

"Into a general knowledge of the objects and progress of modern missions," says Dr. Duff after his father's death, "I was initiated from my earliest youth by my late revered father, whose Catholic spirit rejoiced in tracing the triumph of the Gospel in different lands, and in connection with the different branches of the Christian church. Pictures of Jugger-naut, and other heathen idols, he was wont to exhibit, accompanying the exhibition with copious explanations well fitted to create a feeling of horror towards idolatry, and of compassion towards the poor blinded idolators, and intermixing the whole with statements of the love of Jesus." In that romantic parish, having before his eyes the everlasting hills, and in his ears the roar of the Garry and the Tummel, rushing to the peaceful Tay over their rocky and precipitous beds, having for his teacher in religion and missions a pious father, and having for his theology that system of evangelical truth (to which he clung tenaciously till the last), that is ever old and ever new, the future missionary was prepared for his life-work on the banks of the Ganges.

The religious impressions received at the fireside of the farm of Auchnahyle, and the interest in missions there begun in his heart, were fostered into vigour and fanned into a flame in the University to which he went, a lad in his teens, with a hundred dollars in his pocket. In that University—St. Andrews—Dr. Chalmers became, in 1824, Professor of Moral Philosophy, and in a series of lectures in the Town Hall of the ancient city he "popularized the history and objects of missions, and rendered that one of the most fashionable themes which had been nauseated before." In the meantime the Spirit of God was gently blowing on the dry bones of the Presbyterianism of Scotland. The men who, in the General Assembly of 1796, voted down Foreign Missions, as untimely or unnecessary, were gradually dying out, and were being succeeded in the parishes of Scotland by men who were quickened in the great revivals of 1810 and 1812, and who, under the leadership of Andrew Thompson, Henry Grey, and Robert Gordon, were fighting in pulpits and Church courts the battle of evangelism against formalism. A revived church is always a missionary church. As soon, therefore, as the pulses of Scotland's church began to beat with a new life, its eye began to look towards heathen countries for their salvation. In 1825, while Alexander Duff was sitting at the feet of Thomas Chalmers in St. Andrews, the General Assembly in Edinburgh adopted unanimously a resolution to begin foreign missions in India, and ordered a collection to be made for that purpose. Out of more than 900 parish churches, and fifty-five