

FOREIGN MISSIONS.

MR. JOHNSTON'S JOURNAL.

ON BOARD THE SHIP "HERBERT."

December 1st, 1859.

We embarked on board the Ship "Herbert." It was with peculiar feelings that we viewed the receding shores of the North American Continent—the land of liberty, the home of the pilgrim, the asylum of the oppressed. We are to see *thee* no more! Farewell, *then*, native land. May the Great God ever continue to bless thee. While the natural sun continues to shine upon thy rocks, streams, vales, and templed hills, may "the Sun of righteousness arise with healing in his wings," and shine upon thy sons and daughters, diffusing into their souls those graces which constitute that "fulness which dwells in Christ bodily." May the King that reigns on Salem's towers *ever* reign in thy cities, towns, villages, and rural scenes—may He be revered and adored in thy Legislative Halls, in thy courts of justice, and wherever thy people meet, may His gracious presence be sought and His power felt. May his Gracious Spirit and Blessed Word mould the character of thy civil institutions, social customs, and religious ordinances. O may the Good Spirit animate thy masses with his quickening, life-giving influences. May the Great Parent of the universe prosper thee in all thy secular interests, rebuke the devourer, stay the pestilence, check the blast, and make thee a delightful land while sun and moon continue to shine upon thy vales, hills and streams.

Farewell, dear friends, we *now* more than ever realise that we shall see your faces no more in the flesh. Oh! that we could extend our arms across the mighty deep, and give our friends in Cape Breton, Prince Edward's Island, and Nova Scotia a warm shake of the hand as an expression of our feelings of gratitude and affection. But this we cannot do. Farewell, then, for time. We shall not, we cannot forget your kindness—you in whose dwellings our weary, pilgrimed bodies have found sweet rest and shelter; you at whose tables we have been refreshed; you from whom we have received kind words of

sympathy, encouragement and counsel; you who have done so much to forward us in our work. May He who rewards a cup of cold water given in thy name, richly reward you and bless you, and make you more and more value the consolations of that Gospel which you are labouring to disseminate through the world. Farewell, reverend fathers, who stand at the holy altars and minister in sacred things, and upon whom the prosperity and happiness of our native land, under God, depend. May you all be mightily stirred up to take hold upon your Master's name and to give him no peace, day nor night, until He has established Jerusalem and made her a praise in all the earth. Dear friends, as your lines have fallen to you in pleasant places and you have a goodly heritage, may a sense of gratitude to Him whose hand has provided those rich blessings for you, arouse you to sublime and unwearied efforts to bestow these same privileges upon the poor, perishing, benighted nations of earth. In this noble work you will be happy and blessed.—God will smile upon you—angels rejoice, and in songs celebrate your labours of love, in the celestial mansions. But above all, you will thus be found following the steps of your Divine Redeemer, whose greatest joy and delight was to search out and confer blessings upon the wretched, sinful, suffering sons and daughters of earth. Dear friends, *do not cease* to pray for us. Remember, God chooses weak and base things to carry forward his purposes on earth. Hence, though we be weakness and nothingness yet if you continue to uphold us by your earnest prayers, He will by us accomplish results that will fill your hearts with gladness and bring glory to God in the highest heavens.

Land is now fading in the distance, and we must now say a long last farewell to country and friends. May the father of mercies and the God of all grace make you perfect, stablish, strengthen, and preserve you blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. *Fare ye well.*

The winds increasing, our ship soon commenced rolling, and we very soon