

*JOHN GURNEY, Esq. King's Counsel, on moving thanks to the Vice-Presidents :*

I have been unexpectedly honoured with a request that I would take a part in the business of this day, and I cannot but feel the greatest pleasure in any opportunity of expressing the deep interest which I take in the prosperity of an Institution, which, as the object of it is above all praise, so its success has surpassed all hope. The Report which has been presented by your Committee, and the Speeches which have been addressed to you by the illustrious persons who have preceded me, have filled my mind with emotions for which I unfeignedly declare I have no utterance. The short and pleasing task which has been assigned to me, is, to express the gratitude of this Meeting to many personages highly distinguished by their rank, but still more distinguished by their virtues. This Meeting has not to learn, that the list of Vice-Presidents of this Society comprehends the names of revered Prelates, who have been raised to their highest stations in the Church for their talents, their virtues, and their learning,—of Naval and Military Commanders, who have carried the glories of their country to the utmost corners of the earth,—of Statesmen and Senators, who have served their country, by their wisdom and their eloquence. If I were to go through the catalogue, and say what each name would prompt, I should exhaust the day much rather than your patience. I should do so, indeed, if, passing over every other name, (and it would be injustice so to do,) I were to dwell only upon the name of him, on the accents of whose lips we have so lately hung with rapture, whose exertions in the cause of humanity will transmit his name to the latest generation. But the object of the resolution which I have to propose, is, to express the gratitude which we feel for the services they have rendered to this Institution. They have certainly acted from a higher motive than the applause of men, and they are rewarded by the approbation of their own consciences ; but still we cannot, in justice to ourselves, or to the cause, suppress the gratitude which we feel for their countenance and support. Some of them assisted in planting, and all have assisted in watering that Tree, the roots of which have struck deep into the ground, the branches of which ascend to Heaven, and will overshadow the whole Earth.

*Extract from the Speech of the Right Hon. Charles Grant, M. P. Secretary of State for Ireland, at the same Anniversary Meeting.*

My Lord, I may congratulate your Lordship on the pleasing and triumphant prospects which yet await us. We are confident, because we have found that our former anticipations