

POETRY.

THE SABBATH DAY.

Years now have passed, and ages rolled away,
 Since that eventful and illustrious day,
 When our triumphant Saviour first arose,
 And captive led all his malicious foes,
 By every Christian it is held as blessed—
 A day of peace, a day of hallowed rest.
 With pious thoughts and ardent hearts they go
 To worship God in temples here below.
 Ah! what delight, what joy when I behold
 The pastor to his listening flock unfold
 The sacred end for which it was designed—
 The love and kindness of the Almighty mind.
 And when dismissed, to view them homewards tread
 In silence, while they think on Him who shed
 His blood to save them from impending death,
 And prayed for them with his expiring breath,
 Night draws apace—all nature seems at ease;
 The songsters mute, while the calm zephyr breeze,
 With lulling influence invites the mind,
 For holy contemplation first designed,
 To think of that blessed day which knows no end,
 And which the righteous shall with Jesus spend
 In realms of glory, ever bright and fair,
 And which the Saviour doth for all prepare,
 Who, having followed him while here on earth,
 Have undergone the new, the second birth.
 There all who meekly bore disease and pain,
 Shall live for ever, and for ever reign.
 There too, the martyr whom the church reveres,
 Shall be, and God shall wipe away his tears.
 There sons and daughters, who on earth have trod
 The same rough path, and loved their fathers' God,
 Shall meet in that blessed land to part no more,
 And with increasing praise their God adore.
 And parents, too, with children dear shall meet,
 And fall in worship at their Saviour's feet;
 While through eternity they'll ever sing,
 The song of triumph to their heavenly King.

Scottish Guardian.

MISSIONARY INTELLIGENCE.

PASTORAL ADDRESS.

The following letter will be read with deep interest. It has been prepared in terms of a resolution of the last General Assembly: "The General Assembly express their high approbation of the conduct of the missionaries in India, under the varied trying circumstances in which they have been placed; and their thankfulness to God for his preserving care, his gracious direction, and the blessing bestowed on the means employed; and they direct that a Pastoral Letter from the Assembly be addressed to the branch of our Church in India." In a manner worthy of the cause to which it relates, of the source from which it emanates, and of the devoted men to whom it is sent, this address gives expression to the feelings of affectionate sympathy with which the Church at home regards her little army of soldiers who are fighting the battle of the Cross abroad. The sending of such a letter is the discharge of a great duty on the part of the Church;—the receiving of it must tend, by the blessing of God, greatly to revive and encourage the hearts of those who, in a foreign and idolatrous land, are spending their strength for Christ.—*Home and Foreign Missionary Record.*

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND TO THE MISSIONARIES OF THIS CHURCH IN INDIA, with all the Ministers and Elders of the same Communion in the Presidencies of Calcutta, Madras, and Bombay.

DEARLY BELOVED BRETHREN,

On receiving the Report of our Committee for propagating the Gospel in foreign parts, we have felt ourselves constrained by a strong sense of duty to express our high approbation of the manner in which the Missionary enterprise to which that Report related, has been forwarded by all of you, under the multiplied and varied trials to which it has been exposed; and we have united in offering our fervent thanks to God for the gracious visitation by which you have been sustained and directed, and for the abundant blessings which have already descended on your labours.

While we ascribe all the glory of your success to the Lord of the harvest, it is incumbent on us, as fellow-helpers to the truth, especially to encourage, after a godly sort, those who for His name's sake, have gone forth, taking nothing of the Gentiles, for whose souls they have been willing very gladly to spend and to be spent. May the Lord himself give you souls for your hire, and multitudes of converts redeemed by His precious blood, and your joy!

We have deeply with you during the whole protracted undertaking; encompassed as you by difficulties, perplexities, and perils, hearts less strong in the faith would have desisted. While the fields which are now yet in their greenness, and before a corn sown in tears had been reaped in joy, despise the day of small things. When the magnitude of the enterprise and the inadequacy of the means provided for its ment, we might indeed be tempted to sit are these among so many? but all such variations and carnal reasonings were checked by the divine declaration, "Not by my power, but by my Spirit, saith the Lord."

