

the work is before the public, and that all who read it feel a deeper affection for our departed friends, besides receiving a new stimulus to their own devotional feelings, we rejoice that these precious materials which Mr. Patterson has arranged and used with so much judgment, have not been left comparatively unknown in the cabinets of relatives.

The Book is written in a fine spirit, and none will rise from the perusal of it, without feeling a deeper interest in the missionary cause than they ever felt before. It certainly presents the *dark side* of missionary life but this arises from peculiar circumstances. The most of the parties introduced were invalids, and they were connected with the mission at the most trying period of its history. It is well however, that the Church should know the trials and disappointments, as well as the encouragements, of her Missionaries.

We think christian parents throughout the Church would do well to place these Memoirs in the hands of their young people. They will have a charm, or we are mistaken even for our children, while the more advanced minds of our young men and women will follow with deep interest the details of Mr. Johnston's early life, religious convictions, aspirations, and efforts—efforts earnest and persevering, to serve the Lord God of his fathers, first by a life of piety, and next in the ministry of His Son, and in the glorious work of Missions. We confess that we have followed Mr. Johnston's Diary from first to last not only with sustained interest, but with an increasing appreciation of the "excellent spirit" which was in him, and our prayer is, and will be, that these Memoirs may prove mighty in their influence on the hearts of youth generally, but especially on the hearts of our students, literary and theological.

Mr. Matheson's early life, his devotion of himself to Missionary work and his persevering determination to occupy his post of difficulty and of danger on Tana, while sinking under the inroads of a wasting malady, constitute a significant and an affecting record, while in all christian efforts on behalf of the benighted Tannese, he was equalled

if not surpassed by his heroic partner. To us there seems to be something truly charming about the character and life of Mary Johnston Matheson. Her letters to the dear ones at home breathing so much of sanctified affection, appear to us gems, rare, pure, and beautiful; and after perusing them we are no longer surprised at the following testimony to her Christian worth from the pen of Rev. A. Murray in his work on *Polyneesian Missions*. "As a virtual martyr to the Tannese Mission may she be regarded!—And worthy was she of the honour! Seldom has an offering of richer promise been laid on the Missionary altar. But she has gone to unfold her fair character in a more congenial clime. For *her* we mourn not, but for the poor Tannese for whose sake she suffered so much. May the God of mercy pity *them*, and send forth others who shall love and pray for them, as did Mary J. Matheson. And may her example stir up not a few to follow her self-denying and glorious course. Through tribulation and death she followed her Saviour to the Kingdom and the crown."

We have only to add that the work is handsomely embellished with pictorial illustrations, numerous and excellent, and in every respect well got up, so that we understand little profit will accrue to the Author if every volume of the edition were disposed of. While in the main correctly printed, the Author requests us to notice the following typographical errors as obscuring the meaning of some sentences:—

Page 17, line 10th from bottom, for "love to God" read "love to God's word."

28, line 12, for *vi.* 4. 5. 39, read *vi.* 4. 5. xxxix.

49, line 13, for "displeases" read "displeases God."

72, line 17, for "causes of conduct" read "courses of conduct."

74, line 3, for "reasons" read "seasons."

147, line 6 from bottom, for "Page 42" read "page 141."

157, line 3, for "Matt." read "Mal."

178, line 15 from bottom, for "notice" read "realize."

345, line 2 from bottom, word Longitude omitted before number 149.

372, line 17, for "1854" read "1852."

424, line 11, for "faltering" read "flattering."