

of labour requiring as great a variety of talents and qualifications, and incurring as great a variety of responsibilities.— One of these various departments of labour, is the work assigned to the missionary. Now, what are those graces qualifications, and developments of these, which an individual should possess, in order, to *fit* him or her for this work.

The first thing, in the character of the missionary, to which I would direct attention, is a *call* to enter upon this work. It is not to be expected that the Saviour will come in person and say "follow me," or that he is to have a commission proclaimed directly from heaven, as it was in the case of the apostle Paul. All that the missionary has a *warrant* to expect, is an inward suggestion from the Spirit, that it is his or her duty to "go;" and accompanied with which there is an earnest *heart-felt* desire to obey the summons. Various are the agencies, which the Holy Spirit employs to awaken such sentiments and such a sense of duty, in the bosom of those whom He *would* have engage in this noble work: The infantile throbbings of these emotions and this sense of duty, may have been brought into action—in the infantile mind—by a word from the mother's lips, as the child was being fondled on her lap, or sported by her side;—or by a mother's tear, as she reads respecting the *soul* perishing condition of the poor heathen. A *mother's* tear speaks *volumes*; and when shed in such circumstances often makes impressions time never effaces. This state of mind may be the result of the father's prayers;—when, as he offers up his morning and evening sacrifices with a gravity that indicates to his child that his mind is deeply impressed with the awful solemnity of the exercise,—at times causing the child to feel that "surely the Lord is in this place";—he, then, pours out his soul in solemn supplication for those who are perishing for lack of knowledge—earnestly entreating the Lord, that He would look down, in tender mercy and compassion, on "the dark places of earth full of habitations of cruelty." It may be the effect of a sermon, or of reading subjects on missions. Various are the influences or agencies which, under God, may be the means of calling a person to this work. This voice, when it begins to speak in childhood, strengthens with the strength, and grows louder with the growth of the child. This call may come in *mature* age,—being the result of some such influence as those mentioned above; or perhaps, a voice within, saying, "go"—but