

Missionary Herald.

BAPTIST MISSION.

Home Proceedings.

ANNUAL MEETING.

THE public services of this Anniversary of the Baptist Missionary Society were preceded, as last year, by an open Meeting of the Committee, held at the Missionary Rooms, in Fenchurch-street. About sixty friends, chiefly ministers from the country, assembled on Tuesday morning, June 17, at eleven; when information was given respecting the affairs of the Society, and much friendly and beneficial conversation followed.

On Wednesday morning, at eleven, a large and highly respectable congregation assembled at Great Queen-street Chapel. The first hymn and a portion of scripture were read by the Rev. Mr. Chin; prayer was offered by the Rev. Dr. Rippon; the sermon was preached by the Rev. Dr. Steadman; and the Rev. Mr. Gaulter, one of the ministers connected with the chapel, concluded in prayer.

The text was Isaiah lili. 10. *The LORD hath made bare his holy arm in the eyes of all the nations: and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.* The preacher noticed—the ultimate object aimed at—and the means by which it is to be accomplished. Under the *first* head he explained the terms in which it is here described, and expatiated with much animation on the glory of the prospect. Under the *second*, he shewed the power of God to be necessary to remove numerous and mighty obstacles,—persecuting laws,—corrupt systems of religion,—deep-rooted prejudices;—and also to provide suitable ministers for

the work, both at home and abroad. Dr. Steadman concluded this serious and energetic sermon, by warning the audience against being satisfied with diffusing the light of science, or communicating temporal comfort, or imparting any benefit short of the gospel;—insisting on the necessity of acting a consistent part at home;—urging the union of all hearts and hands in encouraging missionary undertakings;—and pressing upon each individual the necessity of his seeking salvation for himself.

At six in the evening, a numerous and respectable congregation assembled at Surry Chapel. The Rev. Joseph Kinghorn of Norwich commenced in prayer, and the Rev. J. H. Hinton of Reading concluded. A very excellent and instructive discourse was delivered by the Rev. George Barclay of Irvine, who has long been numbered among the most active and zealous friends of the Society in Scotland. His text was Numbers xiv. 21. *As truly as I live, all the earth shall be filled with the glory of the LORD.* From these words of Jehovah to Moses, Mr. Barclay spoke of—The GLORY mentioned in the text; the manifestation of divine beauty; the glory of the moral attributes of the Godhead, as displayed in the person and work of the Redeemer.—The PROSPECT presented to our faith; the extensive and universal diffusion of this glory throughout the world.—The ASSURANCE that this prospect shall be realized; the oath of God; a solemn asseveration but seldom employed in the scripture, in which all the attributes of Jehovah; nay, his very existence, is pledged for the fulfilment of his word.

On Thursday morning, at nine, a prayer-meeting was held at Eagle-street, for the special purpose of imploring the Divine blessing on the Society and its Missionaries. Prayers and intercessions, with thanksgivings

were presented by the Rev. Messrs. Gough of Westbury, Macfarlane of Trowbridge, and Davis of Walworth, and an excellent and animated address was delivered by the Rev. J. Wilkinsou of Saffron Walden.

Immediately after the prayer-meeting, a very large and respectable assembly met at the Chapel in Great Queen-street, to hear the Report of the Committee, and to transact the usual annual business of the Society. Two stanzas of the hymn "Salvation! Oh the joyful sound!" were first sung; and a blessing on the proceedings of the day was implored by the Rev. James Hoby. Then Benjamin Shaw, Esq. Treasurer to the Society, was called to the Chair.

Mr. Shaw congratulated the Society, now in the thirty-third year of its existence, upon the arrival of another annual meeting. He would not anticipate the Report about to be read, but he could not help now adverting to one circumstance announced in it, which would afford great and general pleasure. The Committee, it was well known, had been under the necessity of borrowing a considerable sum of money in order to carry on the operations. Two years ago this debt amounted to £5000; and £3000 of it remained unpaid at the last anniversary. But a plan had been since proposed of a separate subscription for discharging this debt, payable only in case enough should be subscribed to discharge the whole. Thus every subscriber set down his name with the assurance that if his subscription should be called for, the debt would certainly be annihilated. Mr. Shaw had the satisfaction of informing the present meeting, that this most desirable object had been attained; and that such had been the liberality of christian friends of various denominations, that there was even a surplus beyond what was required for liquidating the debt: at the same time he could also add, that the subscriptions for general purposes had sustained no diminution, but had even increased to an amount beyond that of any preceding year. This he could not but regard as a signal answer to prayer, and a loud call for thankfulness to God. The origin of the Society had its foundation in prayer, and all its progress ever since had been closely connected with prayer. But though the funds are now in so favourable a state, the friends of the Society ought not to re-

lax their exertions. Though much good has been done, much remains to be done. Commands to act are connected with promises of success. Divine power supersedes not human means. God honours men by employing them to bring about his purposes. Nor does the expectation of a speedy accomplishment of divine predictions supersede or diminish our duty to pray for the predicted events. It was when Daniel understood by books the number of the years, whereof the word of the Lord came to Jeremiah the prophet, to be nearly expired, that he set his face unto the Lord to pray the more earnestly and particularly for the restoration of Jerusalem. So the promises of the universal spread of the gospel, and any signs we perceive of their advancing fulfilment, should operate as motives to an increased fervency of prayer for that blessed consummation.

