

WBS. MISSIONARY SOCIETY.

Annual Meeting. (Concluded.)

Mr. G. A. HAMILTON, M. P. for the University of Dublin, said:—Mr. Chairman, I am happy still to have the opportunity of offering my humble testimony of the high esteem in which I hold the Christian usefulness and the Missionary exertions of the Wesleyan body. (Applause.)

Regarding the Wesleyans as essentially Missionary in their very constitution and in their character, I have always felt that it is due to them to acknowledge, that the awakening which took place during the last generation, and the consequent improvement which we now witness in respect of the state and the condition of religion, are attributable in a great degree to their Missionary exertions at that period. (Applause.)

But if those exertions were necessary at that time, believe me it will be found that they are not less necessary, and that there is no less cause to stimulate you to similar exertion, during the age in which we live. (Hear, hear.) Sir, I believe the time is coming when the great bulwarks of Christianity, which we have latterly been in the habit of supposing to be almost unassailable, are likely to be again assailed, and will have to be sternly, and firmly, and vigorously defended. (Hear, hear.)

I believe that the great enemy of mankind, and there are signs and symptoms which it behoves us to regard, is girding himself for another effort, and in proportion as his end approaching will his effort be more vigorous, more malignant, and more bold. There are symptoms also, which may lead us to suppose, that this favoured country, with all its advantages and responsibilities, may be in a great measure, the theatre of this struggle. (Hear, hear.)

The Rev. Dr. NEWTON—Sir, I rise not for the purpose of making a speech, but for the purpose of calling the attention of the meeting to two words in this resolution. The first is that very important word, "prayer."—"pray, or;" and I would that we were all in a more intimate state of mind and heart for this holy and sacred exercise. (Hear, hear.)

The Rev. Dr. BENTING—Sir, I have the pleasure to inform you that the resolution which was passed at the late meeting, relative to the appointment of a Committee of the Society, to enquire into the expediency of publishing a new edition of the Society's Minutes, has been happily effected. (Applause.)

greater points upon which as Christians they all unite. (Applause.) Not being myself a member of the Wesleyan community, I have felt it a privilege, and gratification, to attend here this day, for the purpose of telling you that I enter with all my heart into your objects, and that I wish you "God speed." The resolution which has been put into my hand points out the mode, the effectual mode, by which we weak mortals may expect to contribute towards the achievement of those vast important and eternal objects. It states

That, convinced that it is "not by might, nor by power, but by my Spirit," saith the Lord of Hosts, "that the diffusion of Christianity throughout the world is to be effected, this meeting earnestly recommends that, in connexion with a more vigorous and extensive application of the other divinely-instituted means, more earnest prayer be offered that those means may fully answer the end for which they have been appointed by the great Head of the Church. I have much pleasure in moving that resolution. (Loud applause.)

Mr. GEORGE SMITH, of Camborne, was then announced by the right hon. Chairman, who, in seconding the resolution, said:—I feel that this great and glorious work needs the support of your prayers. I am, and have been, its devoted servant for the last five and twenty years; and I assure you, therefore, that the principles which are laid down in the resolution are principles which I cordially and heartily approve of. (Loud plaudits.) It was just now said, that we cannot stay this great work; and, in the sense in which the remark was made, I quite concur in it. But, sir, the work may be stayed. Turning back the pages of history, I find that, when the first Missionary Society was started, and its agents went about the coasts of the Mediterranean, and Christian Churches studded the centre of the world's population, that even then a blasting influence did arise, and that the cause of God was stayed, and these churches were at length blotted out from the map of the world's Christianity. I know the cause of God may be stayed; but woe be to that man who attempts it. I speak now, and direct the attention of the meeting to means by which every man may associate himself with a power that can never be stayed. This resolution allies us to God, associates us with the Spirit of the Most High, unites us to the power which subdued our own souls, and made us his agents in the dissemination of the gospel throughout the world. I thank God that we have an interest in this matter, that we are allied to his Holy Spirit, and that we stand here, instruments to promote his great and glorious work.

