

missionary agency, which elevates whatever it touches, and sheds a most benignant influence wherever it penetrates. If there be any virtue in the friendship of friends, if any depth in the affection of relatives, if any gratitude in the hearts of dependents, if any sympathizing susceptibility in the souls of associates and neighbours—who can estimate the blessedness of this agency? By all that is precious in this arrangement, and by all that is comforting in these considerations, let us moderate our grief at the departure of the just, devoutly adoring the Lord for having enabled them to do so much when they were with us, and for making the amount of good which they have accomplished at once the instalment and instrumentality of a great good yet to be achieved.

But it is not alone in the personal recollections of familiar friends or favored compeers that the memory of the just is preserved and blessed. With the generation to which they belonged their names may cease to live. In a few short years it may be impossible to trace the works of the righteous to the individual and respective agents who performed them. The founders of useful schemes may be forgotten. The visible outgoings of cordial sympathy and active co-operation which give an impulse to the improvements and progress of the day may sink into oblivion.