

for Bonaparte during his brief reign, after escaping from Elba, apparently to ingratiate himself with Britain, to proclaim a total and immediate abolition of this wicked traffic. Louis XVIII had been unable or unwilling, during his reign, to accomplish this object, and now that it was effected by Buonaparte, he was not permitted on his restoration to revive it. It must have been with feelings of peculiar delight therefore that Mr. W. received the following letter from Lord Castlereagh, announcing this event:—"I have the gratification of acquainting you," he writes, "that the long-desired object is accomplished, and that the present messenger carries to Lord Liverpool the unqualified and total abolition of the slave trade throughout the dominions of France. I must beg to refer you to his Lordship for the terms in which this has been effected; but I feel great satisfaction in persuading myself that as they will leave you nothing to desire on the subject, so you will trace in them the undeviating and earnest endeavours of the Prince Regent's Ministers to effectuate this great object which had been so impressively given them in charge." The abolition of the slave trade was the great work of Mr. W's parliamentary life, and it was enough to have been the instrument of effecting so great and important a work.—

He retired from Parliament in 1825, and passed the remainder of his years in the midst of his family and friends. He appears to have felt much pleasure in reading, and in conversation with those of his early associates who still survived. He delighted in anecdotes concerning Pitt, Fox, Sheridan and others with whom he had served in parliament. He felt a peculiar pleasure also in aiding young men of promise who were prosecuting their studies at college, and who, from staitened circumstances stood in want of a kind friend. Besides giving money, now that he had leisure, we are told that "he made his house the home of one or two youths, the expense of whose education he defrayed; all their holidays were spent with him; and hours of his own were profusely given to training and furnishing their minds. Nor were the poor forgotten; they were invited to join in his family worship on the Sunday evening, and sought out often in their cottages for instruction and relief." "All his thoughts and conversation now savoured of the better world to which he was now drawing near." He was taken suddenly ill while sitting at dinner, and died on the 29th July, 1833, he was afterwards interred with distinguished honours in Westminster Abbey, where repose the dust of so many British statesmen and warriors.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY'S FOREIGN MISSIONS.

CALCUTTA.

Mr. Smith, having safely arrived, gives in a communication to the Convener, his first impression of the missionary institution. It is a call to thankfulness that he and Mrs. Smith have been permitted to reach their destination, and that he writes in such spirits.

LETTER FROM REV. J. SMITH.

Calcutta, 22d August, 1839.

REVEREND AND DEAR SIR,—It is fitting that I should embrace the earliest opportunity of announcing to you, as Convener of Committee, my arrival in the land whither I was sent.—You are aware that we left London, on the 22d of April. We took our departure from the Downs on the 24th; saw no land till the 21st of July, when the Isle of France appeared in sight; landed at Port Louis on the 22d; left it on the 24th, and arrived at Calcutta on

Sunday last. Our voyage was thus of a length rather under than over the average, and much more than usually pleasant. In fact we never saw a wave; and as the sea and the sky wore their most pleasing aspect, so did peace and harmony reign amongst the small party on board the *Agostina*. Everything connected with our arrival has been of a nature to encourage us to the labour to which we are called. The first native to whom I spoke in the Bay of Bengal, was the Captain's Sircar, who was a former pupil of the Assembly's Institution, and who inquired with all the eagerness of a son after Dr. Duff, and gave me most gratifying accounts of some of his former school-fellows. Among other things he told me of the baptism of a young Brahmin, which took place on the preceding evening; the particulars of which will, I suppose, be communicated to you by Dr. Charles, or by one of the missionaries.