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is, that if there were more prayer we should have more strength; that a power divine would sustain us; for there is a divine power in devotion—real devotion—which takes hold of an Almighty hand, and leans upon an omnipotent arm—and "if God be for us, who can be against us?" (Loud applause.) My conviction is, that if there were a great deal more prayer, there would be a great deal more "giving;" and that is the second word in the resolution to which I shall take the liberty of inviting your attention. If we get so interested in the cause of Christian Missions, which is the cause of the world's evangelisation, and the cause of God our Saviour, as to pray much for its success, I am sure that devotion will kindle up a light in the mind, and a fire in the heart, and that the mind being more enlightened, and the heart more abundantly warmed with heaven-descending fire, the hand will be opened, and then, if I have anything to give, there it is, and I shall give it freely and cheerfully. (Hear, hear.) O yes; whilst I pray, surely I am willing to do something for the promotion of that as an instrument in the hands of God, for which I pray. (Hear.)

I have told my friends in the country, that we are to have a good collection at this anniversary, and I trust the result will justify my expectation. I trust we shall have a noble collection. (Applause.) We have had some collections in the neighbourhood in which Providence has cast my lot, that have surprised the best friends of Missions there. My friend, Mr. Heald, who happens to be a member of my flock—and I have no cause to be ashamed of him—(hear, hear, and laughter)—knows well what "givings" we have had, and what a spirit has been manifested at some of our annual meetings. Truly it was good to be there. I hope we may always look for this; pray for this; and expect this; then these meetings will become means of grace to our souls; so that whilst we contribute to bless others, we ourselves shall be blessed. (Applause.) I know that many of you cannot remain much longer, but you would go away uncomfortable and unhappy if you had not the opportunity afforded you of giving a practical illustration of the interest which you take in this good cause. I believe you are now to have the privilege of indulging the generous impulse of your heart, and that what you give, you will cheerfully give from the right motive and the right spirit, and with an eye to the right aim;—that you will be thankful that you have anything to give, and will give it for the sake of him who gave himself for you. I heartily support the resolution. (Applause.)

The Rev. CHARLES PREST rose, and moved the following Resolution, which was seconded by the Rev. JOHN SCOTT:—That the thanks of this meeting be presented to the Ministers who have advocated the cause of the Society throughout the year; to the Treasurers, Secretaries, and Committees of all Auxiliaries and Branch Societies; to the Ladies' Associations and Committees for their zealous cooperation; to the Juvenile Societies; and especially to the Collectors of the Christmas and New Year's Offerings; and the kind friends who countenance them—for the handsome amount received from this delightful source of income; to the Missionaries, Officers, and Contributors on foreign stations, for their practical interest in the maintenance of the funds of the parent Society, in addition to the support they have afforded to their own local institutions; and to the members of other Christian communities, who have kindly aided the operations of the Society.

The following resolution was then moved by the Rev. JOHN BOWERS, of Dilsbury, and seconded by the Rev. JOSEPH LAWTON, of Leeds:—That the cordial thanks of the Society are due, and are hereby presented to the General Committee; to Thomas Farmer, Esq., and the Rev. John Scott, the General Treasurers; and to the Rev. Dr. Benting, the Rev. Dr. Beaklam, the Rev. Dr. Alder, and the Rev. Elijah Hoole, the General Secretaries, for the valuable services which they have severally rendered to the Society in the direction and management of its affairs during the past year. The resolution was carried in the affirmative.

JOHN CORNERY, Esq., moved the next resolution:—That the thanks of the Society are due to the Rev. Thomas Jackson, President of the Wesleyan Conference; the Rev. John Hinnah, D. D., of Dilsbury; the Rev. William Boyan, of Wolverhampton; and the Rev. Daniel Mac Afee, of Dublin, for their excellent Sermons preached before the Society during the Anniversary; and also to the Rev. Robert Newton, D. D.; the Rev. John Bowers; the Rev. Peter M'Osman; the Rev. John Rattenbury; the Rev. Charles Prest; the Rev. John C. L.'s private secretary, the Rev. John H. James; and the Rev. William Arthur, for their very acceptable Pulpit-Services on the same occasion. Surely, it becomes us to be thankful; and I am not sure that any of those individuals who expressed dissent to this resolution were ever so much disposed to hear the sermons to which reference was then made. (Loud cries of "hear, hear.") There is not a man who was at Lambeth Church yesterday, that would not agree in this, that the two

