

dungeons of the prisoner, and carried there, what never before had visited him, the light of hope and Christian sympathy, along with such physical amelioration of his condition as was consistent with the proper objects of imprisonment and punishment. Buchanan went among the suttees and idol temples of India, and sketched so vividly their horrid rites as to arouse the Christian world to interpose the shield of protection over the helpless victims, and to pour the light of the gospel into the hearts of their oppressors. Nay, he penetrated even the charnel house of the Romish Inquisition, and showed the world how much worse than heathenism a perverted Christianity may become.

Long had the abominations of the slave trade been unheeded, and the groans of the victims of oppression smothered by the thick folds of cupidity and a perverted public opinion. But God's justice could not sleep forever; and the time at length came when he raised up the fit instruments for enlightening the public mind and arousing the public conscience. A leader among them was Wilberforce, who stood in the British Parliament, like a rock from which the angry waves of prejudice and passion were thrown back broken and dissipated. Defeated ten times, in that body, in his attempts to bring the arm of the government to crush this horrid traffic, he lived to see the eleventh effort, by his friend Pitt, successful. And since that day, the same Providence has provided other instruments, not less adapted to advance the cause of human liberty; and it is easy to see that the days of this unrighteous system of oppression are numbered, and well nigh finished.

Equally well adapted was Wilberforce for another important enterprise; and that was, to vindicate the truths of evangelical religion before the higher classes of Great Britain,