

ford additional cause of satisfaction to the minds of the Ministers and members of the Society, both before and after as well as during the year 1850, when he was entrusted as President of the Conference with the interests of the Connexion,—all had his earnest attention, and hearty co-operation. Whatever his hand found to do for Methodism, which he believed to be in an especial sense the work of God, he did it with his might. It may be doubted whether the Connexion ever had a more devoted single-minded and laborious servant and officer.

His earnestness of purpose and diligence in his work did not remove him farther from indifference, that did his catholic spirit and temper from bigotry. His wide range of information, and his practical interest in every effort of Christian benevolence made him a valuable and welcome associate in those united Committees which have been formed from time to time in London, for promoting the temporal and spiritual welfare of the West Indies and of Africa. The venerable Clarkson, the contemporary of Wesley and of Wilberforce, valued him highly. Sir Thomas Fowell Buxton was in frequent communication with him during his parliamentary labours in connection with the abolition of slavery in our colonies. He was associated as one of the Commissioners for well-intentioned Niger Expedition, and has often rejoiced that, notwithstanding the many distressing trials which attended it, the ultimate results have been of the highest advantage to the best interests of Africa. In his intercourse with the officers and Committees of other religious societies, he never failed to conciliate their esteem; and it may be safely asserted that their respect for the principles and position of Methodism was increased by their observation of the genuine worth of Dr. Beecham's character. One of his last acts of service in association with the officers of other Societies, was in the month of March, when he presided at the Wesleyan Mission House over a Social Meeting of the Secretaries of different Protestant Missionary Societies in London, and at the close of the meeting expressed his satisfaction with the unanimity which had prevailed throughout the

conversation during the evening, on the subject of the spirit of truth, humility and gratitude, which ought to pervade the Missionary Reports at the approaching Meetings, and by which the Ministers and other speakers should be animated at the several services. The official position occupied by Dr. Beecham for a long series of years afforded him favourable opportunities of performing distinguished service to the interests of Christianity at large, and of our own Society in particular; and it is cause of thankfulness that those interests never suffered in his hands through any want of attention and diligent perseverance. The consolation of the Holy Spirit appeared to be present with him in every duty he was called to undertake; and he never shrunk from the performance of whatever he considered to be a duty, in the cause of the Saviour in whom he had believed.

Dr. Beecham commenced his public ministry in the year 1815. He was a diligent student of the Holy Scriptures, and of all the branches of knowledge which could have a bearing on the usefulness of the ministry. He was accustomed to rise early, and it was his practice to the end of his life to read one chapter of the Greek Testament every morning before he entered on the other business of the day. The beneficial effect of his attention to the acquisition of theological learning, and of his devotional habits, appeared in the usefulness of his pulpit labours. His preaching was always instructive, and was often made the means of great spiritual benefit and edification. His services on special occasions, both in the pulpit and on the platform, were highly acceptable, and will long be remembered with pleasure and gratitude by many faithfully attached friends, and large congregations who were edified by his labours, both in Europe and America.

In the removal of Dr. Beecham an eminently useful and distinguished servant of Christ and of His Church has passed to his reward. We mourn his loss. Our sorrow is shared by the members of others churches, and will be shared by Missionaries all over the world as soon as the sad tidings of his death can reach them. He has left a void, not soon to be filled up, in a large