188 MEMOIR OF THE REV. JOSEPH STIBBS CHRISTMAS.

I have already exceeded your limits, and must not extend my remarks. It is now more than twenty years since we parted, to meet no more, until the Father's house is opened not for one only, but, if it may be, through grace, for both. He, prostrated in health, and compelled to relinquish his charge, was on the eve of returning to his native South-I, on the eve of sailing to my native east on the other side the Atlantic, there to pursue literary and theological studies. In two years more, after laying his lovely babes and his admirable wife in the grave, this gifted, useful servant of Christ was called home to his rest and reward. But he lived much and long in a short time, if life is to be measured by effective service. Some of us would joyously hail the comforting assurance, could we know that as much hath been done for Christ's glory in the salvation of men, during a ministry of three or four times the length of his, as he was honored to achieve in a very few The Lord make us faithful; and the results may years. be safely left with Him.

Believe me, my dear Sir, yours faithful'v.
HENRY WILKES.