

subjects in India, that there was not a station, however small or remote, in which there were not schemes going forward for the extension of religious influences through the community. The monotony of a provincial life in India, from which relief was once usually sought in the amusements of a mess-room, were now relieved by pursuits of a graver kind. The time which was wont to be idly wasted, was now spent in a manner more becoming Christians and philanthropists. Their countrymen were exerting themselves in every quarter; and to that exertion they had been greatly stimulated by the success of the Assembly's institution in the capital of India. Never was a country placed in a prouder position—never was a Church placed in a prouder situation than were this country and this Church at the present moment. The means of spreading the Gospel was placed more within the reach of this Church than ever. Let not her exertions be relaxed or enfeebled by any fears or apprehensions as to want of success. If they persevered as they had done, they would reap the great harvest which they had in view.—The motion was agreed to.

The MODERATOR, addressing the Reverend Doctor, said—Dr. Brunton—Permit me to say, that the acknowledgments of the Assembly's gratitude to you, Sir, for the services which you render to our beloved Church in your highly important duty as Convener of the Committee on the Mission for extending the Gospel in India, are acknowledgments which belong wholly to you. Your fellow-workers in the Committee, no doubt, share in your deliberations, in your anxieties, and in your labours; but still it is on yourself, as their Convener, that the great weight of all is resting, and it is by your own unceasing care and exertion that the correspondence with our missionaries is carried on, plans are matured for consideration, and the practical results are brought out. As a member of that Committee, and a witness, therefore, of what you do, and of your manner of doing it, and when called upon to offer you the acknowledgments of this House, I may surely be allowed to mix with these acknowledgments my testimony—an humble one indeed from such an individual as I am—yet clear and distinct. I have now fully before my mind what I have witnessed; your serious and deep reflection on everything which you are called by your official duty to bring before us; your suggestions so matured and so judiciously framed as almost uniformly to command the instant assent of your Committee; the Christian wisdom and affection of the letters which you prepare in our correspondence with our missionaries; and the whole of that blandness, combined with firmness, which characterizes every portion of your mode of conducting the high trust committed into your hands. Nor can I refrain in uttering these acknowledgments to you, Sir, from adverting to the meetings of our Committee for which you prepare the business, and I seize the opportunity of telling this Venerable Court, that these meetings for advancing the cause of our Redeemer, are all so many meetings of brethren, who are united in heart, and manifesting

the spirit of that prayer of love for souls, which opens all their deliberations; and in telling this, I must be permitted to add, that while the unanimity which prevails is first of all to be traced to the Spirit, whose work is peace, as well as righteousness, no small portion of it is to be ascribed as the means in his hand, to yourself, for the wisdom, and judiciousness, and courtesy, with which you discharge your duty. Likewise, in offering these grateful acknowledgments to you, Sir, for your services, it is not possible but that there should be suggested to our minds some farther cause for congratulation and thankfulness in the hearts of all, for the encouraging circumstances of our present position. The Church of Scotland has now resumed her place among the missionary associations of Christendom—the very place which she held a century ago when the celebrated Brainerd laboured as her herald of the glad tidings among the American Indians; and surely it is a farther reason of encouragement to our Church, that she was directed, under the guidance of Christ, to send out as her first missionary in her new work of love, a man whose piety and ardour are equal to those of Brainerd, and whose talents, and genius, and eloquence, are not surpassed by those of any who ever was the herald of the glad tidings to the heathen. And surely we have cause for congratulation and thankfulness, that, under the agency of Dr. Duff, the work in India was so well laid, and so effectively begun, that, even in his absence from the beloved scene of his toils, it is still rising, month after month, into greater prosperity, and with still richer promise; and surely, when all the circumstances detailed in your excellent Report are considered, we may well bless God, take higher encouragement, and persevere in this ennobling and hallowed design. Surely in our desire for the welfare of our Zion, we may well receive all this as an additional reason of increased attachment to a Church that is thus vigorously and wisely prosecuting the work of Christ, and as a token for good from the King of Zion, that he will not leave her a prey to the untoward causes or the perverse men that may now be threatening her destruction. The safety and prosperity of our Church are inseparable from zeal and exertion for the conversion and salvation of the heathen. It is the command of Christ to the Church, that she go forth and preach the Gospel to every creature. It is the object of that perpetual prayer which she offers—"Thy kingdom come." It is giving, more especially in our scheme for evangelizing India, the only solution to that wondrous fact, that mysterious arrangement, by which Providence placed so many millions of men under the power of such a speck on the surface of the globe as our island is. Under these views and impressions, I beg leave to return you, as Convener of the Committee, and those who are associated with you, the thanks of this Venerable Assembly for all your labours of love. And Sir, there is a subject on which, knowing as I do your heart, I desire to touch with a gentle and delicate hand. But I cannot refrain from alluding to one of your dearest earthly friends, who projected the scheme which you are honoured, as his successor in the Con-