

tives of Africa the blessings of civilization and Christianity. About this period he anxiously endeavoured to promote the establishment of a Mission to the Foulah Country, and devoted to these objects of true beneficence much of his time and attention. The distinguished part he acted in the very formation of the Missionary Society must be accurately known to many of our readers. Every heart selected him for the office of treasurer, in which, for so many years he rendered such eminent services to the church and to the world. In the important deliberations connected with the infancy of the Society, he seemed to be the presiding spirit, giving to its very constitution and primary operations, that character of unity, love and zeal, by which they were distinguished. In its counsels, on all difficult occasions, he was its wisest oracle. His sagacity never failed to mark out the best measures, and from his bosom emanated some of its mightiest achievements. When any differences of opinion occurred, he manifested that tranquil, dignified, celestial temper, which conciliated all minds and united all hearts around him in advancing the Redeemer's kingdom. The liberal and catholic spirit which pervades the constitution of the Missionary Society was, in a high degree, congenial with the temper of his own mind. With a true heart fervently did he love all of every denomination, who love and honour Christ. Bigotry and party spirit found no place in his breast. He was himself a decided and conscientious Dissenter from the established church, yet it was his delight to enjoy the friendship of many of that communion, as well as of other religious persuasions, and, with harmony and love, to co-operate with them in every effort of Christian benevolence.

For many years not only the Directors of the Missionary Society, but also the committees of the Tract Society, and of some other religious asso-

ciations, were accustomed to hold their meetings regularly on Mr. Hardcastle's premises, and to receive every kind & generous accomodation. When they withdrew, in order to occupy the more central situation of the Missionary Rooms, the following letter of acknowledgement was addressed to him by the excellent Secretary of the Tract Society, and of the Bible Society.

Battersea, 21st January, 1815.

MY DEAR SIR,

The Committee of the Religious Tract Society cannot retire from the premises occupied by them fourteen years, without gratefully acknowledging the kindness of the gentleman to whom they have been indebted for this important accomodation, and by whom it would have been cheerfully afforded for years yet to come.

I account it a privilege and an honour to be employed as the medium through which their sentiments are communicated. Allow me to state, that while they thank you, they tender also their congratulations; for they cannot forget that, although you have seldom had it in your power to take part in their councils, you have uniformly evinced a lively interest in their proceedings, and especially in their success.

You are, indeed, identified with the cause; and as long as it continues to prosper, that is, to augment its means of promoting the everlasting happiness of mankind, you will acquire an accession to that measure of joy, which I trust all your philanthropic engagements will connect with the whole of your progress through life, and with your last reflections.

Divine Providence has empowered you to contribute largely to the happiness of thousands near you, and millions afar off. On their behalf, the members of the Missionary Society, have, from time to time, thanked you, with all the cordiality which the committee of the Religious Tract Society