The Report was then read from the pulpit by the junior Secretary. It contained an interesting account of the present state of the Missions in various parts of the Continent of India; in Ceylon, Java, and other Eastern islands; and in the West Indies; with statements of a financial nature, and domestic proceedings and arrangements. Though rather long, it was not found tedious, but was heard by the Meeting with close attention and great interest.

The Chairman, as Treasurer, then read an Account of the Receipts and Disbursements; which was received by the Meeting with evident marks of high gratification. The subscriptions and donations for the past year amounted to more than £14,400; and there was a balance of £1200 in the hands of the Treasurer.

The following Resolutions were then successively moved, seconded, and carried unanimously.

I. On the motion of the Rev. Joseph Kinghorn of Norwich, seconded by William Carus Wilson, Esq. M.P.;

"That the Report now read be adopted and circulated; and that this Meeting acknowledges, with gratitude and joy, the proofs of a divine blessing attending the labours of the Society, particularly in the West Indies."

II. On the motion of the Rev. George Barclay of Irvine, seconded by

the Rev. John Leifchild of Kensington;

“That this Meeting unfeignedly rejoices in the success of the plan for liquidating the debt of the Society; and presents cordial thanks to all who have contributed for that purpose; as also to those ministers and other friends, who, in various ways, have exerted themselves during the past year in support of the Society.”

III. On the motion of the Rev. Edward Irving, M.A. of the Caledonian Church, London, seconded by Joseph Butterworth, Esq. M.P.;

“That the sincere thanks of this Meeting be presented to those gentlemen who have conducted the affairs of the Society during the past year;—that the Treasurer and Secretaries be requested to continue in their offices;—that Mr. William Beddome, Mr. John Daaford, and Mr. Joseph Hanson, be the Auditors;—and that the following be the list of the Committees for the year ensuing.

General Committee.

Rev. Christopher Anderson, Edinburgh.

George Atkinson, Margate.
George Barclay, Irvine.
Isaiah Birt, Birmingham.
John Birt, Manchester.
Thomas Bluudell, Northampton.
Thomas Coles, Bourton.
F. A. Cox, Hackney.
T. S. Crisp, Bristol.
T. C. Edmonds, Cambridge.
Moses Fisher, Liverpool.
William Giles, Chatham.
Wm. Gray, Chipping Norton.
Thomas Griffin, London.
Robert Hall, Leicester.
J. H. Hinton, Reading.
James Hoby, London.
Reynold Hogg, Kimbolton.
Richard Horsey, Wellington.
Thomas Morgan, Birmingham.
William Nicholls, Collingham.
William Innes, Edinburgh.
Joseph Ivimey, London.
John Jarman, Nottingham.
Joseph Kinghorn, Norwich.
William Newman, D.D. Bow.
George Pritchard, London.
Henry Page, Worcester.
Thomas Roberts, Bristol.
John Saffery, Salisbury.
W. Steadman, D.D. Bradford.
Nical Thomas, Abergavenny.
James Upton, London.
Wm. Winterbotham, Holesley.

Messrs. G. F. Angas, Newcastle.
Chapman Barber, London.
Thomas Bickham, London.
William Burls, London.
John Deakin, Birmingham.
James Deakin, Glasgow.
Joseph Dent, Milton.
R. Foster, Jun. Cambridge.
W. B. Gurney, London.
Joseph Gutteridge, London.
Joseph Hanson, Hammersmith.
Thomas King, Birmingham.
James Lomax, Nottingham.
John Marshall, London.
Thomas Potts, Birmingham.
Edward Phillips, Bath.

Central Committee.

Rev. Thomas Blundell.
F. A. Cox.
T. C. Edmonds.
William Gray.
William Giles.
Thomas Griffin.
J. H. Hinton.
James Hoby.
Joseph Ivimey.
Joseph Kinghorn.
George Pritchard.
John Saffery.
James Upton.
W. Winterbotham.

