

**PRIZE ESSAY ON THE OCCASION OF THE
SOCIETY FOR PROMOTING RELIGIOUS
KNOWLEDGE AMONG THE POOR,
ESTABLISHED THE 8TH OF AUGUST, 1750,
COMPLETING ITS FIRST CENTENARY;
RELIGIOUS KNOWLEDGE AMONG THE POOR,
NOT LESS IMPORTANT IN 1850 THAN IN 1750**

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Prize Essay on the Occasion of the Society for Promoting Religious Knowledge among the Poor, Established the 8th of August, 1750, Completing Its First Centenary; Religious Knowledge Among the Poor, Not Less Important in 1850 Than in 1750 by Edwin Owen Jones

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EDWIN OWEN JONES

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PREFACE.

In the history of any valuable institution, the propriety of marking, by some emphatic expression, the completion of the first centenary of its existence, can scarcely admit of a question.

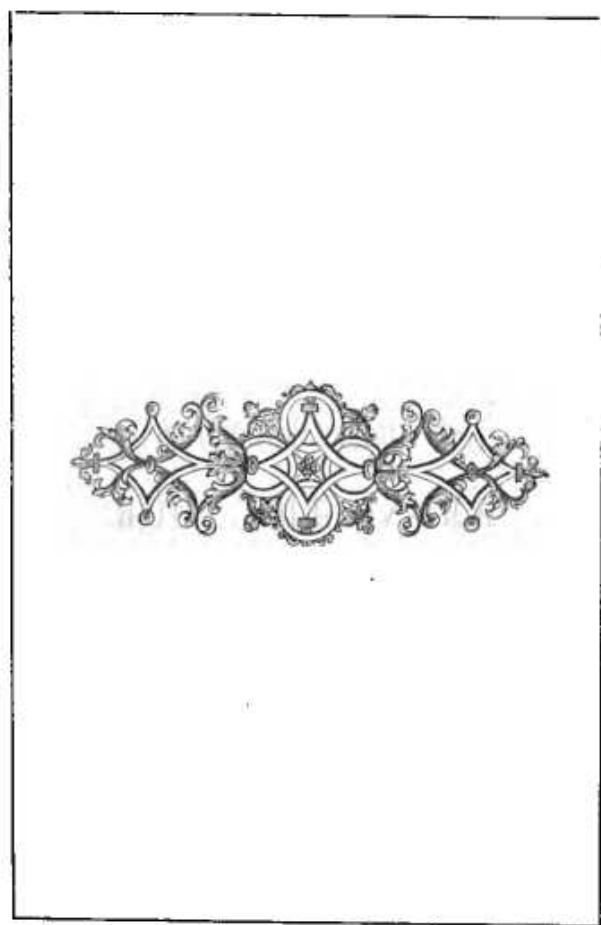
“The Book Society for Promoting Religious Knowledge among the Poor,” in the near prospect of witnessing the completion of the hundredth year of its operations, determined, in celebrating the event, to offer TWENTY GUINEAS for a First Prize Essay; and for a Second, a donation of Books, of the value of ten pounds, from the Society's catalogue; and, in adopting this course, the

Committee were much influenced by the following considerations :—

1. As affording an opportunity peculiarly favourable to survey the movements of that invisible Hand by whose secret but impulsive influence the honoured FOUNDERS of this institution were induced to unite in commencing so benevolent an enterprise, and by whose infinitely wise guidance and gracious support it has been conducted through its first centenary.

2. As presenting an occasion admirably adapted to bring under impartial review numerous incidents in the past history of the Society, the salutary tendency of which, it is hoped, may stimulate to increased exertions in seeking to promote Religious Knowledge among the Poor.

3. And as one further and powerful call to the pious of every denomination to come to the help of the Lord, to the help of the Lord against the mighty; and thus, by every scriptural and approved method, to assist in promoting the interest, extending the influence, and increasing the efficiency of an institution, the principal design of which is the glory of God, the advancement of his kingdom in the world, and the salvation of men.



Religious Knowledge
AMONG THE POOR.

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