His task is finished. - On the brow And in the radiant eve There beams a joy that few may know, A smile of triumph high.

The lamp sends forth its last pale rays, The day's last sands are run, As he kneels to Heaven in earnest praise That the noble work is done.

Proud laurels crown the brave in war, And wreath the conqueror's hair, But a crown of light, more deathless far, Is his who kneeleth there:

There is joy to-night in each radiant band Of the countless hosts of Heaven For a light that hath dawned in a darkened land, For the Bible to Burmah given! "Iona," February, 1855.

VERSES ON THE LATE DR. MAIR, FERGUS.

O cruel Death, why is it so, Thou reignst in every land? The good, the great, alike must fall Beneath thy conquering hand.

The young, the old, the rich, the poor, Are all cut down by Death. He spareth neither sex nor age, Nor ought wherein is breath.

The cold and icy hand of death Hath made our hearts to bleed, For he, who was our pastor dear, Is numbered with the dead.

That burning and that shining light By death's put out for aye; Alas! that warm and friendly heart Lies mouldering in the clay.

The lips, that often us addressed, net are sealed in death's dark gloom; The eyes, that often for us wept, Lie sleeping in the tomb.

And shall we hear that voice no more, Nor see that sainted face ? Our mourning hearts on Sabbath sigh To see his empty place.

Oh! who will break the bread of life Our hungry souls to feed?
Or who will point the way to Heaven, Since we have lost our head.

But, hark! a voice of comfort comes From yonder shining throne, That says, There is beyond the grave A land where death's unknown:

And there My servant dear doth rest, And sings Redeeming Love, And, as the stars in lustre bright, Shines in that land above:

And, if you with the counsels take
And warnings he hath given,
You shall behold his face again,
And hear his voice in Heaven.

Then, O my sou the break;
Though billow to thee break;
Though clouds and arkness us sursound,
God will not us forsake.

But let us cry to God for help, And seek by fervent prayer That He would in His mercy great Send us another MAIR. Nichol, December, 1854.

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