

ing out of our slumber, then it is now a part of our duty to repair, as far as we can, the effect of many former years of apathy and neglect. We are called upon now to crowd, as it were, into the uncertain remains of our sojourn here on earth, those exertions for the enlargement of the boundaries of the Saviour's kingdom and the salvation of men, which ought to have commenced with the first year of our life, and to exhibit an attention more ardent and energetic than as ever yet been attained. Our duty to the heathen is in long and inexcusable arrears, and the debt must be discharged with interest. I have, on former years, been greatly indebted to the compassionate kindness of a liberal and benevolent friend, who knew that my speeches were of such a rude and undigested kind as to need an application, which he has again favored me with; and God bless the individual that sent it! We only want some one or two hundred more such in our Connexion. The application is, "A Doctor's Eighth Instalment, £50;" to which is added, "An Auxiliary effort towards the £60,000 wanted for the present year, £10." Now, let every man pay his debts, and every man send an extra instalment for the twelve Missionaries who are to be sent to India and to Caffraria, and to Ireland, which we cannot refuse to your Lordship's request. That must be done, come what will; for we have too much of the courtesy for which your country is celebrated, and too much of the Christian feeling, to turn a deaf ear to the appeal which you have made to us. I remember an excellent friend of ours who once visited us from Ireland, made a statement respecting it to the same effect as your Lordship has done, though it was not quite so correctly expressed as your Lordship is in the habit of doing; he exclaimed, "You have told us of Missionaries who have gone to every part of the globe; but, O my poor country! my poor country has had nothing done for it." I hope all Christian denominations, and all religious Institutions, will feel themselves called upon to do more than ever they have done to spread pure and vital Christianity in Ireland, and I rejoice that the example is setting us in Ireland itself, with which your Lordship is not unacquainted, nor are we altogether undebted to your Lordship for it. I think, I can venture to promise, for the Treasurer and Committee, that your Lordship's wish shall be complied with. We shall make a great effort, for there is much moral power lost by the feeble process which has been going on. I wish some of our friends would come down into Lancashire, and see our large factories there. They are doing a great deal, and the owners say, that if they do not, they can do nothing. And so must we. I do not think it will be possible for you to get £1000 or £2000 so easily; but talk of £5000 or £10,000, and, I think, you will much more easily raise it by proper effort, proper application, and proper example, than a paltry augmentation of £700 or £800. Lord Bacon somewhere observes, that heroic desires contribute greatly to health; and let a man undertake some great design, aim at great things, and, by the blessing of God, he will accomplish great things. Let us contemplate British India—India—India—is on my heart—containing a hundred millions of souls. Think of the efforts which it demands; think of the great power which persons there enjoy, and which may conduct the operations of Missionaries; think of the countenance which will be afforded to them by Christians who are stationed there; think of the horrid superstitions that defile the face of the country, and degrade and render miserable its wretched inhabitants; and that all other means which have been tried to correct them have failed, and must fail. It is the Gospel, and the Gospel only, that can do it. Think of these things, and say whether it does not become a great Missionary Society, such has God made us, while we do no less for any other part of the globe,—whether it does not become us to take a larger part under cultivation of the Indian field.

The Rev. THEODORE DRAY seconded this Resolution, by saying:—I should be wanting in Christian courtesy, my Lord, if I were to attempt to address you at any length at this period of the day, when your patience and time have been so long entrenched upon. But I cannot merely stand up and second this Resolution, without expressing something of the feelings of gratitude and happiness which I have enjoyed since I have been present in this Meeting. It gave me great pleasure and do-

light, not only to see but to hear my venerable and respected friend, Mr. Wilberforce, whose presence in my family, on a visit, some time ago, I considered as a great blessing and privilege. While he was addressing you, I was forcibly reminded of a fact which came to my knowledge, that the great and holy man, the Rev. Leigh Richmond, whose writings have been translated by the Tract Society into every language on the continent, and have been made instrumental with the blessing of God, to the conversion of hundreds—that eminent Christian, who was so staunch an advocate for the Missionary cause, till he was transplanted to his final rest and reward—his conversion was owing, under God, to the reading of Mr. Wilberforce's Book on vital Christianity.



*The Epistle from the Yearly Meeting of Friends held in London—to the Quarterly and Monthly Meetings of Friends in Great Britain, Ireland, and elsewhere.*

DEAR FRIENDS,—We are reverently thankful that we have been permitted to meet together on the present occasion, and to know the love of God shed abroad in our hearts, through Jesus Christ our Lord. We have been favoured to proceed with the usual yet important business of this meeting in brotherly harmony, and have felt that our spiritual strength has been renewed by thus uniting in religious travail for the best welfare of our Society.

Amidst the ordinary engagements of this meeting, we have received accounts of the sufferings of our members, in support of our Christian testimony against tithes and other ecclesiastical demands, as well as in consequence of a few claims for military purposes; the amount thus reported is upwards of thirteen thousand eight hundred pounds.

In proceeding to unfold the Christian solicitude which has prevailed in this meeting, we would express an earnest desire that the confidence of all our dear brethren and sisters may be humbly, yet firmly fixed upon God. He changeth not; his compassionate "are new every morning;" his promises are sure; and "his kingdom ruleth over all." His "word is settled in heaven," and his "faithfulness is unto all generations." His name "is a strong tower; the righteous runneth into it, and is safe."

