

About that time the idea of the present work presented itself to his mind. A kind of book which it was thought would preserve all the memorials referred to, and yet give them unity and a readable form.

He had no materials, for the private or interior life of Mr. Case, furnished him by his immediate friends, or any permission to write such a life,—a publication which was, by many, thought desirable. That is a field yet open to any one who has the means of cultivating it. He has in no wise forestalled such a project; but humbly imagines he may have put valuable materials within the reach of the biographer. As a public man, Mr. Case was the property of the community, and for taking the liberty of contemplating his public career, the author makes no apology. He has said nought but good of him; and he thinks that the presentation of the example of his many public virtues, and those of his cotemporaries, is an act good in itself, and adapted to have a beneficial influence on all who contemplate those examples.

Although this book is called the Itinerant's Memorial, it is not restricted to them alone, but it preserves recollections of many others beside: such as local preachers, other officials, and private members of the church also, so far as they connected themselves with the plan of the work, and materials were found for the purpose.

The book, it is confessed, does not fall under any existing literary category. It bears some resemblance in plan to "Lady Huntington and her Friends," but it is not strictly the same