

and deadliest forms of error, with that truth which both enlightens and purifies. Happily, not only on our part, but on the part of others also, better influences are at work.—Various denominations are now exerting themselves for Australia. The Wesleyan Methodists have active labourers there.—The Independents of England are moving in this field. The United Secession Church of our own land has sent several also; and the evangelical part of the Church of England has not been idle. The venerable Bishop of Melbourne lately gave a most touching account of his own labours, and pressed his Church to send forth labourers like Whitfield and Wesley, as no others could do. Shortly after a great meeting was held in England, to raise £44,000 to endow bishoprics, and more than £3000 was collected on the spot. Surely such things should stir us up to exertion in sending forth labourers, knowing that neither their labours nor ours shall be in vain if they are in the Lord; and that all, that all of us can do do, will not nearly keep pace either with the rapid increase of the colony, or the restless activity of the agents of evil.

But we will take a narrow view of our work in Australia, if we confine it within even its own vast domain. Australia is in the wide ocean what Palestine is in the earth, as to situation. Plant a living and vigorous christian church there. Take possession of it in the name of the Lord. Let schools, and colleges, and churches rise. Let missions to the heathen, and means of their support, spring up there, with all the wealth which they have. Let printing, publishing, and circulating the Scriptures, be in full operation; and then you have means of evangelizing the world, which the world has never before seen. The millions of China—the masses of India—the hordes of Africa—the thousand isles of the South Sea—are all in close proximity to the shores of the New World. On them from it, the full power of christian exertion could be brought to bear—not in drops, as at present, but in full streams—not in distant and uncertain supply, but in combined and continuous effort—not from magazines too far removed ever to be efficient, but from magazines lodged so close to the enemy, as to afford the means of reinforcing every point, and pressing forward every advantage.

These things the Colonial Committee have sought to bear constantly in mind, when endeavoring to fulfil the solemn charge given to it by the church with respect to Australia; and we humbly hope we have in some degree been successful.—Everywhere we found our people ready to respond to our call for the extra collection, authorised by last Assembly for this purpose. In Australia itself, a similar spirit began to appear. At the very time that this church was considering how ministers might be sent, the church in Australia was consid-

ering how they might better advance the same object, and prepare for their reception. New South Wales has sent £31; Victoria, £326; making in all, £217. Nay more, at the very time when the minds of the Lord's people were awakened to the consideration of this subject, the minds of many of our most hopeful students and preachers were led to think of the claims of the colonies as a field of labour. We have found many willing to consider and respond to our call. We have actually appointed to Australia since last Assembly twenty ministers, most of whom have already taken the field, or are on their way. Three of these, the Rev. Mr. Grant, whose missionary zeal has long been known, and the Rev. Mr. M'Favish, whose devoted services in the Hercules have drawn to him the hearts of all, and the Rev. Mr. Login of Papa Westray is about to do the same. The others were ordained for this mission. Of these youthful labourers, I will venture to say that they are not unworthy of the high position given to them, or of the confidence which the Church reposes in them, by calling them to that position. They held a high place among their fellow-students at home, and we feel assured that they will take a like place among fellow labourers abroad. (Hear) But the colonists have shown their sound practical wisdom, and their intelligent sense of their own position, by often asking us to send them not only active, vigorous, and devoted young labourers, but if possible, some of longer standing and more experience—some of those who had mingled in all the scenes, and shared in all the proceedings of our Church during the ten years of her conflict, and the almost as interesting ten years of her separate existence. And very happy we are to say, that even this we have been able to do in a way which fills our hearts with wonder, and with hope also, for the future of that land. All who know aught of the Gache speaking population of our beloved country, in north, east, or west, know that their language, their trials, and sorrows, and distresses, all that concerns their relief, their comfort, their advancement, all that can and does draw the confidence, the admiration, and the love of the Highland Christian heart, stand connected with, and ever will stand connected with, the name of Dr M'Intosh M'Kay of Dunoon. All who know the peculiarities of a colonial position—the public spirit—the personal weight—the devotedness—the preaching gifts—the outgoing kindness of heart, and power of awakening the better but often dormant sympathies of our countrymen, which are so peculiarly needed, and have the pleasure also of knowing the Rev. Dr. Adam Cairns, late of Cupar, will acknowledge how largely he possesses these qualities. And these are the two brethren who, fully answering all that colonists have so earnestly desired, have agreed to leave all