Messrs. Chapman Barber.
Thomas Bickham.
William Burls.
W. B. Gurney.
Joseph Gutteridge.
Joseph Hanson.
John Marshall.

Corresponding Committee.

Rev. J. Acworth, Leeds.
E. Clarke, Truro.
Owen Clarke, Taunton.
E. Daniel, Luton.
D. Davies, Lincoln.
B. H. Draper, Southampton.
R. Edminson, Bratton.
C. Evans, Anglesea.
John Geard, Hitchin.
S. Green, Bluntisham.
W. Hawkins, Weymouth.
J. Hemming, Kimbolton.
Mr. C. Hill, Scarborough.
Rev. S. Kilpin, Exeter.
John Mack, Clipston.
T. Middleditch, Biggleswade.
C. T. Mileham, Portsea.
James Millard, Lynnington.
W. H. Murch, Frome.
J. Payne, Ipswich.

Rev. R. Pengilly, Newcastle.
 Richard Pryce, Coate.
 H. Russell, Broughton.
 J. Singleton, Tiverton.
 Mr. T. Thompson, Newcastle-under-Linc.
 Rev. T. Thonger, Hull.
 T. Tilly, Portsea.
 W. Tomlin, Chesham.
 T. Waters, Pershore.
 J. Wilkinson, Saffron Walden."

IV. On the motion of Edward Phillips, Esq. late of Melksham, seconded by the Rev. John Howard Hinton of Reading ;

"That this Meeting has heard with regret of the death of several excellent Missionaries in connection with the Society; and respectfully invites all the friends of the Mission to join in fervent prayers that the Lord of the harvest will raise up many labourers, qualified by his grace to enter upon this great work; and grant a large measure of his Spirit to all who are engaged in missionary labours both at home and abroad."

V. On the motion of John Sheppard, Esq. of Frome, seconded by the Rev. John Arundel, one of the Secretaries to the London Missionary Society ;

"That the best thanks of this Meeting be presented to the Trustees of this Chapel, and to the Rev. Rowland Hill and the Trustees of Surry Chapel, for their kindness in accommodating us with their places of worship on the present occasion."

VI. On the motion of the Rev. S. Kilpin of Exeter, seconded by the Rev. William Giles of Chatham ;

"That the next Annual Meeting of the Society be held in London, on Thursday, June 24, 1824.

VII. On the motion of the Rev. James Hoby, seconded by the Rev. Jabez Bunting, M.A. :

"That the thanks of the Meeting be presented to Benjamin Shaw, Esq. Treasurer, for his able conduct in the chair this day."

The Rev. Joseph Kinghorn began by remarking the happy difference between our situation now, and that of those who lived two centuries ago. Our predecessors in religious profession could not then have assembled as we have, at noon-day, for purposes

like those for which we are met. They laboured; we have entered into their labours; nor do we think of our superior advantages as we ought. Our happy circumstances, in the enjoyment of Bibles and ministers, and christian ordinances, and the internal possession of divine grace, call upon us all to bless the Lord with all our souls. And after hearing the Report now read, ought we not to feel peculiar gratitude that any exertions made from this little island are so successful, that our prayers are so answered? *If the Lord meant to destroy us, he would not have shewed us such things as these.* On reviewing the progress of true religion, we find its effects much the same in all classes of men; whether in proud Brahmins, or ignorant Negroes. These indeed Christianity elevates. Persons in the lowest depths of human degradation, and destitute of all intellectual cultivation, when under the influence of divine grace, often rise to a degree of mental elevation which nothing but true religion can ever reach.

The two principal topics of the report, are—the translations of the scriptures—and the various stations of missionaries. We know the value of Bibles: a good man must have a Bible; he cannot do without it: and a bad man needs one, to make him better. How necessary then that the scriptures should be translated into the various languages of men, and what cause for satisfaction that so much has been done in this way! Suppose that only twenty-five years ago any person had ventured to express a hope, that, within a quarter of a century, the whole New Testament would be published in twenty-one of the dialects of India, and those by far the most extensive and important—should we not have regarded it as the anticipation of a sanguine mind, and have pronounced it too improbable to hope its being realized? But all this is now accomplished, and considerably more. Even the language of China, hitherto deemed inaccessible, except to a few commercial men for purposes of trade, that language of monosyllables, differing essentially from all the other dialects of men, is now enriched with a translation of the whole scriptures; a treasure infinitely more valuable than any it possessed before. What is most remarkable in this process of translation is, that a kind of new idea appears to have been struck out by the Serampore missionaries, who have con-

trived a method of translating the scriptures with greater expedition than had ever been previously known. They have erected, if the expression may be allowed, a sort of translating machine; and thanks to the Divine Goodness that has spared their lives to its completion. It is now complete and in full work. Oh that its operations may incessantly be continued, and that the work of instruction may go forward till there shall not be a man without a Bible, nor a child without ability to read it! Then indeed improvement may be made by good men touching and retouching the various versions, but otherwise translations will cease, and nothing will remain but to multiply the copies for successive generations of readers.

