

of this world may be enjoyed. A covenant is made with death, and an agreement with hell.

But what is especially wonderful, and chiefly culpable, is the indifference that is exhibited to Christ and his gospel. There is something in the treatment Christ meets with—were he capable of being affected by human conduct—extremely unworthy, and basely ungrateful. An earthly benefactor would not meet with such treatment. And what a benefactor is Christ! The son of the Most High God united himself with our nature, and, in *one person*, became a sacrifice for our sins. Can any thing exceed that event, in the benevolence it exhibits, as well as the mighty condescension it evinces? Be astonished, O earth!—thine own Creator was manifested on thee in human form, and tabernacled in a body of clay! He who was the Creator of man became man—took our nature into personal union with his own. He did so, that he might die for us, give his life a ransom for many. Surely indifference to this truth argues the most deplorable insensibility, the most heartless callousness. Should any thing be allowed to dislodge this truth from its proper place in the heart? Let none say, they do not know whether Christ died for them. He died for sinners; and can you say he did not die for you? Oh, let this truth arrest the most careless, the most worldly, aye, and the most guilty.—He died for sinners. It is a faithful saying and worthy of all acceptation, that Christ came into the world to save sinners. Are we not sinners? Do we not need Christ's death? Can we be safe if we are indifferent to Christ's atonement? "How shall we escape if we neglect this great salvation?" Let the sleep of men be broken. Let the news of Christ's death arouse them from their leaden slumbers. Awake to an interest in this great event. Pause for a moment, and think of this great truth. It is the one event, the one truth! What are all our petty interests and concerns in comparison with this? What can save us but this? What can make us eternally happy but this?—Not the world—not our earthly greatness—not any of the world's unsatisfying pleasures, and evanescent pursuits, and frail possessions, and fleeting honors. Christ's death is the grand interest: the absorbing event. Let gratitude plead with us—let self-interest plead—let the attractions of Christ plead—his glorious person—his wonderful condescension—his amazing

love—his marvellous—miraculous—death!

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REV. MR. BONAR'S ADDRESS ON PRESENTING THE COLONIAL COMMITTEE'S REPORT TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

Mr. BONAR said—Moderator, the Report of the Colonial Committee has been put into the hands of members of this house. We took up a corner of the great field committed to us on a former occasion. We are now to enter on the field itself. But we are warranted to make a selection, inasmuch as the last General Assembly charged the Colonial Committee with the special care of Australia. Since that time, emigration has greatly increased, and the departures from this country to Australia have for some time been estimated at 1000 per day. Among these, our own countrymen hold a foremost place. The mysterious bond which links men to their own,—their native soil, seems in some mysterious way to have lost its hold; and those who loved so well their Scottish homes, seem all willing to go forth and take possession of the waste places of the earth, which, doubtless, God has been reserving for them. Sir, it never could be right to let such multitudes of our countrymen go forth to any land without striving to send for them, and with them, the means of grace. By every consideration of what we owe to them, by every consideration of what we owe to ourselves, we are bound to do our utmost, that these our fellow countrymen and fellow-christians might carry with them whatever religious impressions they may have had, and might enjoy, amid the trials and difficulties to which they must necessarily be exposed,—the gospel ministrations which so many of them leave with tears of the sincerest regret. This would be true in any circumstances, and in any new country. It is peculiarly true of Australia, and of those who go there. There is no adequate spiritual provision for them there. Even before the present tide of emigration began to flow so largely, there was great destitution of ministers of our church in Australia. In the whole of our territories—in Eastern Australia, in Southern Australia, in Victoria, in Western Australia, and Van Diemen's Land—there were at the beginning of this year only thirteen ministers in connection with us. And then it cannot be denied, and ought not to be concealed, that the social state of society in the gold regions and cities connected with them, is lamentable and alarming. Great multitudes are congregated there, who are either thirsting for gold, or gloating over the unexpected pleasures and gratifications which the possession of it has given to them. Many who bear the brand of condemned criminals have escaped from other regions, and mingle in