

to Rome; being the least of all the faithful which are there, as I have been thought worthy to be found to the glory of God. Fare ye well in God the Father, and in Jesus Christ, our common hope. Amen.

IN THE MEMORY OF THE MOST REVEREND THE LATE  
ARCHBISHOP OF CANTERBURY,  
PRESIDENT OF THE NATIONAL SOCIETY, &c.

Substance of the conclusion of a Sermon, preached at Westminster Abbey, 27th July, 1828; the Sunday after the death of the late Archbishop of Canterbury.

St. MATTHEW XVIII. 19, "Go ye therefore and teach all nations."

\* \* \* \* Among those who have been most conspicuous in advancing this good work, I cannot at this time withhold the acknowledgments due to an early and gracious Patron. It is impossible for me to pass over in silence the tribute of justice, which the National Society has often paid to the high deserts of that exalted personage, whose services are now, alas! closed to the Church, to the Nation, and to the world;—that exalted personage, who has left us, at this time, to mourn his loss, to cherish his memory, and, in our humble stations, to follow his example.

"It would" (say the National Society, in one of their Annual Reports) "be superfluous to enumerate, individually, all those whose exertions have been eminently serviceable; but it must be satisfactory to the public to learn, and therefore it is their duty not to withhold the fact, that, notwithstanding the numerous and various demands on the time of their most Reverend President, the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Society has never failed to receive the countenance of his high authority, as well by his constantly presiding at all their deliberations, as by his presence at the public examinations of the children at the Central School."

But the Archbishop's care and special superintendance were not confined to a single object; they extended to all the important offices of his high charge. His paternal attention, as well as his munificent aid, were gratefully acknowledged by the ancient and venerable Societies for promoting and extending the blessings of our Holy Religion, and by the recent Societies, founded under his auspices for building and enlarging Churches, and other Institutions for the advancement of the glory of God, the good of his kingdom on earth, and the safety, honor, and welfare of our Sovereign, and his dominions.

The great object of his latter days, that indeed on which it may almost be said his latest breath was spent, was to promote the establishment of a Royal College in this extensive metropolis; wherein opportunities, which have too long been wanted, should be afforded to large and important classes of the community, for securing an education, at once comprehensive and liberal, conducted upon those sound religious principles, which are the foundation of our national prosperity.

His Religion was calm and deliberate, steady and consistent, producing a placid and uniform temper of mind. Accordingly his habitual demeanor, and the whole tenor of his proceedings, as well in the minutest affairs of his poorest Clergy\*, as in the weightiest concerns of the Church, were conformed to a coherent scheme of life, and a well-considered principle of action undeviatingly pursued. His was a shining light which shone more and more unto the perfect day; and it pleased God not to call him to himself, till it might be said he had performed the work which was appointed him to do.

At a critical period, his Grace resolved on the adoption of a new and most powerful engine—the System of Mutual Instruction and Moral Discipline—for securing and extending the blessings of a religious education. At that perilous conjuncture, it was

\* At a busy time, when I had frequent intercourse with his Grace, he was wont to say—I have this morning been occupied with affairs which, however trivial I thought them, appeared important to those whom they concerned.

† But perfection is not granted to man. If in any case he was thought to have been led into mistakes, in forming his opinion, it was ascribed to mis-information, or misrepresentation, as to facts, from which the greatest and best men are not exempted.

most consolatory and animating to behold the even and steady course, the uniform and mild spirit, with which, in the midst of discouragements and difficulties, he prosecuted his purpose. What was in truth the predetermination of his judgment, seemed rather the spontaneous impulse of his will, so entirely in him were the judgment and the will consenting, and so naturally was action produced by principle. This singleness of mind eminently qualified him for his exalted station; a station in which the example afforded by the great and good men, when it has pleased God to call them to it, are of all merely human causes the most efficacious, in upholding and extending the influence of religion. Such examples too, when miracles are no longer necessary, and prophecies no longer vouchsafed, tend above all things to the comfort and edification of the Christian world; for they show us how high a degree of religious virtue is attainable, even in this imperfect state, and the rich benefits which flow from this source to the present and to future ages.

Never was this truth more strikingly, and more happily, illustrated than at that time. It was the felicity of his Grace to behold the work of his hands prosper beyond the most sanguine expectation. Under his auspices, the New System of Education spread with a rapidity, and to an extent, of which there is no parallel, carrying with it the means of civilization, and that most powerful of all means, the GOSPEL OF PEACE AND SALVATION, to the benighted nations in the remotest regions of the earth. He lived to see millions of children educated at home by this System, who otherwise might have been a prey to ignorance, vice, and misery; and abroad the numbers are incalculable, to whom life and immortality are brought to light by the Gospel of Jesus.

In fine, it will form a memorable epoch in the Christian Church, that our late inestimable Primate brought into its service an engine more powerful than ever yet had been wielded by mortal man! When other attempts had in a great measure failed, it supplies immediate and inexhaustible resources to further the fulfilment of the sure words of promise, beyond the most ardent hopes which could have been entertained under any other system. "The earth shall be full of the knowledge of the Lord, as the waters cover the sea." \* \* \* "All the kingdoms of the earth shall become the kingdoms of God and of his Christ."

Let Archbishop Tillotson sum up:—"There are several ways of reforming men, by the laws of the Civil Magistrate, and by the public preaching of Ministers. But the most likely and hopeful reformation of the world must begin with children. Wholesome laws and good sermons are but slow and late ways; the timely and the most compendious way is a good education. This may be an effectual prevention of evil; whereas all after ways are but remedies, which do always suppose some neglect or omission of timely care."

What was thus briefly and happily inculcated by the excellent Primate of all England, in the seventeenth century, has, in the nineteenth century, been reduced to daily practice, and carried into general use, by the fostering hand of his late eminent Successor, according to our Saviour's beautiful image—

"The least of all seeds has grown up and waxed a great tree, and spread out its branches, and filled the earth."

"Who then is a faithful and wise servant, whom his Lord hath made ruler over his household, to give them meat in due season? Blessed is that servant, whom his lord when he cometh shall find so doing. Verily I say unto you, that he shall make him ruler over all his goods." On him shall be bestowed that high reward, that only true praise, "Well done thou good and faithful servant—enter thou into the joy of thy Lord:" where "they that be wise shall shine as the brightness of the firmament, and they that turn many to righteousness, as the stars for ever and ever!"

TO THE RT. HON. THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.

Lindsay Cottage, Cheltenham, 1st December, 1828.

Sir,

When your favourable opinion of my humble tribute to the memory of your reverend Father was communicated to me