

Society's agents, European and Native; and still more would they call to mind his strong faith, his deep spirituality, and his zeal for the honour of God." Comprehensive as this eulogy is, no one who knew Henry Venn would say that there was a word superfluous or undeserved.

Among the numberless testimonies from all quarters to the estimation in which he was held, perhaps the most touching of all came from an old personal friend to whom he had often been seriously opposed on Church questions, Bishop Samuel Wilberforce:—

"I feel his death to be the breaking of no ordinary tie. His father baptized me, and lived and died an honoured and beloved friend of my father and mother. The inheritance of Christian love, always a precious one, descended; and when added years lessened, as they always do, the disparity of age between us, he was always to me a kind and considerate friend. I honour especially in him the dedication of a life to a noble cause with an uncompromising entireness of devotion which had in it all the elements of true Christian heroism. You must look on his life as a grand epic poem which has ended in an *euthanasia* of victory and rest."

Bishop  
Wilber-  
force on  
Venn.

Exactly six months afterwards, Bishop Wilberforce himself was suddenly called away, thrown from his horse on the Surrey Downs, and killed on the spot.

The bishop  
killed.

Thus the most brilliant of Anglican Bishops and the most sagacious of Missionary Directors finished their course together. Widely as they differed, frequently as they were in conflict, it is good to remember that both loved and trusted the one Saviour of men, and both believed that the Evangelization of the World was the great duty of the Church. In the light and life and love of Heaven all differences are lost for ever.

The Church Missionary Society will never have another Henry Venn. No one man could now carry the whole work upon his shoulders, as he practically did; and no man could in these faster days work on as he did for thirty years. But the Lord raises up just such instruments as He needs for this and that period of His Church's history, for this and that sphere of work for Him. And though it is right and good that we should love and honour those who have gone before, and in whose steps we seem so feebly to follow, let us remember that all alike are but as earthen vessels, and that God uses such for the express purpose that the glory shall be His alone. Not Pratt or Bickersteth, not Venn or Wright or Wigram: it is the Lord of Hosts Himself that is with us for our Captain.

Henry  
Venn  
unique.