

penny which they had generously given to this great cause. (Cheers.)

The Rev. Mr. Newton said, that when he addressed the meeting, he was not at liberty to mention the name of the gentleman who had sent him the letter with the 100*l.* enclosed, but he now had permission to say that it was Francis Riggall, Esq., of South Lincolnshire, from whom he had received it. [Cheers.]

The Chairman was about to put the Resolution to the Meeting, when

The Rev. Dr. Bunting interposed. He felt inclined to move an amendment to the resolution. The amount he had received upon his book towards the liquidation of the 15,30*l.* (the half of the debt) was 15,19*l.* and he hoped the whole would be made up before the resolution was parted with. Which twenty of those present would undertake to make up the balance.

Mr. Farmer rose and said, he would pay the whole. [Much cheering.]

The Rev. Dr. Bunting then had the pleasure of announcing, that one half of the debt was now swept away, and he had to add his hope that the other half would be speedily cancelled also.

The original Resolution was then, by consent, amended to the effect, that one half of the debt had now been paid off, and expressive of confidence in the friends of the Society that the remainder would likewise soon be liquidated. The Resolution so amended was put and carried unanimously.

The Rev. James Dixon said—I am desired, because I happen to occupy a particular position, to move the resolution which I shall take the liberty of reading—It is—

“That deeply impressed with the importance and necessity of a Native Agency for extending the Missionary work in heathen countries in general, and especially where the climate is unfavourable to the health of Europeans, this Meeting most cordially approves of the resolution of the Committee to set apart a portion of the Annual Income of the Society for the better training of Native Teachers in Africa, the West Indies, Polynesia, and other parts of the world.”

I feel great pleasure in having the honour to submit, what I conceive to be one of the most important resolutions of the day, to the attention of the Meeting. I happen to have a very deep and decided impression of the very great importance of the measure adverted to. I cordially approve, and I take the liberty of saying I am the type of the Methodist connexion in the expression of this opinion,—I cordially approve of what has been done, and I trust more will yet be done. [Hear, hear.] Mind is mind everywhere; man is man; religion is divine, wherever it is experimental and genuine;—spiritual gifts co-exist with it, and we have a right to expect, in the progress of our work, if that work is of God, that everywhere a spiritual gift will be given, or if you please, a talented ministry will and must be raised up, to carry forth the great work. [Hear, hear.] It wants, however, the fostering care and attention of the Committee, and their agents abroad, and I am sure that the great end we contemplate—the conversion of the world—will not be effected otherwise than remotely and distantly by our exertions, except by the preaching and the pastoral labours of men raised up in every climate. But we shall have occasion to watch over them, superintend them, train them, and, if you please, establish Theological Institutions everywhere. The resolution only adverts to those portions of the Missionary field—the West Indies, Western Africa, and Polynesia—the most important parts certainly; but I hope to live to see Methodist schools established in every main and important part of the Missionary field. [Cheers.] I beg pardon for saying what I have, but I suppose it was intended I should say, at least a little, on the question, or the resolution would not have been committed to me. I think we are right in this;—I believe we are,—it is providential. These measures have been adopted, but they are only initiatory; we, therefore, must go on, and I believe the great work of God will be most successfully promoted by native agency in every part of the world.

The Rev. Wm. Arthur, from India, felt that he stood, on this occasion, in circumstances to himself the most delightful, as regarded the prospects of India, of any in which he had been placed since his return from that country. It was generally admitted, and generally felt, that India had

its peculiar claims, but there had been those circumstances connected with the great mission of this society, which had prevented those claims having hold on the society to the extent to which otherwise they would. He had felt deeply delighted, and his heart had leaped within him for joy, on hearing Mr. Lomas, on Thursday morning last, direct the attention of the society to that great field, as one from which great things were to be expected.—Let but such minds as that possessed by that excellent man grapple with the subject, and then all the difficulties in its way would disappear, and every argument in its favour tell. He had felt greatly delighted also, on this occasion, to hear from his friend, Mr. Cryer, so admirable a vindicator of that country, and so powerful an appeal in favour of aid being sent out to the poor men labouring there. It was really most astonishing to be in the habit of hearing places called “the most important,” and leaving India out of the enumeration. It had been well said, that India was not an out-post of Satan. Satan had sown the tares, and appeared as if he felt that he might now leave them to themselves to wallow in ignorance and in barbarism. In Asia it was otherwise. There he was taking the greatest pains;—there he was reaping the fruits of his labour, and wielding his influence over mighty nations. In India, no doubt, the influence of Satan’s subtlety was to be seen in the grossest depravity. It was not an outwork easily cast up and soon to be taken. It was not a redoubt that was to be taken without great danger. It was a citadel, where the war would have to be carried on, with the most uncompromising determination. India presented greater opposition to Missionary enterprise than any other part of the world, and it was no less strange than true, that, because of this, many great Catholic minds had said, “Let us turn to the places from which we shall have the speediest return; let us send ten Missionaries where, in a year, we may convert the most souls.” That was a proposition that ought to be fairly and fully weighed. It was a question between hundreds and millions eventually. India was not a little island, but a mighty continent, requiring to be raised not merely from ignorance and barbarism, but from its own conceived greatness to another greatness, of which it had never dreamt. The Society might be able to convert more men in one year in other places, than it could in India, but it would never be able eventually to achieve the mighty victory any where else that was to be achieved in India. It was a Continent, opening up connections to other mighty influential nations; and it was a country, moreover, possessing incalculable wealth, and greatly under the sway of Popery. That was a sketch of the people we had to contend with,—a sketch of the opposition and conflict that warred against our Redeemer there; and were we, therefore, to turn away from it, and say, “We will take the feeble opposition first, and the point we can attack without fear or danger!” Why Chusan fell before the British arms in a few hours, but mighty India required a struggle of many years; and which, he would ask, was the worthiest conquest? [Cheers.] Richness of return must ever be preferable to rapidity of return; and richness of return was to be received from India. If empires were to be redeemed, and a claim made on the missions in furtherance of that great end,—yet we were to look out for an easy redemption, and not run our heads against violent opposition! Why not? Was that to be the tone of the Wesleyan Missionary Society? [Hear, hear.] Was it to select the feeble points of the enemy’s kingdom,—not to go up where the battle was thick, but hang back, and say, “we will not go up to the help of the Lord against the mighty!” [Hear, hear.] Surely not.—This was not the disposition and feeling that ought to pervade the friends of Missions. It was not the Spirit with which the Great Author of our religion attacked the enemy. He did not turn away from opposition, but directed his first attack against that place, not only where the system of opposition was most consolidated, but where the excitement was the most exasperated. It was at Jerusalem where he began his attack, and where the opposition was the fiercest. [Cheers.] We did not go on in our own wisdom; and though it were a rock against which we directed our attack, our instrument being the Word of God, it was and would be more

