

brother minister who had preached on a very awful subject. There is a most important connection between sowing in tears and reaping in joy.—Those who over the perishing have been tender almost, or altogether, to weeping, have often become the joyous as well as grateful winners of souls. And this directness and tenderness must be exercised in pressing the essential truths of the Gospel home on the heart and conscience."

In conclusion, Mr. Donald said: "Whilst holding these four things as essential to success in winning souls, and as certain, according to the teaching of experience, to result in enduring work, such as will abide the fire—we are yet to remember that the issues of our labors are all with God; that He sitteth King in Zion; and that believers "are born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God." I do not introduce this thought at all for the sake of maintaining a form of orthodoxy, but as a truth urgently needed at the present time, and one of weighty practical importance in connection with our present theme. There are many reasons why all workers for Christ should seek to obtain and keep hold of the great doctrine that God is sovereign. Whatever our faithfulness may be, if we forget that "it is not him that willet, nor of him that runneth, but of God that showeth mercy," we shall find that the heavens are like brass and the earth like iron. In the midst of earnestness, diligence and fidelity, God may, by withholding His Spirit and by other terrible things in righteousness, teach us and compel us to cease from man whose breath is in his nostrils. It is irreligion—it is destruction to forget that it is God's inviolable prerogative to grant the Spirit. The intelligent appreciation of this truth will assist us mightily in our office as ambassadors for Christ. It will help to make us zealous, patient, and selfdenying. It will prompt the prayer in its right sense and just emphasis,—"*Wilt Thou not revive us again, Lord God of Hosts?*" And thus we are brought to the fundamental principle of all true religion, that God is all in all; that of Him and through Him and to Him are all things; to whom be glory for ever. Amen."

Missionary Intelligence.

OUR MISSION IN CHINA.

To the Editor of the Record:

DEAR SIR,—The accompanying letters from Rev. G. L. Mackay, our missionary in Formosa, will, I am sure, be read with interest and thankfulness by the whole Church. We can scarcely doubt that the Church has been led in the right way, to select the very promising field where such encouraging tokens of success have been already obtained.

In reference to the earnest appeal which Mr. Mackay makes for a medical missionary, I may say that the subject has received careful attention from the committee, and we were not without hopes that we might have been able to recommend a suitable man to the General Assembly for this most important department of the work. It would be worse than useless to send any but the right kind of man. It is not necessary that he should be trained for the ministry and ordained. But it is necessary that he should have a thorough medical training, and that he should be filled with a passion to win souls for Christ.

Hugh M. Matheson, Esq., convener of the English Presbyterian Board, in a letter which I received from him some time ago indicates very clearly,