But there is another work which will not so soon be finished. Beside Bibles, Missionaries are wanted also. Let us attend to primitive principles and practices: in following these we are always safe. For the conversion of the world, Christ himself sent forth men at first, inspired men. The plan is not altered since: men are made the instruments of sending forth successors. We must not only put a book into a man's hand, but must point out to him what he perhaps would not read at all, or would read without due attention. Suppose all your ministers were at once to be removed from this land, what would you say, how would you feel? Would they not be missed? The regard shewn to ministers here proves the value of missionaries. How must we admire the disinterested spirit and feelings of men who, from all the enjoyments of London, are willing, for the sake of the gospel, to go into the most unfriendly climes, and among the most savage tribes, not knowing but that they may be immolated on the altar at the next festival which they may celebrate to their idol gods!

What God has done among the poor negroes in the West Indies is truly wonderful. One church containing *two thousand seven hundred members!* Ministers who preside over the largest churches here may well be astonished. More Missionaries are wanted, but the funds have not allowed the Committee to send more. The prospect is now brighter. And where God opens such a door, we ought to go in.

The liberality of our friends north of the Tweed, demands my particular acknowledgment. Mr. Crisp and myself, who went into Scotland last summer, were highly gratified, both on

our own account and on that of the Society. A journey of near one thousand five hundred miles most necessarily be attended with much fatigue; but every thing unpleasant was more than counterbalanced by the kind reception we every where found in the houses and hearts of our christian brethren. The personal respect with which we were treated, the patronage of our cause, and the generosity of the contributions, made impressions upon our minds which we shall not forget.

But exertions must still be made. Auxiliary Societies and Associations should be carried to a greater extent than they have yet been. The churches will not fail us, provided the object be evidently a good missionary object. But of this we ought to be very clear. Then they will not be backward to *come to the help of the Lord against the mighty.*—What is chiefly to be recommended is *steadiness*. This may be thought a common-place virtue; but it is of prime importance. Steadiness in prosecuting a good cause is beyond ingenuity in forming a great and plausible plan. Let us act steadily, and steadily pray for prosperity; which God alone can give; let us pray for the perseverance, joy, hope, and success of Missionaries; and may fresh reasons for gratitude and joy be daily experienced!

William Carus Wilson, Esq. M.P. had no intention of speaking on this occasion, but could not refuse to testify his cordial regard for so good a cause. A signal proof of its commanding merits he thought had been furnished some time ago, by a writer of considerable ability, in the *Quarterly Review*: who, after having spoken of the missionary spirit and of missionary enterprises in general in a disrespectful and almost contemptuous manner, yet when he proceeds to a particular examination of the proceedings of the Baptist Missionaries, speaks of Carey, and Marshman, and Ward, and their stupendous labours, in terms of high admiration, and almost admits the work they are engaged in to be of God. The success in the West Indies, announced in the report, was great indeed, and worthy of particular observation. Who could be insensible to the wrongs of Africa, to the evils of slavery? It was a foul blot upon this country that so many of its sons have contributed so largely to these enormities; but this country also contains those whose efforts have been exerted,

and whose prayers have ascended for the relief and removal of them. Fresh importations of slaves by British subjects is now prohibited, but much remains to be done. What greater recompense, however, can be made to the victims of past injuries than by sending them the gospel? Thus to multitudes their captivity and slavery have issued in their good, and their *light affliction* (light compared with everlasting misery) has been overruled as a way to an *exceeding and eternal weight of glory*.

The Rev. *George Barclay* considered occasions like this as throwing around us a kind of moral atmosphere. We inhale an air purer than common, and enjoy feelings unusually delightful. Such scenes may well heighten our pleasures, and soothe our pains, and make even the dying countenance beam with satisfaction. What a gloomy and degraded spectacle did the continent of India present to our view a few years ago: all enveloped in gross idolatry; millions of idols, and their votaries hundreds of millions, all destitute of spiritual light and life. Ah! little do we think what abominations and miseries idolatry includes. But we have lived to witness the dawn of a brighter period, and to see that the accursed chain of the caste is not able to hold those whom God deigns to loose. Perhaps it may not be generally known, that yesterday commenced the annual festival of Juggernaut. While we are meeting here, think what crowds are assembled there. But this is a declining cause; ours is an advancing one. We are more affected by providence than by promise; but the Divine promises are infallible. We have now one instance in the prosperity of our funds. *He shall live, and to him shall be given of the gold of Sheba.* Then let us add, *prayer also shall be made for him continually, and daily shall he be praised.*

