

Success also has attended our labours; in several instances individuals have been converted from heathen idolatry or from Popish superstition, and have lived and died in faith; and I believe I am within compass when I say, that fifty, at least, who have been converted to God through our Mission in India, are now before the throne, praising Him who washed them from their sins in his own blood. With regard to the Christians in India, I would observe from my own knowledge, that they are in general conscientious and honest men; and are frequently sought for to enter into the service of gentlemen of Madras, and its neighbourhood; and there is a general influence gone forth amongst the people of India, which I believe will, ere long, have its result in the entire subversion of idolatry, and the full introduction of Christianity into that country.

The Resolution was seconded by WILLIAM WILKINSON, Esq., who said,—My Lords, I am sure it is unnecessary for me to state that I have, in common with the whole of this assembly, felt the deepest interest in the affecting details which have been given by the Gentleman who has just sat down. It is always with peculiar pleasure that I hear those who are themselves warriors in the field and labourers in the work; men who have exposed themselves to the labours, and dangers, and sufferings, of which we can only speak at home as of what others have undergone. But I confess my mind was strongly drawn to one particular topic of his address, in which he stated that the Missionary of twenty years' standing, the first Missionary to that country, was carried privily over, like smuggled goods. Ah! my Lord, the Society he was connected with well knew the value of the commodity they were thus smuggling. This circumstance was interesting to me, as it brought to my mind that long and perilous conflict which took place about fourteen years ago between the friends and opponents of Missions; when, degraded as the Hindoos are, there were those among Christians who stood up, and brought forward extracts from their learned books, to describe their happiness, and to show the beauty of their system. Whilst all who are here know, that it was a crime punishable with the most cruel death for the lower castes of the people to read any one of these books. O! what a contrast did such a spirit exhibit to that Christianity whose glory it is, that to the "poor the Gospel is preached." I well remember that time, though I would have you to pass it by. But a man is naturally led, at my age, to go back to past events; and I cannot suffer this topic to drop without just noticing, that while the Scriptures were to be proscribed, that grand crime of Hindooism was perpetrated, the degradation of the whole female sex in one undistinguished mass. They were insulted in their personal character, and kept in a state which prevented them from resuming, by their own buoyancy, the rank which they ought to sustain. But what a triumph is there now in the state of the female character there! I remember Lord Teignmouth, who himself wrote a pamphlet in behalf of Missionaries at the time I have alluded to, and of which I reminded him but a few weeks ago; I remember, I say, Lord Teignmouth saying, that if a man had predicted that it would be possible for any man to prevail on the natives of India to send their female children to school, he would have been treated as a visionary. But, my Lord, we cannot know any thing of their system without perceiving that it is the blackest corollary that ever hell devised for destroying the moral character of human nature. The evil spirit, there, has surrounded himself with a darkness that might be felt, and through which it seemed scarcely possible for one ray of light to penetrate, in that detestable system of caste, by which every individual is as it were prevented from rising to any higher station than that in which he was born, as a dog is prevented from becoming a man. Such was the system established there; and the evil one had entrenched himself in darkness, and laid his foundations deep, on a knowledge of the worst parts of human nature. But, blessed be God, under the influence of the Gospel, we see this system now beginning to totter; and it will fall to the ground with a crash that you might almost hear across the Atlantic. I confess, however, that having been just now told of the success of the labours of the Society in the West Indies, my feelings were naturally called in a particular manner to that quarter of the world; and I cannot

