

what we have felt of the result to Ireland. [Hear, hear.] My friend Mr. Lessey told you he was low spirited when he was in Ireland. Now, I was just the contrary; my last visit to Ireland was one of my most pleasurable journeys in that country; for I never before witnessed such strong Protestant feelings as I witnessed in the towns of Dublin, Belfast, and other places. (Hear, hear.) We have had considerable demonstrations here to-day; but yet every thing here has been calm—smooth compared with what I have seen in Ireland, [hear, hear, laughter.] we—our Protestant brethren in Ireland are one with us, and we are one with them. [Hear, hear.] I will not say as Mr. Lessey said—“We will stand or fall with them”—and we will with them, but fall we cannot. [Cheers.] Fall we cannot, if the arm of Omnipotence sustains us;—fall we cannot, if the truth of God sustains us. Irishmen and Englishmen, we will stand by the Bible; the Bible, and the Bible only, is the religion of Protestants. [Enthusiastic applause.] Now, as a practical proof that what has been stated is beginning to operate, I hold in my hand a card from some lady. I have not the honour of knowing who she is, but, it has been addressed to me, and the words are “a guinea for Ireland.” [Hear, hear.] She pledges herself to call and pay it at the Mission House. If she does not, Mr. Secretary, I know who will; and I now hand the card to you. As regards the great work in which we are engaged, I have thought on former occasions, surely when we retire from this meeting, we shall exert ourselves more to procure a large accession to our income. Now, I do think more about that, this day, than I have done before; and I do feel more convinced this day than ever, that this will be the case. [Hear, hear.] Is it possible that we can have listened to that overwhelming address delivered by our Rev. Friend Dr. Duff, if he will allow me to call him so, for though this is the first time I have had the honour of seeing him, I know many of his friends in North Britain; and he, I am sure, is the friend of all who are the friends of our common Christianity. [Cheers.] Can we have listened to that powerful, overwhelming address, which he, with so much of interest, so much of fervency, of imagination, and of Christian zeal, has delivered, and can we retain any portion of the feelings which were then so highly and so powerfully excited in every bosom here,—and can we believe the facts which he so impressively detailed, and not resolve that we will, from this day, individually add to our former doings? [Hear, hear.] We have thought about the miseries and wretchedness of the heathen before,—but I am mistaken if we shall not now heave sighs more deep, shed tears yet more profuse, and offer up prayers yet more frequent and fervent, than we have ever done, that the Almighty may send out his light and his truth to the darkened habitations of idolatry; and that the people may be converted to the truth, as it is in Jesus. [Hear, hear.] Shall it be said, that Paganism, that Hindooism, with all its cruelties, with all its licentiousness, with all its blood, shall command a heap of money, consisting of silver, and of gold as well as of copper,—literally a large heap, and that we shall only have a scanty pittance devoted to our divine and heavenly destined religion? [Hear, hear.] Where is christian principle? [Hear, hear.] Oh, we must be consistent with our christian principles; we must carry them out, and act in accordance with them, and then we shall give more to this glorious cause than we ever did before. [Hear, hear.] Now, the mover of this resolution has congratulated the meeting, and one or two other gentlemen have done the same, that you had exceeded your income 10,000*l.*, and thereabout;—I am not quite sure whether I can go all the length to which you have gone. It does prove, indeed, that there are urgent calls, pressing claims,

from the east, from the west, from the north, and from the south; and it does prove that your committee are men of faith,—men of strong faith. But what then? We have heard something about an Antinomian faith;—that must not be our faith. [Hear, hear.] Our faith must be practical. I hope, if the committee contract debts, they have some good grounds for supposing that those debts will be discharged. [Hear, hear.] A society, as well as an individual, I apprehend, has a character to maintain; and we must take care not to sin against one of our own rules, which is, that no member of our society shall contract debts without the prospect of discharging them. [Hear, hear, and laughter.] Now, Sir, I beg to know from you whether that rule applies to public bodies? [Much laughter.] Whether it applies to Wesleyan bodies as well as to individuals? If it does, why then it becomes a grave matter of consideration for us, and I believe it will be for this large assembly to say, whether these debts shall be discharged or not. [Hear, hear.] It is very true that when one looks at such an assembly as this, if one only has the nerve to stare it in the face, for I am sure I feel it to be very imposing,—one may regard those debts as of small amount; and I don't wonder that the gallant Colonel having this meeting before him, should have looked down upon this 10,000*l.* and regarded it only as “two-pence.” [Immense laughter.] I don't wonder at that at all. But then there come to Hatton Garden the pounds, shillings, and pence; and the bills and the accounts which press in there must be discharged. (Hear, hear.) Well, but I hope on this occasion, the Centenary of our Society as Wesleyans, we shall have a sufficient justification of the faith which the committee have exercised, in so much exceeding the regular income. (Hear, hear.) There are various ways by which this may be done. I hold in my hand five guineas which I shall have the pleasure of putting into the plate by and by, the produce of what? Of a beautiful Tulip,—(Laughter.) a Tulip of no ordinary name neither, and the first year of it. “Five guineas, the product of a beautiful Tulip of the first year, and of the name of Victoria.” (Hear, hear, and much laughter.) I hold in my hand, what is better still—a cheque on a Bank in this Metropolis for ten guineas. What is that? It is from a gentleman who has already been in the habit, for many years, of giving us five guineas as his subscription. He called me on one side the other morning in Queen-Street, and said—“My conviction is that the easiest and best way of increasing the income of your Society, and of enabling the society to pay off those arrears, will be for all who can afford it to double their subscriptions.” (Hear, hear.) I am afraid, Sir, my speech will be a sort of business speech, to-day; but it is business that we are now upon. (Hear, hear.) Well, that gentleman, (P. Cressel, Esq.) doubled his subscription;—I have not his authority for mentioning his name, but I believe he will forgive me for doing so, (hear, hear.) and I believe there are others in the country, as well as in London, who have determined that they will double their subscriptions rather than that our work shall not be extended, or that the Society shall be in debt. (Hear, hear.) After all, Sir, what is it we give, in this way, compared with some? I was at a meeting in Lancashire, a few weeks ago, where a brother on the platform stated, that an individual had informed him that the facts he had heard had banished sleep from his eyes for the next night. There came a note the next morning from the individual to the Superintendent, saying—“From what I heard last night I received the conviction that I ought to do what I can to send the Gospel among the heathen. I herein enclose you all the gold I have in the world—six sovereigns.” But this is not all. This young man, who has already been employed on the Sabbath-day in the