

to create an advanced Connexional opinion with reference to needed enterprises which the Connexional courts and authorities are usually the last to originate. He was an early friend, and is becoming the wise promoter and moulder of lay delegation in the British Conference. The fear of the charge of "precipitancy," "loss of dignity," "novelty," or "crotchetyness," terms usually applied liberally to any one who has a foresight beyond his compeers, and a true greatness, that will make condescending advances and timely concessions, did not withhold his hand from casting abroad the tract embracing an overture for the unity of Methodism in Ireland, where it was most cruelly enfeebled by division, a measure which is just now presenting its ripened fruit to the delighted taste of all union-loving Christians.

Whence such a man came? What were the impulses and influences which gave origin and shape to his upward and onward course? What were the offices he has filled? The positions of influence he has occupied? What the trials which brought out the pure gold of his character until he reached the elevated pedestal where he now stands?—are questions not only innocently curious and of great value, because of their instructiveness, but questions which we have only slender materials for answering, yet materials which we must essay to collect and present in a very summary form; and if we should not present them at all, it would not detract from the sublime moral spectacle displayed in the public and private character of the Rev. WILLIAM ARTHUR, M.A.

In 1819, a child was born in the County of Antrim, Ireland—a friend of ours, who claimed to know him in boyhood and to have witnessed his conversion, says, of Presbyterian parents, which, if true, would not make against his having been the subject of proper instruction and discipline in childhood. He is said to have been tasteful and studious and to have loved poetry. He was never large of stature, and was rather *petite* in boyhood. He was converted at sixteen among the Methodists, whose theology expanded his mind and heart beyond the limitarian creed in which he had been brought up. A distinguished Irish visitor to this country told us, some years ago, that from want of hymnic lore, the boy-convert pointed his first relation of experience by a passage from Tom Moore's "Lalla Rhook." He