

## GLASGOW UNIVERSITY.

**T**HE following lines on the removal of this famous old Scottish University from High Street to Gilmorhill on the Kelvin, will awaken many sacred memories, and recall the venerable historic names of Principal Andrew Melville, Zachary Boyd, Adam Smith, Thomas Reid, James Watt, Sir William Hamilton, Archbishop Tait, and many other noble men :

## ALMA MATER.

To Gilmorhill old Scotland turns her eyes  
With eager gaze : and well she may, I ween,  
For on its summit fairer turrets rise  
Than ever yet on Scottish hill were seen,  
Or Scottish plain. Till ages far remote,  
Much that is noblest in her life shall tend  
Unto this once unknown, unhonored spot.  
On which undying glories now descend :—  
Unhallowed soil no more till time itself shall end.

My countrymen, within those clustering walls  
'Tis fit that she should have her dwelling-place,  
Who oft has sent her children from her halls  
As sons of blessing to the human race ;  
That commerce gather round her, far and wide,  
The wealth she helped to sow, for all to reap ;  
That liberal ease and social joy abide,  
And subtle thought and daring action leap  
In friendly unison, harmonious at her feet.

Approach her : touch your caps, but not in fear :  
'Tis rudeness, not simplicity, she hates :  
She's ever courteous when her friends are near,  
And all who come are welcome at her gates.  
Without, within, the spacious piles survey ;  
And, if it please you, call them all your own.  
Nor grudge to mark the absence of display ;  
Nor say, with disappointment in your tone,  
That everything is but of iron, wood or stone.

She would not sit in velvet, nor would be  
Content alone to rouse the mind and heart :  
To every youth that stands beside her knee  
This noblest lesson she would fain impart :—  
"When stubborn force shall yield at your command,

Health at your touch shall triumph over pain,  
When light and knowledge, from the generous hand,

Awaken life and gladness in your train,  
In humble, sweet contentment thou thyself remain."

Revered be they, a grateful nation's pride,  
Or heirs of gentlest thought, or gentle blood,  
Whose counsels point, and wise instructions guide

Our rising manhood to its chiefest good :  
Each to his proper sphere, with sagest skill,  
Directing ; warning each where dangers are.  
A cheer to those the eager ranks who fill,  
Who watch the world's great battle from afar,  
And gallantly are girding for the fiery war.

The path of all the people yet shall be  
That which the good and brave have ever trod.  
Earth yet shall shine refulgent, like the sea  
Of glass and fire before the throne of God.  
The strongest to the front ! Our foes retreat.  
Dark ignorance and vice forsake their den.  
Truth hurries to and fro, with flying feet.  
An Eden springs around us once again ;  
And songs of angels mingle with the shouts of men !

## SCOTTISH FOREIGN MISSIONS.

(From the Mission Record.)

**T**HE Foreign Mission Committee, carrying out a deliverance of last General Assembly, have taken a step which may greatly influence the future of the Mission. They have addressed a letter to all Presbyteries, Ministers, and Kirk-Sessions, inviting them to form an Organising Mission Committee in every congregation throughout the Church of Scotland. The design is to entrust the cause of the Mission to a popularly-constituted body in each parish—the Mission Committee of the congregation. Ladies are eligible to be members of the Committee, and "whosoever in the congregation has missionary enthusiasm and Christian good sense." It will report to the Kirk-Session, and be under its control, as church order requires. The movement is made also in the interest of the other Schemes of the Church, and will benefit the Ladies' Missionary Associations. The leading points of the letter are—(1) A great change is needed. We have a good Foreign Mission very inadequately supported, and the Church of Scotland has, even in these times, ample resources which are not reached from want of effective organisation. (2) The evil to be remedied is that at present the Mission is the Mission of the few, not of the many. Some startling facts are brought to light in proof of this. (3) The remedy must be sought, though not exclusively, in organisation. The Committee will help the minister, and help the congregation, by diffusing information concerning Missions, and collecting for them. It is hoped that this letter will in some way be put before the whole Church.

We learn that a movement is on foot in Japan to promote the use of the Roman letter in preference to the Chinese ideographic system of writing and printing. "The remarkable thing," says the Rev. William Imbrie, D. D., of Tokiye, "is the sudden and powerful hold which the idea has taken upon the Japanese mind. The *Romaji Kwai*, or Roman Letter Society, now numbers more than six thousand members, and has all the influence of the Imperial University behind it. The movement, if successful, will save every educated Japanese seven years of study, will break down a wall of partition between the Anglo-Saxon and the Japanese mind, and cannot but serve as a rapid means for the introduction of Christian literature and Christian ideals."