but welcome these tidings, and feel interested for those who have taken part in such a service, and those who have supported them in a way and under circumstances which render it peculiarly endearing to the mind. For, certainly, if the greatest degree of misery and degradation constitutes the strongest claim to our support, there are circumstances in the condition of these poor negroes, and in which we are concerned, which render their situation most of all to be deplored. In the East Indies the people enjoy some comforts, arising out of the natural instincts of human nature. The Almighty has created a sort of atmosphere of kindness around those to whom we stand in the situation of parents, relations, or friends. But with respect to the slave, we begin by depriving him of that very advantage; and we break all the ties of social connexion and comfort, when he is taken to the coast, and sent across the seas in that horrid middle passage. Surely these people require more particularly our utmost pains to endeavour to restore to them that right of human nature, domestic comfort, as well as those higher rights and nobler privileges of which the Almighty has rendered them worthy to become inheritors. And you are the means of making the blessings known to them. I therefore welcome, with the greatest delight, the success with which your labours in the West Indies are crowned. I know the language which has been held concerning our Missionaries there, and how they have been vilified to their faces; and what contempt, which is one of the deepest injuries human nature can sustain, has been heaped upon them. And none who have gone to that service have been wholly exempted from that species of suffering. But they knew what they had to expect, and what they must endure. Blessed be God, however, there is now a growing interest in this Mission; and when I compare the general feeling now with regard to that Mission, with what it was twenty or thirty years ago, you can scarcely have the idea what a contrast it exhibits, and what a conquest has been gained. For a man's great contest is always with himself; and to conquer errors by truth, and darkness by light, is the greatest of conquests. We live in great and extraordinary times; and had any one told me, forty or fifty years ago, that upon my life being spared so long, I should see what I have seen, I might have spoken of it as visionary, or as impossible. I am not now speaking of our splendid victories, and the national triumphs we have obtained. I value them at their proper estimate; but we have to do with greater triumphs which we have gained in the great contest in which, to the true honour of our country, we are engaged. But let us remember that we have a greater responsibility upon us. We are bound to promote the spiritual interests of mankind, and to do it largely. And when we consider how trifling an act of self-denial would enable an individual to give such a blessing to mankind, I feel only more and more convinced of my duty, and ashamed that I have done so little. It has been one grand discovery of the present day, that large amounts are raised, not from the affluence of the rich, but from the efforts of the multitude; and how it must raise a poor man when he is told, that however little he has to give, yet he may be really and powerfully active in the extensive good it may accomplish! Christians are assured, by the highest of all authority, that they have to do with One who looks at motives, who searches the heart, and to whom to will is the same as to do. This is, indeed, expressed in language of more striking preciseness, when it is said, in reference to the building of the temple, which David wished, but was not permitted to accomplish, that honour being reserved for Solomon,—“Thou didst well that it was in thine heart to do it.” So here, how many a poor contributor,—and I know there are many such belonging to this very Society,—how many a poor contributor is there, who may humbly look up, and think that he has been rendered the blessed instrument of diffusing the light of the Gospel into the dark corners of the earth! This raises a poor man in the scale of being, and shows him the value of life and liberty. The Resolution in my hand points out the Providence which does in a signal manner give its support and blessing in the circumstances which have attended the Missions; and I allude strongly to this very Society, as a proof of it; for I will remember that great, and good, and truly active man, Dr. Coke, who died like a true soldier in the field of conflict. When

he went to Ceylon, he carried out with him six Missionaries; and, as I was told by the Governor himself, each of them would have been an honour, not only to the choice of the most pious and fervent man, but to the wisest and most prudent man, that ever was employed in that work; and how great is our encouragement to carry on our designs, when we see how this good man was guided in his choice of instruments for his undertaking, so as to effect what no earthly power could have done! But I have in view more particularly the simple and astonishing history of Dr. Carey. Let the meeting look at a poor, humble man, while working with his own hands,—and working by the way, not very well,—and at the same time conceiving the vast design of converting the Eastern world. Milton, sitting in a dark chamber to compose *Paradise Lost*, was not to be compared to him. But when he and his friends had formed their plan, their exchequer was so low that it excited the contempt of many; and with the utmost that three or four of them could collect for it, they could only raise £13. 10s. in the world. This was a destitute exchequer truly. But how was it afterwards? when these men were enabled, by the blessing of the Almighty, to become,—Carey especially,—some of the most learned men this country ever produced in Eastern literature; and he and Mr. Ward, pursuing their studies in the Chinese and other languages, contributed so much by their learning, and even by the money which they collected to this cause, that in a few years they had raised £70,000 to pour into the treasury of the common fund. I would only state, in conclusion, that it is with the deepest pleasure I witness the successes of this Society; and may God prosper their endeavours to the fullest extent of their desires! desires which will live as long as they exist, and much longer than they exist in this world; for they will never feel them so strongly as when they stand before the throne of God.

Operations of the Church Missionary Society in and around the Mediterranean.

The Rev. William Jowett, well known as the literary representative of the Society, returned a second time from Malta, in the spring of last year, arriving in London about the close of May.

The following statement, in regard to the operations of the press, and the use of other means of influence, is taken from the last *Survey of Missions*, in the Missionary Register.

The Society's laborers in Malta itself are not missionaries in the sense of public preachers; yet they are missionaries in a most important sense; for they are supplying their fellow-laborers who travel far and wide with the means of communicating and perpetuating religious knowledge. In the years 1825, 1826, and 1827, the Society's press issued three millions of pages of different religious tracts and books; almost all these works were compiled and translated, with great labor, by Mr. Jowett, or under his constant superintendence,—and were carried through the press by him. The Rev. C. F. Schlieux has now joined him in the arduous work, under which, together with his extensive correspondence and general superintendence of the Society's mission, his health has so seriously suffered, that the Committee felt it to be their duty to invite him to visit home a second time for the recruiting of his strength. While in this country, he is carrying through the press a translation of the four Gospels into Maltese; which it was necessary to print in England, as the circulation of them would not be allowed in Malta if printed in that island.

The advantages, however, of printing in Malta rather than in England are decisive. The cost is less, from the comparative cheapness of living and wages—the requisite native help is procured to an extent not practicable at home—publications issued from Malta are received more freely than those printed in England—and better and more frequent opportunities of circulation offer on the spot.

On Mr. Jowett's first proceeding to the Mediterranean, a code of instructions was given to him,—which is printed in the appendix to the Society's sixteenth report. Two points were chiefly placed before him—the acquiring of information relative to the state of religion and of society, with the best means of its reformation—and the propagation of Christian knowledge by the press, by journals into