The Rev. *John Leischild* came to the meeting without any intention of speaking, or any intimation that he should be called forward; but his regard for this institution would not suffer him to refuse an application to appear publicly in its support. These meetings have chiefly to do with the state of the heart and feelings. Our judgments have long been convinced of the duty of promoting missions. There have been times indeed, when some among us gravely contended, that the

time was not yet arrived; that because God permitted the heathen to remain without the gospel, so should we; and that to attempt their conversion, would be taking the work out of his hand; forgetting, or not considering, that God had resolved to send the gospel through the world by the instrumentality of his people. Some of these objectors complained of the noise and bustle of missionary preparations; and quoted against us the building of Solomon's temple, which rose silently and majestically, without the din of axe or hammer: as if the heathen were to be converted by magic, idolatry dissolved by a charm, and the truth circulated round the earth in a whisper. But these times are past; the actual success and splendid triumphs of missionary societies, have silenced these objectors, and reduced their number: if a few still remain, they are only like the gleaming of an olive tree, one or two on the topmost bough. A contrary sentiment now prevails throughout the christian church; christians in general have come to a clear and powerful conviction, that it is a duty incumbent on all the followers of Jesus, *now* to support all Missionary exertions to the utmost of their power.

But in matters of religious duty, it is not enough to have the judgment convinced: the heart, by intercourse with the world, and the excitement of its passions by different objects, is too apt to render the conviction feeble and inoperative. And if there is danger of this in the business of our own salvation, notwithstanding the alarms of conscience, and the sense of self-interest, and the expectation of personal benefit, and the fear of personal injury, can we wonder that the mind should relax in its efforts for the conversion of others, and those living at the extremities of the globe? Hence the necessity of these meetings, where by a report of past proceedings, and mutual exhortations and encouragements, our ardour may be rekindled, and our energies afresh consecrated to this cause. And who can have heard the interesting and encouraging report of to-day, and the animating appeals that have followed it, without feeling that he has done nothing hitherto, compared with what he might have done, and ought to have done; without resolving, not merely upon a renewal of his efforts, but upon increasing them, if it were possible, a thousand fold? I am ready to say,

in the ardour of my feelings,—“ Missionary cause! the cause of my redeeming God! O may I live no longer than I live to thee!”

Your Society has illustrated a most important principle in the divine government; I mean, the choice of instruments that the world is apt to despise. Look at India, the polished empire of idolatry, the storeroom of ancient learning, the seat of philosophic pride. The gospel has been introduced there; it is gaining ground; its sentiments are becoming embodied in the various languages and dialects of its numerous inhabitants; they have been transfused into the minds of many of the young, and of others of mature age; and the mighty, the invincible band, as it has been called, of Caste, is already giving way. These are the facts of the case. By what means has such a state of things been produced? Not by men of power, rank, influence, or splendid endowments; but by a few humble, plain, devoted men of God. I do not undervalue your Missionaries by thus describing them. I am persuaded they will themselves be the first to say; “Not by might, nor by power, has this been done; but God hath chosen the weak things of the world to confound the mighty, and things which are not, to bring to nought things that are, that no flesh should glory in his presence.”

Not many years ago an eloquent individual in the most respectable assembly of this nation, poured contempt on these proceedings. He described the Missionaries, “as apostates from the loom and the anvil; as renegadoes from some handicraft employment; as crawling forth from the holes and caverns of their original destination, like maimed and crippled gladiators, to combat with the expert and polished brahmins.” And he asked, in a tone of defiance, “What is to be expected from these enterprises but shame and discomfiture? What can these men do for the conversion of India?” We answer, let him go and see what they have done, or rather, what God has done by them; and let him calculate no more exclusively on human resources. Enough has been done to warrant the hope that at no very distant day, Christianity will prevail throughout the whole of India, and that a glorious fabric will be raised to its honour, of which this Society may justly be

considered as having laid the foundation.

But to-day we look farther than India; and truly animating is the object of our Meeting. I admire and love the feeling and spirit manifested in this country in favour of freedom, civil and political. But we take higher ground; we meet to promote the freedom of the world from the unlawful dominion of the prince of darkness. We are united to supply men with the sword of the spirit, the shield of faith, the helmet of hope, the panoply of God; that the usurper may be driven from his seat, and the lawful king be established on the throne of every heart.

