

and to his powerful advocacy of the cause, which fills his whole heart. In such undertakings, indeed, your Committee fear that his zeal has gone beyond his strength. But a thorough examination of his health, which has lately been made with the view of ascertaining whether he might return to India during the present season—though it has shown the impossibility of yielding to his earnest wishes on this head, and the necessity of his spending some time in undisturbed quiet—has only strengthened your Committee's hope, that his recovery will, under the blessing of God, prove thorough and permanent."

[The Rev. Doctor here stated that Dr. Duff was not affected by any new ailment. It had become, he said, more necessary to inquire into his case, and when we say, as the result of this inquiry, that under God's providence he will be fully restored to us, we are stating not a random hope of our own, but a hope the result of a constant and confidential correspondence with his medical adviser, who, from his great knowledge of the nature of Indian disease, gives us every confidence in his opinion, and thus we have just hope of the restoration of Dr. Duff to the great cause to which he has devoted his whole heart and soul.

"From accidental circumstances, the annual contribution in London is rather smaller than it was last year, yet it amounts to no less than £507 11s. 11d. The zeal of the Presbytery in your cause is unabated; and their anticipations are very cheering.

"When the extent is considered of the obligations under which your Committee have already come, and the strong expediency which demands an increase in the number of your Missionaries, they trust that you will warmly recommend the interests of this great work to the bounty and the prayers of the people of Scotland."

COMPARATIVE VIEW of the Income of the General Assembly's Foreign Missions, as at 20th May, 1838:—

Amount of Receipts from 31st July, 1836, to 20th May, 1837,	£390 0 11
Do., from 31st July, 1837, to 20th May, 1838,	4089 18 2½
Increase,	£399 17 3½

Dr. DEXAN rose to move that the report they had just heard read be received and approved of. It was impossible for any member of that House to hear the progress which had been made in this great cause without deep emotion and thankfulness. He felt that a peculiar and personal necessity lay on himself to come forward on this occasion and express his feelings. It was known that when this scheme was first introduced to the notice of the Assembly in 1824, he had felt it his duty to oppose, not the principle of a mis-

sion to India, but the manner in which it was brought forward, and the plan so far as it was then developed. The eminent individual who proposed it appeared to hold the opinion, that before the Gospel could be successfully propagated, it was necessary to expand the mind by human science, and his plan seemed to be, to erect a magnificent college, in which the principles of philosophy, and not Christianity, should be taught; no doubt with an ultimate view to the conversion of the Hindoos to the Christian faith. Now he had read the history of the Church of Christ very differently. From the earliest times of our holy faith, it appeared to him that one great feature of Christian history was that the Gospel was preached to the poor—that it first took hold of the middle and lower ranks of society, and then rose through its various grades to the highest, whence it was reflected back again over the whole community. This had been the process which the Holy Spirit had uniformly exhibited in his operations in the conversion of the heathen; and in opposition to the opinion held by Dr. Inglis, he had contended, that in order to civilize we must first Christianize the dark places of the earth. This had been his cause of jealousy. He was afraid lest the spirit of the Gospel should be forgotten in the secular magnificence of the contemplated scheme. He now freely confessed that his fears had long been dissipated. From the very first the mission had been conducted in a Christian spirit, and the evils which he apprehended had been altogether avoided. He could not pay too high a tribute to the memory of that eminent man by whom the scheme had been introduced and matured. The plan originated in a desire of doing good. As the views of the projector expanded, he saw more and more clearly the great Christian principles on which it ought to be conducted. Charity, it has been truly said, is twice blessed—blessed to the receiver, and blessed also to the giver. It is reflected back on the giver in the most genial influences. "It is more blessed to give than to receive." This is peculiarly true in Christian objects, because the blessing of Heaven is there; and he doubted not that the labour of love was blessed to the lamented individual in question, in preparing him for that place to which he has been translated, where love glows in every heart and animates every action. But the Assembly was peculiarly favoured in the agent whom the providence of God raised up and endowed with the rarest qualifications for carrying this scheme of Christian benevolence into effect. With the zeal of an Apostle, Dr. Duff possessed the enlightened mind of a philosopher. To deep Christian principle, he joined a strong and cultivated understanding. Both of these qualifications were necessary for accomplishing his arduous task. Without the one, the scheme would have been secularized; without the other, he would have been unable to cope with the subtle genius of those whom it was his object to convert. India was peculiarly situated, and difficulties of no common nature had to be encountered. Before success could crown the labours of our Missionary,