gentlemen, whose sanctified eloquence charmed and profited those who listened to them, are entitled to the deepest gratitude; and I am sure that there are none here who in a devout and simple-spirited spirit, heard the other sermons to which reference has been made, but must be prepared to say, that this Society is laid under obligation to these parties for the services they have thus rendered. (Cheers.) I thank you for the expression of thanks to the general committee. I happen to be a member, (cheers;) and I beg to say that, among all the committees with which I am acquainted, there is none to be found where greater respectability, and a larger amount of zeal is to be found in connection with the objects which the committee are appointed to carry out. (Cheers.) And I beg to say also, that we, as a committee challenge inquiry into our conduct. (cheers,)—we are not afraid of the light; and I beg to say further, that I have not met with a single statement, professing to be a fact, which has been brought before that committee, that has not received attention, and regard, and examination. (Hear, hear.) And I beg further to say that the committee do challenge any statement of facts, which would tend, in any degree, to derogate from their characters as Christians and honest men. They fear no test, no scrutiny, no examination, for it will be found that the more their acts are known, the better they will be appreciated, and the more satisfactory will it be to themselves. (Loud cheering.)

The Rev. JOHN HEALD, of London, seconded the resolution. Mr. FARMER, then rose and moved the resolution following, which was seconded by Mr. HEALD, and supported by the Venerable Dr. BENTING:—That the very cordial and respectful thanks of the Society are due to the Right Honourable Fox Maule, M.P., for the great kindness and ability with which he has conducted the business of this meeting. The vote of thanks was then put to the meeting by Dr. BENTING, and carried unanimously amidst great applause. The CHAIRMAN returned thanks, and the Rev. Dr. NEWTON closed the proceedings with a Prayer and the Benediction.

EDUCATION.

Educational Meetings, &c. CONCLUDED.

To aid in a profitable selection of subjects, I beg leave to present for the consideration of teachers, the following summary of topics. Preparation which a teacher should daily make for his duties.

The responsibility and honourable character of his position.
Requisites for success in teaching, and most frequent causes of failure.
Course to be pursued in organizing schools, and best order of exercises.
The necessity of fixed rules for the management of a school, and of making these fully known to the pupils.
The utility and best mode of keeping a daily register of the errors and merits of pupils, and of sending a monthly report to the parents.
The reciprocal duties of Trustees, parents and teachers.

Importance of attention to the morals, cleanliness, and neatness of pupils.
Means of preventing unnecessary injury to School-houses, furniture or books.
Causes which impair the health and comfort of pupils, and their remedies.

Arrangement and length of Recesses and Intervals, and their adaptation to pupils of different ages.
Discipline of the School, and best means of maintaining it without corporal punishment, or appeals to bad passions.
Use and abuse of prizes, rewards, and emulation.

Methods of teaching: Individual, Simultaneous, Monitorial, Heuristic, Analytic, &c. Means of keeping up attention.
Employment of general exercises, intellectual or physical, to enliven and interest the pupils.
Best modes of teaching reading and spelling.
Grammar, arithmetic, geography, &c.
Means of introducing Agricultural Chemistry, and its uses.

Practicality of introducing Natural Philosophy and Physiology in its application to health, and in the schools.
Use of History, Spelling, and Drawing lessons.
Causes of Mental Weakness, and experience of Remedies therefor.
The playground, and its uses, in all the grades of instruction.
The manner of conducting Descriptions, and how to make them profitable.

July 6. The Rev. Dr. Benting, in his address to the meeting, spoke of the state of religion in the West of England, and of the progress of the Wesleyan Society in that part of the country. He mentioned the names of several of the ministers who had laboured in the field of the Gospel, and of the converts who had been made.

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