The Rev. Edward Irving, M. A.
 “If I had concentrated within myself, the piety and zeal, the learning and knowledge of all your Missionaries; and if I had power of language and comprehension of mind, to exhibit pictures of the barbarism which they have seen, and the depths of ignorance on which they have looked, then should I be qualified to discharge the office devolved upon me. But I must beg the indulgence of this Meeting, and request that the kindness expressed for my native country, and the church to which I have the honour to belong, may be extended to me; and that my speech may be considered as expressive of the sentiments and feelings entertained towards this cause in that country, and in that church. From my own connection and acquaintance with religious people in Scotland, I can assure you, that no society has more of their affectionate gratitude and sincere respect, than yours; and while you send thither such representatives, men of primitive piety and apostolic simplicity, who bear upon their persons the marks of learning and study, you need not fear a diminution of their regard, but may expect the same proofs of attachment to be repented.

Your Society has great claims. Personally unconnected as I am with you, I may venture to speak of what some of the gentlemen who have preceded me, have, from motives of delicacy perhaps, forbore to mention. Your Missionaries have translated the whole of the New Testament into twenty-one of the dialects of India. Though drawn from the lowest ranks of society here, they have come into collision with the highest dignities

there. The public authorities have honoured them, and committed to them the superintendance of the noblest youth in that country. Your Missionaries have penetrated the secrets of Indian Mythology, have drawn forth from unexplored recesses what the researches of learned men could never before reach, and have exposed in all its enormity, the iniquity of that system which used to be held up to European admiration as a model of primitive simplicity. Sterne says, "If I had met him habited as a brahmin on the plains of India, I would have bowed down and done him reverence." This, a few years ago, was the general feeling in this country, but a very different feeling prevails now. Who has enabled us to legislate for that country, which in former days we were not able to do? Your Missionaries. It must not be forgotten that your Missionaries have taught, not only religious knowledge, but knowledge profane: they have taught Hindoos the institutes of European science, and prepared them to receive the pure gospel, which leads men to the service of God.

I had almost forgotten that this motion refers to the Committee. The Committee occupy one of the noblest stations towards all parties, both at home and abroad. They are in some respects legislators for hundreds of thousands, for millions of human souls. The cause is high and honourable, and the trouble is not to be compared with the reward. At home they have to arrange plans, to meet objections, and to keep up that spirit, without which the society cannot prosper at home or abroad. May its prosperity continue and increase, till eastern and western climes shall be brought to unite in the song of Moses and of the Lamb!

Joseph Butlerworth, Esq. M. P. offered a hearty welcome to the society on their meeting in a Methodist Chapel. This is a specimen of what God has done in putting an end to the strife of tongues which formerly prevailed so much among different religious parties. The Divine wisdom is often to be seen in permitting differences among christians. The difference between Paul and Barnabas led to the spread of the gospel in different directions. And the existence of various Missionary Societies causes more labour to be performed than could be performed otherwise. What society,

what treasurer, what secretaries, what committee of any one society, could do the work now done by all? But it is truly delightful to meet together, to countenance each other, and to help each other forward, in the common cause. We had been reminded of the building of Solomon's temple, and had been told that our Missionary undertakings should be conducted with similar quiet. It is true the temple was reared without the sound of hammer, or axe, or any tool being heard during its erection: and so, if we must make the comparison, our Missionaries in foreign lands are pursuing the even tenour of their way, without any bustle or noise. But the materials for the temple were all prepared before they were brought to the place where they were to be laid: and was it to be supposed that the masons employed in hewing and squaring the stones, made no noise with their hammers; or that the cedars of Lebanon were felled and wrought without the sound of an axe? Neither could we prepare for missions abroad without any stir or noise at home. Mr. B. had great satisfaction in mentioning, that on the preceding evening an attack had been made on one of the abominations of India in the British Parliament. *The Burning of Widows* had been made the subject of discussion, and he trusted that ere long, it would be stopped by legislative authority. Mr. B. concluded by exhorting the Society to be zealous, active, and prayerful, and not to doubt of increasing resources and success.

The Rev. J. H. Hinton, in seconding the 4th Resolution, remarked that the topics of the preceding resolutions had all been pleasing, but there is no mortal scene that may not be overclouded and saddened. We have seen the wilderness and solitary place glad, and the desert becoming as the garden of the Lord. But in this garden there is a sepulchre. Several Missionaries have been taken away by death. Scenes of mortality are not all alike distressing. We mourn for infants whom we love, but not without joy that they have so soon escaped from the ills of life. When the aged die in the Lord, we regard them as removed in a good old age, to that world where the weary are at rest. We look at other deaths often with great anguish, especially when

