

Conference in British America, and Dr. Beecham's intended journey; and among many ardent statements made by him is this, "The Thermopyle of Christianity is Ireland." Dr. Bunting was the seconder, and the terseness and appropriateness of his observations, and his reminiscences of Gideon Ousley, and of Irish Methodism, make us wish he had said much more. His lengthened testimony, after twenty years of official connexion in the Missionary Secretaryship, to the excellencies and abilities of Dr. Beecham was admirably borne: "I know of no other man—I speak, I may say, without any disrespect to any other man, but I know no man so fit to undertake such a Mission, by the blessing of God, in association with our excellent Missionaries there, to bring it to a happy and favourable conclusion." Dr. Beecham, greatly affected, remarked on the kindness of the Meeting, and the responsibility of his undertaking, and asked its prayers for his success. The motion of thanks to the officers of the Society having passed unanimously, the Rev. Thomas Jackson in moving for thanks to the Chairman, observed, "I have been young; but now am old. I have had the privilege for considerably more than thirty years, with one or two exceptions, of attending all the Annual Meetings of the Society; but never did I see the chair at any former meeting occupied with greater ability than it has been occupied this day." General Alexander, Captain Fishbourne, and several ministers and gentlemen spoke very ably at the exciting Breakfast Meeting for China, and the contributions were large.

The most important speech—at least to us—was delivered by the Rev. John Farrar, President of the Conference, and we shall give part of it. We had marked, too, a Rarotonga Missionary's speech.

The President said,—I am very glad, Mr. Chairman, that the resolution which I am called upon to move, refers to this great subject, the influence of the Holy Spirit and the importance of prayer for the success of our work. I hold in my hand, Sir, a pamphlet,—which I am very glad to have the opportunity of introducing to this large assemblage. I can hardly tell you who is the author of this pamphlet, but I can tell you whose names are appended to it. They are the names of about fifty of the most eminent Ministers and members of the Evangelical Churches in the three kingdoms, and that pamphlet contains a proposal, or an appeal, to all the Evangelical Churches on the subject of united prayer. There are Ministers, and there are laymen, connected with the Church of Christ, who have arrived at the deep conviction, that what we want now is not so much money, not so much appeals to our fellow Christians, as power from on high. This is the great want of the Church at the present time;—(hear, hear;)—and I will take the opportunity on this occasion, Mr. Chairman, to put before you and the meeting two or three

facts on which these Ministers and gentlemen ground their appeal to the Christian communities of this kingdom. They say that there are circumstances of a peculiar character, which render their invitation, more especially at this time, seasonable and necessary, and they proceed to state those circumstances. They refer to the peculiar and convulsed state of the continental nations of Europe previous to the rise of the present war; they refer us also to the circumstances of our beloved country,—to the Romish Apostacy, to Tractarianism, the pioneer of Rome, and to the different forms of subtle and insidious error which are making unquestionable progress throughout this land; they refer to the peculiar state of our colonial possessions; and they especially refer us to China, and express their opinion that that country demands at the present time special regard and separate notice in our prayers. Their appeal contains other points, but their proposal is simply this,—that, commencing to-morrow, all Christians shall engage that they will spend some part of each day of the next year, from May the first to May the first, in private