

voted, will impart to them a stability and a brightness of which he had formerly deemed them incapable. A conviction is fast obtaining, that works on missions, will shortly become one of the most popular, as they are doubtless one of the most valuable, departments of our national literature. The subject, carefully examined, will be found possessed of powerful claims to the acquaintance and support of the prince and of the peasant, of men of genius and erudition, and of the comparatively uneducated and illiterate; since, on the one hand, it meets us attired in the garb of honourable antiquity, and, on the other invested with the charms and attractions of novelty, like the great orb of day, on which we are wont to gaze from infancy to old age, with feelings of undiminished admiration and delight. From the annals of the missionary may be obtained the most correct views of the customs, habits, and social condition of the most interesting nations on the face of the globe. Thence, we may trace their transition from a state of barbarism, anarchy and vice, to one of civilization, political economy, and Christian morality. "Where'er they go, (says an eloquent writer,) knowledge goes with them; tyranny sinks before them; in their magnificent progress they abate the calamities of nature, they plant the desert, they civilize the savage; they strike off the fetters of the slave: in short, the spirit which animates them breathes at once, 'Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will towards men.'" From them, also, we may learn,—and this constitutes the climax and the reward of their labours,—how the most difficult and barbarous languages have been mastered, and the word of God translated into the vernacular tongues and circulated in Pagan countries; together with the blessed effects of the preaching of that word, in the subjection of the hearts of heathens of every kindred, clime, and colour, to the authority of Jehovah, and the conformity of their lives to the image of the Son of God. Information so deeply interesting, and so unspeakably important, viewed in connection with the destiny, both as to time and eternity, of myriads of immortal beings, may be obtained with facility, by adding a *Missionary Department to Loan Libraries*, where they are found; and where they are not, by forming a *Mission Library* for the use of the members. The latter measure is now in operation, and the former is about to be carried into effect by more than one Christian society. The general adoption, in substance, of such a measure, would not only excite a livelier interest in the cause of missions, and give rise to plans of greater usefulness; but, were a time fixed for the exchange of books, immediately before or after the monthly missionary prayer-meeting, it might tend to increase the number of faithful suppliants. An enlarged acquaintance with the state of the heathen, and with the peculiar circumstances of the devoted missionary band, could scarcely fail of rendering their supplications more definite and ardent; and we have ample ground for concluding that the whole process of God's dispensation of mercy to a ruined world is intimately connected with fervent and united prayer.

The substantial miseries and appalling prospects of six hundred millions of heathens call loudly for the hallowed sympathy and vigorous efforts of the Christian church; and peculiarly for those of the rising generation, whose duty and privilege it is to stand prepared for the grand crisis fast approaching, in which are bound up the life and salvation of a universe. Surely that interesting section of society, on whom are fixed the hopes of the church, and the eyes of an expectant world, cannot, at a time like this, rest satisfied with the transient excitement of the passions, the offering of a few indefinite prayers, with a scanty and precarious contribution; and thus, preferring their own ease and gratification, leave the heathen to perish! Let them rather, in a spirit of holy ardour, throw their youthful energies into that sublime and benevolent cause which embraces the glory of the

Saviour, and the recovery of an apostate world. Let them bind themselves by the three-fold cord of ardent prayer, self-denying effort, and liberal contribution, to "the sacramental host of God's elect," in their onward march to bow the nations to the sceptre of Emmanuel:—then shall their hearts be purified, enlarged, ennobled; they shall begin, as it were a new life, "and their days shall be as the days of heaven upon the earth:" the joy of angels, and the joy of God's salvation, shall sustain and cheer them throughout their earthly pilgrimage, and the dark valley of the shadow of death shall be irradiated by the bright vision of a ransomed universe prostrate at the feet of the Redeemer, and reposing securely under the shadow of his cross.

The following List, from a number of valuable missionary works, is appended simply with the view of affording some assistance to those who may be disposed to adopt either of the plans suggested, but may not be familiar with the publications issued on this interesting subject.

Brown's History of Missions, 2nd edition, in 2 vols.; Smith's ditto, 2 vols.; William's Missionary Gazetteer; Church Missionary Society's Register 24 vols.; Ditto Record; Transactions of the Missionary Society, (London,) 2 vols.; Notices of the Wesleyan Methodist Missionary Society, 7 vols.; London Missionary Society's Chronicle; Sermons preached before the Missionary Society, 6 vols.; Baptist Missionary Society's Herald; Periodical Account of the United Brethren Society's Missions; Christianity the means of Civilization, shown in evidence before a Committee of the House of Commons; The Spirit of British Missions, Ch. M. S.; Hough's Missionary Vade-mecum, ditto; Horne's Letters on Missions; Ward's Farewell Letters; Swan's Letters on Missions; Douglas's (of Canada) Hints on Missions; Dr. Duff's Discourses; Hall and Newell's Appeal; Brown's Memorial; Success of Danish Missionaries in the East, (Society for Propagation of the Gospel, 1718); Dr. Buchanan's Researches; Pearson's Prize Essay on Christianizing India; Ditto Life of Dr. Buchanan, 2 vols.; Ditto Life of Schwartz, 2 vols.; Sargeant's Life of Martyn; Journal and Correspondence of Henry Martyn, 2 vols.; Sargeant's Life of Thomason; Memoirs of Bishop Middleton; Ditto of Bishop James; Ditto of Bishop Turner; Life of Bishop Heber; Ward's History of Hindoostan, 2 vols.; Carey's Memoir of Dr. Carey; Life of Ward; Ditto of Dr. Morrison; Hoole's Personal Narrative; Memoir of Tite Cloze; Life of Sargeant (Missionary to the Mauritius); Memoir of Gordon Hall; Harvard's Narrative of the Ceylon Mission; Ditto Memoir of Mrs. Harvard; Memoir of Mrs. Clough, by Dr. A. Clarke; Memoir of Mrs. Winslow, and Sketch of the Ceylon Mission; Judson's Burman Mission; Knowles's Life of Mrs. Judson; Memoir of Harriet Newell; Life of Boardman, American Missionary to Burma; Abel's China; Gutzlaff's Three Voyages; Milne's China; Men-hurst's China—its state and prospects; Preparing for the Press, Gutzlaff's China opened; William's Missionary Enterprises in the South Seas; Ellis's Polynesian Researches; Ditto Life of Mrs. Ellis; Stewart's South Sea Mission; Yates's New Zealand; Dr. Coke's History of the West Indies, 3 vols.; Life of Dr. Coke; Watson's Defence of West India Missions; Marsden's Narrative of the Summer Isles; Humphries' Historical Account of Society for Propagation of Gospel in the British Colonies, 1730; Life of Brainerd; Ditto of Elliot; Loskiel's Moravian Missions in North America; Wix's Missionary Journal; Memoirs of Van der Kemp; Campbell's Travels in South Africa, 2 vols.; Kay's Researches in ditto; Memoir of Mrs. A. Hodgson; Moravian Missions in South Africa; (Dublin); Gardiner's History of the Zoolu country; Gobat's Abyssinia; Jowatt's Researches in the Levant, 2 vols.; Hartley's Researches in Greece; Hardy's Notices of the Holy Land; Life of Barber; Memoirs of Parsons, American Missionary to Holy Land; Toase's French Mission; Memoir of Mrs. Patterson; Ditto of Mrs. Stallybrass; Moravian Missions in Greenland; (Dublin); Ditto in Labrador; (Dublin); Missionary Records of Religious Foreign Society, 6 vols.; Carne's Lives of Eminent Protestant Missionaries; Ditto Lives of Eminent Catholic Missionaries.