

ced most abundantly the fulfilment of the consequent promise, 'the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds, through Christ Jesus.' Never did he seem, either by the cares of the world, or by the continuance of prosperity, to be disinclined to spiritual conversation, or unfitted for devotional engagements. His heart was always attuned for the exercises of thanksgiving and of supplication; and when, in the bosom of his family, he conducted their morning and evening devotions, it was indeed a privilege to surround with him the domestic altar, and to feel the glow of holy affections, kindled by the flame of hallowed fervour which pervaded the sacrifice of his lips and of his heart. His gift in prayer was characterized by unusual excellence, and could not but be regarded as the indication of a mind fully imbued with the Spirit of the Gospel, favoured with a copious effusion of Divine influence, expanding itself in all the energies of sanctified intellect, and displaying the devotional affluence acquired by frequent intercourse with heaven.

Of his engaging and attractive manners in private life, it would be difficult to convey an adequate idea to those who had not the happiness of his acquaintance. His eye beamed with benignity; in his conversation there was perfect ease and affability, and in his whole demeanour an air of unaffected and even unconscious dignity.—With all the beautiful aspect of Christian humility, he seemed to make no intentional demand on the respect of those around him, and yet every one felt it impossible to be otherwise than respectful. Every one felt it an honour as well as a pleasure to be admitted into the circle of his friends, and no one could quit his society without wishing to enjoy it again. The intelligent were attracted by his wisdom, the serious by his piety, the accomplished by his urbanity, and the young by his condescension.

If there was one feature of his character more prominent than the rest, it was his enlightened and diffusive benevolence:—love to God and love to man were the ruling principles in his heart. Happy in his own feelings, and enjoying in a peculiar degree unruffled serenity of mind, it was his predominant desire to diffuse happiness around him. How affectionately this disposition was expressed towards all the members of his own family, their bereaved hearts will never cease to testify. Never will they forget the strains of pathetic tenderness in which he said, on one occasion during his illness, while they were standing around his bed, 'In this little circle I have centered all my affections.' And yet while his conjugal and paternal affections were so lively and so strong, his feelings of genuine benevolence were confined within no limits narrower than the utmost bounds of human habitation. To every philanthropic object he was disposed to contribute on a scale of extended liberality; and whenever he relieved private distress, it was with a peculiar kindness of manner, which inexpressibly enhanced the gift; but never did he embark in the cause of charity with so much zeal or munificence, as when that charity had for its object the spiritual and immortal interests of his fellow creatures. Mr. Hardcastle was accustomed to regard it as a peculiar privilege to live at a period, in which the energies of the Christian world began to be roused in favor of the perishing heathen; and how powerfully he contributed to the excitement and right direction of that zeal was more apparent to others than to himself. His attention was first directed to the importance of Missionary efforts, by reading the periodical Reports of the Moravian Society. In connection with Mr. Wilberforce, Mr. Henry Thornton, and other philanthropists, he was a leading member of the Sierra Leone Company, actuated by an earnest desire to impart to the na-