

'Tis the freed bird winging to her glory nest,
Life and death with Jesus! Heritage how
blest!

You go to Hard work; but he says, "Certainly I will be with thee." He tells you to look up for grace, to ask for it, to expect it—strength equal to your day.

Go, and the Lord of Hosts go with you! He may humble you, to prove you whether you will confide in Him alone. He may, strangely reduce your fancied forces as He did to Gideon; or send you with nothing but a sling and a stone, like the stripling son of Jesse against Goliath. All the better. "He must increase, but I must decrease." "Not by might, nor by power." Let God alone be glorified! Let Jesus Christ be praised!

Trust him,—trust and not be afraid. A Drummer boy was taken prisoner. Round the bivouac fires the soldiers said to him, "Beat us a reveille," and he did it. "Beat us an advance," and he beat an advance. "Beat us a charge, and he beat them a charge. "Now beat us a retreat." "No," said the little fellow, "I cannot do that—I never learned that." Faith learns to arise, and to advance, and to charge; only unbelief can beat a retreat.

Forward! in the Lord's name. You engage in no doubtful enterprise. The decree is declared—"Christ shall have the heathen for His inheritance." Let us do what we can. The increase is of God. He will disappoint none of His faithful laborers. Sooner or later they shall reap if they faint not. Amid all obstacles, His gracious help is always at hand, So be of good cheer. "Who goeth forth and weepeth, bearing precious seed, shall doubtless come again with rejoicing, bringing his sheaves with him." Amen.

At Mrs. Drury's request Dr. Herdman then read as follows:—"I feel I must express my thanks for your kindness in opening the way to send me forth to do in the Master's name, and for our Saviour's sake, the work in India, on which my heart has long been set. Knowing so much as I do, and feeling such intense pity as I do for the ignorance, superstition and wretchedness of the dear women of India, I long to point them to Jesus, the knowledge of whose great love, when realized, must make their burdens light. I will not say much now, as I desire to tread softly, make

no great promises, but just to assure you I wish to prove myself worthy of the kind trust you repose in me, by going wholly trusting in God's guidance in the work to which I believe He has called me; and above all, I would ask for your prayers, your earnest prayers, that I may walk humbly before God, and be able to take fast hold for my work and your work's sake on the promise of a faithful Father to those who 'trust in him.'

"I shall hope to be allowed to write freely to you from time to time of the little difficulties and blessings of the work, that you may pray for me in the one, and praise God for the other; and give me the benefit of your counsel in all."

The Rev. Mr. Ferguson (late of Chumba) then engaged in prayer, and Dr. Herdman closed the meeting by pronouncing the benediction.

Edinburgh, October, 1875.