

PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN :—

In the kind providence of God we are permitted to meet with you on this the 66th anniversary of our auxiliary. Though great changes have taken place there are some links which still connect us with the past. But old familiar faces have disappeared, as one by one they have been called to enter into their rest. During the past year another member of the committee, J. Flewelling, has ceased to be numbered with the living on earth. For many years he was a very efficient worker in the Parish of Portland, and as long as he resided in it he helped to keep alive an interest in this auxiliary. This is a local loss, but the parent society has been called to lament the death of the President, who as a ripe sheaf has been garnered in by the Lord of the harvest. At the age of 84, after a half century of Christian work, the Earl of Shaftsbury was called home; and of him it may be said in the language of scripture; "Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord, yea saith the spirit, they rest from their labors and their works do follow them." But whilst the life of the individual, like a mote in the sunlight, reflects the brightness of God's purposes and then disappears, on the other hand the glorious majesty of the Most High will more and more shine forth in His word which endureth forever. We pass away as shadows, and well may each say in the words of one who has devoted her life for the benefit of others:

Thou dost not need me Lord, not the poor work
My hands can offer Thee;
Thy chariot will roll on, altho' its wheels
Were never touched by me;