

were put upon the list of those waiting to be supplied ; and ere long you will have two hundred thousand, nay, hundreds of millions, demanding that most invaluable work, which will be the greatest ever produced by the Bible Society. I am quite certain, and I think you may rely upon it, that at no time in the history of this country was there ever such a desire on the part of those who apparently are lost for ever and ever to become acquainted with the Word of God. I can only say this, and I do not say it from any socialistic or democratic principle—but I have gone amongst the people now for close upon sixty years, and I do not hesitate to say, that I have seen among the very poorest sort the noblest specimens of virtue, piety, resignation, and faith, that I have ever seen in the course of my whole life.

"I hope that, please God, I shall be enabled to go among them again—I trust so—and my prayer shall always be that I may die in harness."

As the Archbishop of Canterbury, who was one of the speakers, emphatically remarked, those present at this meeting looked upon a sight which could not easily be forgotten. When the whole audience rose, as a tall spare figure slowly climbed the Committee staircase, and, nearly as erect as ever, passed gently along to the President's chair ; when they saw the pale wan face which bore only too distinctly traces of recent illness, and which had a far-away look about the eyes ; when they heard that voice in some of its tones fine and firm as ever, a thrill of sympathy passed through the whole meeting, and, as more than one speaker said, the Earl of Shaftesbury's presence was itself the most eloquent of speeches.

Tears almost mingled with the cheers when the veteran Philanthropist, of eighty-four years, declared how it would have gone to his heart to have failed being present on that occasion, as it would have been the first time he had missed in more than thirty years, and also when, at the close of his address, he said that he hoped, please God, he should be able to go amongst the poor again, and that his prayer to God was that he might die in harness.

Although his lordship had intimated that he might only be able to remain a short time, he did not leave the chair till thirteen minutes past one, and he stood through the whole of the Secretary's opening prayer.—*From "The Record."*

EARL SHAFTESBURY DEAD.

THE USEFUL LIFE OF THE VENERABLE ENGLISH PHILANTHROPIST CLOSED.

London, Oct. 1.—Earl Shaftesbury died to-day.

[The Right Hon. Anthony Ashley-Cooper, Earl of Shaftesbury, was born April 28th, 1801. He took a first-class in classics at Oxford in 1822 and in 1826 he was returned as Lord Ashley, for Woodstock, the constituency now represented by Lord Randolph Churchill. He supported the governments of Canning and Wellington, and in 1830 was elected member for Dorchester. One year later a whirl of the political wheel made him the chosen of Dorsetshire, and he represented this district until '47, when he was elected for Bath, which he represented until he succeeded to the earldom of Shaftesbury on the death of his father in 1854. He was Lord of the Admiralty in Sir Robert Peel's administration of 1834-5. In the House of Commons he was an earnest champion of the working classes, and refused to take office with Sir Robert Peel in 1861, because the Premier would not support the ten hours' bill. After succeeding to the peerage the deceased earl gave himself over to the work of promoting the best interests of the millions. His munificence won for him a warm place in the esteem of the Christian world, and in Toronto the Y.M.C.A. building named after him, is proof that the deeds of the veteran philanthropist are appreciated in Canada. At the time of his death the Earl was President of the British and Foreign Bible Society, the Pastoral Aid Society, and the Society for the Conversion of the Jews. He was formerly President of the Protestant Alliance.]