persons die in the prime of life and the vigour of intellect, with large prospects of usefulness before them. But what is so melancholy as a Missionary's grave? Missionaries have died, when, after great exertions and expense, and a long course of labour, they were just prepared for their work, and a door was just opened before them. But we must not indulge sorrow. God's resources are infinite to provide other instruments. Does not this appeal to young men who long for the conversion of the heathen? But not only are Missionaries removed. The fathers of this Society, where are they? FULLER and SURCLIFF are gone to their rest; and RYLAND is on the verge of eternity; a man whose presence at these meetings has often delighted as well as edified us, and whose absence to-day leaves a blank in the feelings of our hearts. And as these founders of the Society have retired, and are fast retiring from their useful stations, so those who now conduct its affairs, will, ere long, be gathered to their fathers. Then let us who are now the juniors in the connexion, prepare to occupy their places. And for myself, with the example of a revered father before me, I am ready to give my own pledge, and as on the high altar this day, to vow attachment to the Society, and active devotion to its service as long as I live. Perhaps the consummation we so ardently long for, may not be so near as we expect. Perhaps several generations may pass away before the world be completely evangelized, and all the earth see the salvation of God. But the ultimate accomplishment of the divine promises is certain. To us it belongs to go on with the work we have begun. *Whatever thy hand findeth to do, do it with thy might. Be steadfast, unmovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord.*

The Rev. John Arundel professed the most ardent attachment to this Society. He had always looked up to it with peculiar regard, as taking the lead in translating those scriptures, which, when Missionaries die, still remain, to be spirit and life to successive generations: the word of our God liveth for ever. Who can have heard the Report of this day, pure in diction, chaste in style, and splendid in statement, without being

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constrained to say, *It is good to be here?* Such occasions as the present call our thoughts back to the days of primitive Christianity, when the disciples were all of one heart and mind, and had all things in common. I feel a satisfaction in identifying myself with this Society; I rejoice in its successes, and mourn over its sorrows. May it prosper more and more! *May every valley be exalted, and every mountain be made low; may the glory of the Lord be revealed, and all flesh see it together!*

The Rev. Jabez Bunting would have been happy, if the time were not so far advanced, to express all the respect and goodwill which he felt towards this Society. Goodwill indeed was too cold a term to represent what he felt. When he contemplated the agents they had employed, and the success they had obtained, his heart glowed with gratitude to God for the service they had rendered to the common cause of Christianity. On the present occasion he would particularly congratulate them on their freedom from debt: they had done nobly and exemplarily; he hoped they would go forward and continue their exertions. We are all in debt to the missionary cause, and the debt we owe is large, only to be paid by instalments; an instalment was just payable in the collection now about to be made, and he hoped and trusted it would not be small. He had heard of a miser, who, having a broken sixpence that he would not part with, employed a silversmith to mend it, and for this was charged sevenpence. So, Mr. Bunting added, it was his firm persuasion that every sixpence withheld from the missionary cause that ought to be given to it, would in some way or other, by the arrangements and visitations of Providence, be made to cost us sevenpence. On the contrary, *there is that scattereth, and yet increaseth.*

The various speeches were received with marks of great satisfaction. The other gentlemen merely moved and seconded the different Resolutions without any speeches, or with only a few words. The Treasurer briefly and suitably acknowledged the vote of thanks to himself, as Chairman; and the Meeting closed as usual, by the whole assembly standing and singing the 117th Psalm: "From all that dwell below the skies, &c."

Q G

Contributions received by the Treasurer of the Baptist Missionary Society, from May 20, to June 20, 1823, not including Individual Subscriptions.

FOR THE MISSION.

