

desire to deepen interest in the extension of the kingdom of Christ, have made an impression upon the members of the Scottish churches, which, by the blessing of God, will bear valuable fruit. The Committee resolve to request Dr. Pierson to allow them to ask the General Assembly that he give an address on missions when their annual report is given in. They feel assured that if he can comply with this request, his presence will be most cordially welcomed, and the cause which is so dear to him will be more effectively helped than by any other arrangement which it is in the power of the representatives of the Church of Scotland to make.

*"Extracted from the Minutes of the Committee by*

*"J. MACLAGAU, Secretary."*

While on this subject, on our personal responsibility, in response to many inquiries from individuals and from societies and associations, as to Dr. Pierson's public work after his return to the United States early in June, we feel at liberty to say this much:

While in London, during the month of January, he occupied the pulpit, for four consecutive Sabbaths, of the Westminster Church, which has a seating capacity of 3,000, and is close by Buckingham Palace. He subsequently received a unanimous call to the pastorate of this church. We believe as yet he has not given a formal answer to it. We think, for family reasons and for the sake of his work in his native land, he will decline the tempting offer. He is, in heart and purpose, committed with us to the sustaining of this organ of world-wide missions, believing it can be made a powerful instrument in rousing the church at large to feel a deeper interest in missions, and to prosecute them with greater zeal and determined purpose. Besides, we know that he feels that he has a special call from God to go among the churches and colleges, and seminaries and conven-

tions, and address them on the subject of foreign missions. And it is no exaggeration to say that for such a mission he has no superior. He has a knowledge of missions, wide and yet specific, unsurpassed by any missionary secretary. He has studied the problem of modern missions, as few men have, in its underlying principles, as well as in its methods and historical developments. He has grace, fluency and readiness in speech, which any man might envy. And there is an earnestness, a spiritual baptism, a sweep and vigor of thought and a power of impression in all his addresses, which thrill and sway and captivate the immense audiences which gather to hear him wherever he goes. So that his peculiar fitness for this kind of work, and the manifest tokens of Divine favor attending it, at home and abroad, clearly indicate that he ought to continue it. We believe that if a few liberal friends of missions were to provide a support for him for a few years, and let him go forth continually among the churches of all denominations, it would lead to grand results.

And still we know that Dr. Pierson has very strong leanings to the pastorate. As a preacher, he is no less interesting and superior than as a missionary lecturer. Our ideal choice for him, on the whole, if we were allowed to choose, would be this: Let some comparatively small church in some central locality call him to be their pastor, with liberty to carry on to a considerable extent the general work in which he is now engaged. With his long experience and accumulated resources, he could meet the ordinary demands of such a pastorate, and still find time and strength to respond to the most important calls from the general field. Dr. Pierson has the *most* work in him (brain and physical) of any man we have ever known, and that without fatigue. We ourselves know, and have known for more than fifty years, what hard work