It pleased the Father, in his abundant mercy and love to the human race, in their fallen and lost estate, to give his only begotten Son, the Lord Jesus Christ, that "whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life." Oh! then, that not one amongst us may, by neglecting and undervaluing this blessed means, come short of that rest which is prepared for the people of God. May we all, in true and living faith, accept the Saviour of men as our Redeemer and Deliverer from the thralldom of sin. "In Him dwelleth all the fullness of the Godhead bodily;" He is that eternal Word which in the beginning was with God, and was God; and who was made flesh, and dwelt among men. He offered himself a sacrifice for our transgressions, "the just for the unjust;" "we have redemption through his blood, even the forgiveness of sins."—He, our ever-living Intercessor and "Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous," "is passed into the heavens," and "sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high."

These sacred and essential truths of the Christian religion, were the faith of our early predecessors, and have been uniformly upheld by our Society, from their day to the present period. It is a cause of thankfulness to us, that we can entertain the full persuasion that these truths are dear to the friends in this land, in Ireland, and on the American continent; although we have to mourn over many, on the other side of the Atlantic, once in fellowship with us, who have widely departed from the truth of the Gospel.—The epistolary intercourse with our dear brethren, in those countries, has been maintained at this time to our instruction and comfort.

In contemplating those highly important truths to which we have already adverted, we are renewedly convinced of the great need there is for a deep and constant sense of the infinite power and wisdom of God, and of the very limited faculties of the human mind. We ought to meditate on these things in humility and sincerity of heart; and reverently and fervently to desire that our understandings may be illuminated by the Holy Spirit. Then will our faith in their vital importance become more firmly

established, and our hearts glow more and more with gratitude to God, for the inestimable blessings provided for us in the Gospel of life and salvation.

We are thankful that, as a Christian people, we are, through divine mercy, true in faith; but how largely incumbent is it that we should be individually concerned, not only to accept in simplicity the doctrinal truth of Holy Scripture, but earnestly to strive that we may be coming up in the practice of every Christian virtue! Look thou unto Christ, dear Friends, we beseech you; that you may come to know him to "dwell in your hearts by faith," and to rule there by the power of his blessed and eternal Spirit. Be awakened to the necessity of "working out your own salvation with fear and trembling." Let the knowledge of your proneness, by nature to transgress the law of the Lord, incite you to seek after a death unto sin and a new birth unto righteousness; and ever remember, that it is by faith and repentance, by prayer and obedience, that the work of sanctification is to be carried forward.

He that is concerned to live as becomes a consistent Christian (a character to which we all ought to aspire), will often meditate upon the precepts and example of our blessed Lord and Saviour; precepts which, as they regulate the life of man, increase his happiness and usefulness, prepare him to meet with patience the trials incident to humanity, and to look forward to a participation in the joys which shall be hereafter revealed. And as we are enabled to follow, though at a distance, the great and perfect pattern set before us in the Gospel, the heart becomes expanded in love to God and man; and all those passions and dispositions are kept in subjection, the unrestrained indulgence of which destroys the peace and harmony of civil and religious society.

The humble endeavour to observe the precepts of the Gospel leads to purity of heart and conduct; it induces strict integrity in all our transactions; and gives rise to the exercise of that meekness and charity which shine forth in the conduct of the true and practical believer in the Christian religion. If we seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, we shall be instructed by the example of pious men, but not blind to their infirmities; comforted by their society, but not dependent upon it; helped by religious conversation, but not disposed to enter into it hastily or superficially. If we are concerned aright for the cultivation and cleansing of our own hearts, impressed with the importance of our own stewardship unto God and, duly sensible of our own sins, and great need of forgiveness from Him, we shall become very cautious how we converse on the failings of others, and anxious not to violate that charity which is enjoined upon all; that love which is the true badge of discipleship.

A real hunger and thirst after righteousness will lead us gladly to embrace all opportunities of meeting together for the public worship of Almighty God. We shall then feel it to be one of our greatest privileges thus to draw near unto Him, and to unite in waiting upon and worshipping Him in spirit and in truth. We shall rejoice to seek after the influence of his love and power, and to pour out our souls in secret supplication for the continuance of his blessing and preservation. At this time we have, in an especial manner, felt the advantage of being constant in availing ourselves of those opportunities which are afforded us, in the course of the week, of coming before Him; occasions when we are called upon to withdraw from the cares and perplexities of life, and to seek the Lord and his strength.

Nor will our approaches to the throne of grace be confined to the attendance of religious meetings. Impressed with the benefit and the need of a daily supply of heavenly help, we shall be often seeking for the renewal of our spiritual strength; and in our private retirements, as well as in select opportunities in our families, for this purpose, as also for reading the Holy Scriptures and the writings of pious authors, we shall seek to be imbued with a deep sense of the power and presence of the Almighty. Discouragements of various kinds may prevail and abound in the course of our pilgrimage; but how obvious are the danger and folly of relaxing to "press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus!" And such are his condescension and goodness, that he at times permits those who put their whole trust in Him, conso-