

tory as a free gift from Providence? How could we more appropriately recognize this gift, than by consecrating it to freedom? than by making it the ransom-price from slavery of all the chattelized human beings in the Union? Wherein and how could they contribute more to the true dignity, harmony, and well-being of the nation? If not thus appropriated in advance, they will be alienated from the Federal Government altogether. They will be frittered away in sectional bribes, or sources of Executive patronage, and thus become capital for political corruption,—the pension-money for partisan warfare. This is the very moment to arrest this squandering process, and to appropriate what remains of this public domain to some great object connected with the peace and prosperity of the whole nation. The act, or even the certainty of emancipation, would greatly enhance the value of the public lands in all the slave States; thus producing the revenue necessary to accomplish the magnificent enterprise.

The only action which would be necessary to ask Congress to take in this matter at the outset, would be—To make a provision by law, that whenever any State of the Union, in which slavery now exists, shall decree the emancipation of all slaves, and the abolition of involuntary servitude, except for crime, within its borders, an exact enumeration shall be made, and for each and every slave thus emancipated, there shall be paid from the National Treasury to such State, for equitable distribution among the slaveholders, a certain sum of money, to be ascertained as Congress may direct; and that the next revenue from all the future sales of public lands, shall be appropriated exclusively to the emancipation of all the slaves in the United States in this manner.

The prerogative of each individual State to retain or abolish slavery, remains untouched by the Congressional enactment proposed. Not the slightest form or aspect of Federal compulsion is assumed towards it sovereignty. The Central Government only makes a generous offer to each and every Southern State simultaneously. It leaves that State in the freest exercise of its sovereign will to accept or reject that offer. If it accepts, then the stipulated sum of money is paid to its appointed agent by the Government. That money is distributed by the State receiving it in its own way.

Although this offer were made to all the Southern States individually, it is quite certain that they would not accept it simultaneously. One State, after some hesitation, would lead the way, and be followed one after the other by the rest. Doubtless the one containing the smallest number of slaves would be the first to try the experiment of emancipation. This would be Delaware, which has only about 2000 at this moment. These, at \$250 per head, would only amount to \$500,000. The whole revenue from the Public lands in 1856 was \$11,497,000. The odd dollars of this sum above eleven millions, would have freed Delaware from Slavery. By the census of 1850, Arkansas had about 47,000 slaves. Thus the income from the public lands last year would have emancipated all these human beings, and have added Arkansas to the Free States of the Union. The surplus revenue now in the Treasury of the United States, mostly derived from these lands, would emancipate all the slaves in Missouri. We might go on in this way, freeing a slave State once in two years, without adding to the taxation of the Union.

THE MISSIONARY HEROES.

The following notices of this valuable Book have

not heretofore appeared in the *Tribune*, except on the covers—

From the President of Wesleyan Conference, Canada.

In an age of religious enterprise it is animating to the faith and love of all interested in the advancement of the Redeemer's Kingdom, to witness the consecration of high genius and talent to the holy work of an Evangelist. "*Missionary Heroes and Martyrs*" is a book of transcendent value, as presenting a choice selection from the different branches of the Church Catholic, men of noble powers and mature spiritual attainments, labouring for the world's conversion, some of them extraordinary manifestations of the Divine Wisdom. In Asia, Africa, and other climes, they successfully raised the standard of the cross, most of them laying their bones far away from the land of their fathers, where they had laid the foundation of church institutions to rise in growing majesty to the end of time.

The subject and elegance of its literary and mechanical execution commend the Book to all, and especially to the youth of our churches, who are called upon to carry on the work of Missions so gloriously commenced by the fathers "who have fallen asleep." I very cordially commend it to the patronage of all who delight in Religious Biography.

ENOCH WOOD,

From a Minister of the M. E. Church.

CLOVER HILL, TORONTO.

Dear Sir,—The work entitled "*Heroes and Martyrs of the Modern Missionary Enterprise*" is, in my opinion, well worthy the patronage of the Christian community, as tending most directly to foster the missionary spirit and provoke to emulation.

If "the memory of the Just be blessed," we cannot too fondly cherish the remembrance of those noble souls who in our own day and generation, have, by their zeal, sacrifices and self-denial, afforded living examples of what devoted men can accomplish.

Yours in the bonds of the Gospel,

J. RICHARDSON,

From the Missionary and Ecclesiastical Record.

MISSIONARY HEROES AND MARTYRS.—This handsome and elegantly got up volume contains succinct but comprehensive Memoirs of the principal Missionaries, British and American, who have been distinguishable in the missionary field. Separate memoirs of most of these servants of Christ have been published, but here they are grouped and brought within the reach of those whose time and means may prevent their possessing and perusing large works. We believe the circulation of such a work to be well adapted to deepen the interest of Christians generally in the work of missions.

THE HALTON ACADEMY.

The citizens of Georgetown, months ago, offered the Rev. M. McVicar, of this city, a guarantee of forty-five regular students, and a purse of five hundred pounds, if he would open such a Commercial and Academic Institution, in their neighbourhood, as they knew he was capable of founding. The terms have been accepted by Mr. McVicar, who has now two other competent and experienced educationists associated with him in co-partnership. A spacious brick edifice is already in progress. The contract binds the builders to have it finished in September next. The institution is to be in full operation in October. The building in progress will have room for between thirty and forty boarding students in addition to those already engaged. Let parents apply in time.