

pulling down of some temple of idolatry and pride into ruin and oblivion.

The minister whose name heads this paper may be classed amongst those extraordinary men of whom we write—one of the many such with which the Master has been pleased to enrich that section of his people who are called Methodists.

He was born in the year 1798, in Preston, England, of godly and intelligent parents, and solemnly dedicated by his father to the work of the ministry at the time of his birth. . . The advantages of a godly training at home, and of five years' study in a school conducted by a pious Moravian were his; and, we doubt not, were conducive to that inter-penetration of his mind with religious impressions and ideas, to which he owed that spontaneous aptitude for religious thought which afterwards distinguished him as a public worker for God. Our subject appears to have been precocious in his development, for we find him teaching a night school at the age of twelve; before his fifteenth year he fills a position of clerk in a mercantile establishment, conducting correspondence in the French language, book-keeping, and managing serious financial matters. His biographer says: "At fifteen he seemed to possess the experience of a person advanced in life."

At about this time the family removed to Dublin, in which city his rare talents and engaging manners drew around him a class of associates whose influence led him into scenes of dissipation, which were alternated with times of keenest remorse and tearful repentance. Ah! the strength of such temptations surrounding a youth of gushing sympathy and ardent soul, is often forgotten by those sober cynics who shake the head in condemnation of youthful folly, while they ignore the heat of youthful blood, and the eager outlook of youthful enthusiasm. But believing prayer at length received its answer. While in one of his seasons of remorse a Christian friend meets him on the street, invites him to a prayer-meeting, and before the meeting closes his remorse gives way to salvation; he passes from "death unto life;" he becomes converted. And now a new era begins, not only in his inward experience, but also in his whole character. For the depth and genuineness of the change was quickly evinced