	£	s.	d.
Missionary Box, at Mrs. Key's, Wardrobe-place	0	16	6
Irvine, &c. Friends, by Rev. George Barclay	14	10	0
Kent, Auxiliary Society, by Mr. Brindley, Treasurer	184	7	2
Church-street, Blackfriars, Auxiliary Society, by Mr. Pontifex Voluntary Contributions of the Children in the Baptist Free School, Fetter-lane, by Mr. Kendrick	36	5	10
Norwich, Auxiliary Society at Rev. J. Kinghorn's	7	11	6
Young Gentlemen at Mr. Brewer's School	33	3	1
Sheffield, Auxiliary Society, and Subscriptions	4	19	7
Bedfordshire, Baptist Association, voted at their Annual Meet- ing, 1823	26	5	0
Bromsgrove, Auxiliary Society, by Mr. Scroton and Miss Carpenter	5	0	0
Royston, Subscriptions, &c. by Mr. John Pendered	16	0	0
Hackney, Auxiliary Society, by Mr. William Fox	12	9	0
Fakenham, Collection, by Mr. Thompson	41	6	0
Liverpool, Auxiliary Society, by Mr. Rushton, on account ...	3	12	10
Gloucestershire, Auxiliary Society, by Mr. Drayton	150	0	0
Eagle-street Auxiliary Society, by Mr. Bagster	5	5	0
Woolwich, Auxiliary Society, by Mr. Gardner	24	3	10
Goodman's-fields, Auxiliary Society, by George Morris, Esq. ...	24	0	0
Mrs. Macleod, by Henry Drummond, Esq. Donation	19	1	6
Kingsbridge, Sundries, by Rev. J. Nicholson	40	0	0
North of England, Auxiliary Society, by Rev. R. Pengilly ...	10	0	0
Wellington, Somerset, Penny-a-Week Society, by Rev. J. Haynes	2	4	10
Loughborough, Collection and Subscriptions, by Rev. G. Capes	53	8	6
Wallingford, Ditto by Rev. J. Tyso	6	0	0
Wantage, Ditto by Rev. J. Jackson	30	15	0
Birmingham, Contributions, by Mr. King	23	13	0
Thorpe, Essex, by Rev. J. Wilkinson	6	0	0
Friend, by Rev. Thomas Griffin	6	0	0
Collected by Mrs. Elvey	10	10	0
Carter-lane, Auxiliary Society, one Moiety of Subscriptions, by Miss Jane Burls	20	5	6
Colchester, Auxiliary Society, by Mr. R. Patmore	15	18	1
Staffordshire, collected by Rev. J. Saffery	80	2	1
Sunday School Missionary Box, Henrietta-street, by Miss Keen	1	1	0
Dudley, Penny Society, by Rev. C. Hardcastle	5	0	0
Ladies at Mrs. Hutchings's School	1	5	0
Little Alie-street, Female Auxiliary Society, by Rev. William Shenston, one Moiety of their Funds	20	10	0
Anonymous, collected	1	0	0
Dorman's Land, Collection, by Rev. Mr. Chapman	14	10	0
Irthlingborough, Northamptonshire, Free-Will Offering, col- lected at Monthly Missionary Prayer Meeting, by Rev. Thomas Allen	5	0	3
Bessels Green, Collection, by Mr. Fletcher	5	8	0
Teachers and Children, Sunday School, by Mr. Ring	7	10	6
Amersham, Auxiliary Society, by Rev. James Cooper	2	8	6
Missionary Box, by Mrs. Shaw	17	4	0
Lion-street, Walworth, Female Auxiliary, by Rev. J. Cain ...	2	16	0
	60	0	0

	£	s.	d.
Isle of Ely, Half Collection at half yearly Meeting of the associated Ministers at Burwell	2	10	0
Isleham, a few Friends, by Rev. John Reynolds	3	0	0
Byfleet, Friends, by Mrs. Bowyer	1	10	0
Crayford, Female Missionary Society, by Mrs. Smith	5	5	0
William Manfield, Esq. Denmark Hill	10	0	0
Q in the Corner	1	0	0
W. W. C. Wilson, Esq. M.P. Casterton, near Kirkby Lonsdale, Westmoreland	2	2	0
Collection at Queen-street Chapel	104	1	10
Surry Chapel	90	4	2
Eagle-street Meeting	8	0	0
Annual Meeting	103	13	10
	305	19	10
Walworth, Female Baptist Missionary Society, at East-lane ..	20	7	3
Edinburgh, Sundries, by Rev. C. Anderson	175	9	1
Hants and Wilts, Assistant Society, by Rev. J. Saffery—			
Basingstoke	1	10	0
Crewkerne	2	15	0
Lyme	12	10	0
Milbourne Port	6	3	0
Overton	4	0	0
Poole	4	4	0
Salisbury	28	3	0
Sherborne	6	0	0
Wincanton	11	17	2½
Yeovil	10	10	6
	87	12	8½

TRANSLATIONS.

Edinburgh, by Rev. C. Anderson, Bible Society	300	0	0
Sundries	14	6	0
	314	6	0

NATIVE SCHOOLS.

Edinburgh, Sundries, by Rev. C. Anderson	2	1	0
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FEMALE EDUCATION.

Greenock, Female Society, by Mrs. Scott	15	0	0
Friends, by Mrs. Arnold, Bankside, Southwark	8	4	6
Ladies at Maze Pond, for Native School, by Mrs. Gouldsmith	20	0	0

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

The thanks of the Committee are presented to Mr. C. N. Wawn, and Mr. John Fenwick, of Newcastle-upon-Tyne; to the Rev. W. Anderson, Blair Logie, Perthshire; to Mr. Silas Barton, of Wallop, Hants; and to Mr. Harris, of Camberwell, for various Books, intended for the Missionary College at Serampore.

Several other Contributions, not included in the above List, will be acknowledged next Month.



J. BARFIELD, Printer, 91, Wardour-Street, Soho.