; and he is delighted in being able to prove to you, to God's honour, that even for this life he has been no loser by acting out the light which the Lord had been pleased to give to him.

May 26, 1856. Yesterday evening it was 24 years, since I came to labour in Bristol. In looking back upon this period, as it regards the Lord's goodness to my family and myself, the Scriptural Knowledge Institution, and the saints among whom I seek to serve him, I exclaim, What has God wrought! I marvel at his kindness, and yet I do not; for such is his manner; and, if it please him that I remain longer on earth, I expect, not fewer manifestations of his love, but more and more.

Since my beloved friend and fellow labourer and I first came to Bristol, 1586 believers have been received into fellowship, which number, with the 68 we found in communion, makes 1654. But out of that number 252 have fallen asleep, 53 have been separated from fellowship, 145 have left us, some however merely through circumstances and in love, and 510 have left Bristol; so that there are only 694 remaining in communion.

Farewell, Christian Reader. I reckon it one of the greatest privileges which the Lord has been pleased to bestow upon me, to be able to finish this volume. Remember the writer in your prayers. He greatly needs it. Numberless are his difficulties and trials, as well as his joys and blessings! Pray that he may be helped of God to finish his course with joy, and to continue his service without growing weary.

THE END.

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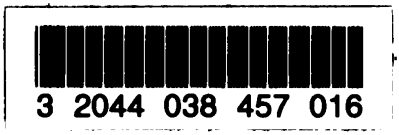
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