

insurgents; but we state facts as far as we know at present."—"The brethren have likewise to state, that they have had several interviews with the authorities, who have stated explicitly, that no charge or complaint of any description has been preferred against any of our Missionaries or Members. The brethren have been treated with great kindness and with marked respect by the authorities, in every part of the island. Several of our members have defended their masters' property at the risk of their lives, and exerted themselves to the utmost of their power, to save whatever they could from the hands of the rebels, and from the devouring flames."

The following address by the Rev. Richard Watson, honorary Secretary of the Wesleyan Missionary Society, at its anniversary in London, on the 30th of April, as illustrative of the principles and conduct of the Methodists, in respect to the abolition of slavery question, and the diffusion of Christianity among the slaves in the West Indies, by means of Missionary exertion, we present to our readers, that they may know how to appreciate both.

I do not rise to make a regular address; but merely to comment a little more fully on a part of the Resolution which has just been moved and seconded. That Resolution expresses at once the gratification with which the Meeting has heard of the promises of protection which Government holds out, and its sympathies with those who have so lately suffered by persecution in Jamaica. I cannot but regret the absence of Mr. Buxton and Dr. Lushington, names consecrated to humanity; an absence occasioned by circumstances they could not control. Those gentlemen would, doubtless, have made statements which would have thrown new light on some of the topics which have entered into the discussions of this morning. I would observe that others also are absent on this occasion who have formerly been accustomed to lend us at least the sanction of their presence at our meetings. I cannot but say that I deeply regret the cause of that absence. They have at length discovered,—and I am surprised they did not discover it before,—that Christian Missions are not intended to perpetuate slavery. They appear to have thought that the only thing for which Christianity was designed, was to render the slaves well contented with their bondage; to teach them how to bear injury and oppression with patience; and to polish the chain, it may be, but then to rivet it upon their necks for ever. Of those individuals, we have now taken a friendly leave; nor, I am happy to say, has there been a farewell of a hostile nature. It is not likely that they and we shall soon meet again. I only wish them more enlarged views, and more correct feelings. But, for no consideration of pas-

so commanding, will we make a sacrifice of our principles, or disguise our honest sentiments. We have indeed very properly imposed restraints on Missionaries; we have inculcated upon them the most cautious reserve, nay, a total silence, on the civil wrongs of the slave, lest injudicious language should interfere with the great and all-important objects which the Missionary has in view, and which, however we may long to see the chains of the slave struck off, we consider of still greater moment than his freedom. But if we have thus taught our Missionaries to suppress the remonstrances of humanity; to stifle the swelling indignation which the spectacle of slavery cannot but inspire; if we have taught them to turn away and weep in silence over the miseries and degradation of their fellow men, when, had they allowed themselves to give utterance to their feelings, they would have spoken in a voice of thunder; if, I say, we have been obliged to impose silence on their tongues, no silence is to be imposed on ours. They indeed have to do with the slaves, they are in immediate contact with inflammable materials, and their duty is plain. But we have not to do immediately with the bond-men of our colonies; but through assemblies like this, with the British people, Parliament, Government; and before them we have no motive to enforce secrecy, or to impose silence. To these we will speak our mind. Nor could our silence, were we disposed to maintain it, secure a single benefit to any party; no, not even to the colonists themselves. That "mound" to which allusion has been already made, that mound by which the colonists would shut out every thing