

deploring the apathy which for so many ages diffused its deadening influence throughout her almost entire membership—and awakened to a keen sensibility of the retributive justice to which, without a prompt and expansive reformation, she would eventually render herself liable—has at length embarked in the redemption of her time, her talents and her character—has arrayed herself in her attire of beauty—has trimmed her lamp, and emitted her light of benevolence—has put forth her strength, indicative of giant effort—and is now characterized by the combination of her prayers, her substance and her zeal, in the carrying out of the great principles of which her Redeemer has made her the depository, and the fruition of that sacred and expansive object for which she is formed and identified by her exalted founder and head, namely, that 'the kingdoms of this world' might become, through her instrumentality, 'the kingdom of our Lord, and of his Christ.' In this respect, on Wesleyanism, as an extensive and rapidly extending section of the Church Universal, God has deigned to confer a distinguished honor. Missionary in her character, from her cradle to her present state of cheering maturity—from the time when her venerable Wesley commenced his career of evangelical zeal to her present range of active operation—she has resolved to be bounded but by the means entrusted to her care. The salvation of the whole world is embodied in her desire; while, in proportion with the means at her command, she stands determined, in conjunction with all cotemporary institutions of kindred character, to brave the breastwork of Satan's Empire, and not to withdraw the siege until, of all that form his aspiring citadel, there shall not be left one stone upon another that shall not be thrown down—till it shall be razed to its foundation; the dark places of the earth, which have for thousands of years been the habitations of cruelty—have been sterilized by the absence of virtue, even in its forms, and cursed with the withering and debasing tendencies of vice, in its deepest and most odious character—shall be brought under the transforming power of Gospel light and salvation—"the mountains and the hills break forth into singing, and all the trees of the field clap their hands. Instead of the thorn shall come up the fir tree, and instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle tree: and it shall be to the Lord for a name, for an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off."