

Life of the Rev. Samuel Leigh. By the Rev. ALEX. STRACHAN. Missionary biography like every other description of literature may be classified, and one class will be found to be vapid, another sectarian, another sparse in incident, another excellent—though such is the stamina of all that some benefit must arise from it. This volume is the production of a Wesleyan Minister of pure evangelistic spirit, accuteness and intellectuality, and the narratives he relates—drawn largely from highly-valued private Mission-House documents—place before us what must be denominated, energetic, perilous Wesleyan Missionary pioneering in Australia and Polynesia,—the apostolic Leigh, cheered by his devoted wife, prominent everywhere, with his simplicity, shrewdness, endurance, faith, sanctity,—valiant in conflict, humble in success, one of the noblest of the many noble men sent forth by the Wesleyan Missionary Society in England; and his acts, not envied, but stimulated and applauded by the good Marsden, a beloved Episcopalian Minister of New South Wales. For invaluable facts, lucid descriptions, and suggestive observations we place this work with those of Carey, Morrison, and Williams, presuming to say, it is not excelled by them in mental vigour, and startling but authentic statements.

THE ANNIVERSARIES.

Information received from a number of Circuits and Missions produces the conviction—not that the benevolent spirit of our Missionary supporters is spent, but that it is more than ever vigorous and noble in its developments; and that whatever wonder was expressed when Western Canada last year raised more than nine thousand pounds for Wesleyan Missions, the prospect now is, that even that sum must soon be reckoned among the lesser things. There is a lofty, liberal catholicity on the American continent, and while the Rev. Messrs. Arthur and Scott have obtained extraordinary sums in the United States for christianizing and protestantizing Ireland, the happy people of Canada are more and more making their stated contributions worthy of their christianity and their country. Whatever virtue and utility may attach to their acts,—and they are increasingly admired, and recorded with gratitude, by us, all will do wisely to go unto God with this avowal,—“Thou alone art worthy.”

But an accumulation of finances is an accumulation of responsibilities. There has for some time, and especially since the Rev. John Ryerson's important tour in Hudson's Bay, been an accession of posts needing and soliciting the services of our Missionary Society; and with an accession to the funds there should be an accession to the faith of every pious intercessor; then will there very soon be an accession of men with grace, gifts, and fruit to occupy many new and promising fields of labour. This is the Society's greatest necessity. “Say not ye, There are yet four months, and then cometh the harvest; behold, I say unto you, Lift up your eyes, and look on the fields; for they are white ALREADY to harvest!”

The cordial thanks of the Board are presented to Juvenile friends on the Aylmer Circuit, C.W., for a valuable Plough, sent to Garden River Mission by the Rev. Francis Berry.