It has been of surprise to us to hear of the formidable in which you have been involved, and of the desperate efforts which have been put forth to frustrate the great work in which you have so bravely and strenuously engaged. It is no new thing on the earth that men should prefer darkness to that they should account those their enemies who tell them the truth. From the moment the Church contemplated the design of promulgating the Gospel of the grace of God among the natives of India, attempts were made—even in the most friendly to Christianity—to paralyse our efforts by telling us how hopelessly impracticable a scheme must prove, which aims at the introduction of the doctrines of the Scripture among a people whose whole institutions, manners, and are incorporated with ancient superstitions so ancient and tenacious, that the renunciation of their obnoxious would be equivalent to an annihilation of all the human ties by which they have been linked to kindred, and friends, and even to the love of their own fleshly existence of such difficulties you were fully aware; but they did not wear so appalling an aspect as to tempt you to stagger at the power of God, who sustains the spirit and the strength who commit their way to Him. You never expostulated with the establishment in the perilous path before you, unless in answer to the profane boldness of the lion with the wisdom of the serpent and the harmlessness of the dove; and in your lives the irresistible force of perfect love which casteth out fear, and that which is the hope which defies and disarms all opposition. You counted the cost, not according to the old cautious rules of human calculation, but in the guidance of Him who, having all power in heaven and in earth, enforced the command to teach nations by the promise, "Lo! I am with you unto the end of the world;" and why this irrevocable promise of His perpetual presence, has encouraged all who are to be his witnesses in the uttermost parts of the earth, to arrive at this joyful conclusion, "If the Lord our Redeemer be with us, who or what can prevail against us?" And when, with all such ideal alarms as should make an impression on those who, having faith as a grain of mustard seed, act on the conviction that to them not the removal of a mountain shall be impossible because they can do all things through Christ strengthening them. "Who art thou, then, O great man? Before Zerubbabel thou shalt become a pile." You are not to be deterred from your holy and heroic purposes by being told of long cherished and invincible prejudices; or of the temporal privileges which the possessors, in the pride and blindness of their hearts, esteem so precious that they would rather forfeit life than relinquish what they account the honour of their name. Is there, in the attempt to surmount these difficulties, anything more revolting to flesh and blood than what is implied in putting out a right eye, or cutting off a right hand,—in denying ourselves,—in taking up the cross, in counting all things but loss for the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus our Lord,—in hating father and mother, and brethren and sisters, and even our own lives? Have we any reason to conclude that in these latter days the yoke of Christ is to be easier, and his burden lighter to such as come after him, than it was to the chosen few to whom he showed himself alive after his passion by many infallible proofs, and to whom he gave grace and apostleship for obedience to the truth among all nations? Surely these solemn words are not obliterated from the volume of his book: "He that loveth father and mother more than me is not worthy of me; and he that loveth son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me; and he that taketh not up his cross and followeth me is not worthy of me." Nor has the faithful and true Witness revoked the holy promises addressed to them who overcome and keep his works unto the end. We had you therefore be of good cheer, because, if you have the mercy of the Lord to be found faithful, the Master will make you more than conquerors. You serve will confidently

hope that you will not cease from the conflict against the rulers of the darkness of this world, till all the idols shall be utterly abolished; and they who in time past were not a people, shall be made a name and a praise among all people of the earth. By your zeal, activity, and steadfastness in the years wherein you have been enduring hardness; you have proved that you are not of them who set limits to the Holy One of Israel, as if his arm were shortened that it cannot help as in the days of old, when it was gloriously revealed in pulling down strong-holds, and every thing that exalted itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ. You are not of them who have ever drawn back, or even listened to the discouraging insinuation that the times and seasons are not favourable for the holy and benevolent work of enlightening the dark places of the earth; and you have already had such ample experience of the exceeding greatness of the power of God in confirming the word of his servants, and performing the counsel of his messengers, that our hope of you is steadfast; knowing that you will hold on your way, waxing stronger and stronger, till you finish your course with joy.

Great as has been our satisfaction in reflecting on the faithful and successful labours of those who have so cheerfully borne the burden and heat of the day in the capacity of Christian missionaries, we cannot for a moment forget the inestimable services of our brethren the ministers and elders in communion with our Church; who, though primarily appointed to the charge of a portion of the British population, have also most efficiently contributed to the triumphant issue of the missionary cause. Brethren, we heartily rejoice in all the good which you have been the happy instruments of accomplishing. Your countrymen and ours have borne witness to your labours of love, to which, through the divine blessing, they are so greatly indebted for the prosperity of their souls.—We trust that you will long continue to see the manifest tokens of the Divine good pleasure multiplying around you; and that your hearts will be more and more refreshed by the experience of the exercise of winning souls, and ministering to the heirs of salvation. We have had good cause for admiring and commending your care for the churches with which you are specially connected; and we have been fully satisfied that you have in no respect been chargeable with keeping back from your peculiar flocks any thing that was profitable unto them; but, on the contrary, that their provision has been more abundantly blessed; while casting your bread on the waters, you have given a portion to seven and also to eight,—in the morning sowing the seed, and in the evening not withholding your hands, that peace might be proclaimed to them who were far off as well as to them that were near. Thus, instant in season and out of season, enlarging the place of your tent, and lengthening your cords on the right hand and on the left, you have found that the stakes of your habitation have not been weakened, but increased in strength; and your labour has prospered the more among your kinsmen according to the flesh, while they have seen how mightily the Word of God has grown and prevailed among the sons of the stranger. We are sure that your work has been rewarded, while in watering others you have been watered yourselves, so as to grow in grace and in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. And we are not less confident, that by persevering in the course in which you have hitherto proceeded, holding forth the word of life, you will have cause to rejoice in the day of Christ that you have not run in vain, neither laboured in vain.

May the God of all grace, who hath called us into his eternal glory by Christ Jesus, after that ye have suffered a while, make you perfect, establish, strengthen, and settle you. To him be glory and dominion for ever. Amen.

Given at Edinburgh this 25th day of May 1840.

ANGUS MAKELLAR, Moderator.
JOHN LEE, Cl. Eccl. Scot.

INTERESTING EXTRACTS.

THE CRUCIFIXION.

The morning sun shone forth and lighted up the polished marble and rich ornaments of Jerusalem's Temple, and glanced on the domes of the palaces of wealth; the innumerable inhabitants of the Holy City were astir and eagerly assembling to behold some novel and attractive scene; they move onward, and as they go, we learn the object of their intense interest. In varied forms of expression we hear the language of denunciation and of malignant triumph. There is a company of Priests with their flowing vestments not engaged in ministering at the altar of the Most High, but expressing their gratification that their plans were to be consummated in the ignominious death of Him who had dared to charge them with hypocrisy, and expostulate with them for superseding