powerful than “the hammer that breaketh the rock.” Our reliance was upon the majestic arm of the Almighty, which moved on towards the accomplishment of its ends, unimpeded by any difficulties and unimpeded by any dangers. [Hear, hear.] The blessed Gospel was the instrument, and were we to file it down to some impotent thing, only to be used when men would qual before its first approach? That being so, the question came to this,—were we doing our duty in India? Nine European Missionary Ministers amongst five hundred millions of men? Was that the true representation of Methodistical zeal and Methodistical love? [Hear, hear.] Did we expect that nine men were to carry out the revolution there? Asia was not mentioned in the resolution, and he greatly knew why. Perhaps the reason was, that we had done so little for it, that we did not feel its wants. If instead of nine, we had ninety men there, we should feel her wants more. There were those 120 or 150 millions of men, all our fellow-subjects,—all bound to allegiance to us,—all impressed with our national greatness,—all persuaded that our statesmen were the wisest and our soldiers the bravest in the world; and yet we were only to give them nine Missionaries! They were not merely our fellow-subjects, but, taking them as men, they were all our brethren. Look at the whole of them, and was there one among them to whom, before the Great Being we addressed as Father, we could deny the name of brother—a brother sprung from the same stock, endowed with the same immortality, lost in the same sin, hurrying to the same grave, and redeemed by the same blood as ourselves;—a brother, alienated from his father and from the community of his family, ignorant of his birth-right, bound up in slavery, and hastening to destruction—a brother, who was ruined, but who might be restored; a brother who was lost, but who might be found; a brother who was dead, but who might yet live. Could the friends of missions look at all those millions, and contemplate each of them in the aspect of a brother, and then tell them they had done all they could and would do? Surely not. [Cheers.] Let but that one principle be taken into consideration, and he was quite sure that this day’s collection would be doubled, and more so,—that the benefits to India might be doubled, and more than doubled. [Hear, hear.] But some said, we should not give from feeling, but from principle. He most heartily concurred in that sentiment; but what was the principle of the question between the meeting and the natives of India? He believed it to be this—“Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself.” [Hear, hear.] Was it because the friends whom he addressed had studied their principles, and stood by their principles, that this society was now in debt? Although half of the debt had this day been extinguished, still the Society was in debt. The Society had 3,000 members more this last year, and yet only one more missionary. Was this because we acted on principle, and because we loved our neighbour as ourselves? Or was it not rather because principle had been postponed to the cold feeling of a calculating selfishness? Let but the heart of every Methodist act on principle for a single day, and the rest of this incubus of a debt would be shaken off at once, as the mountain, warmed by the returning spring, shook from its sides the winter’s snow, and then India would, instead of having only nine, soon have ninety missionaries. [Cheers.]

The resolution was then put to the meeting and carried unanimously.

The Rev. Wm. Arthur congratulated the hon. chairman, himself, and the meeting, that at this advanced period of the day a resolution had been put into his hand which needed no speech. It was a resolution that would commend itself to every person’s reason when they heard it. It would be accorded to by the views, the feeling, the judgment, and the taste, of hundreds who were present. It was a resolution that required no explanation,—no illustration,—no proof. It did not require enforcing, therefore he had only to read it, and it was—

“That the cordial thanks of the Society are due to the Rev. Dr. Buchanan, Minister of the Tron Church, Glasgow, the Rev. Dr. Harris, President of Cheahunt College, the Rev. John Lomas, and the Rev. Alfred Barrett, for their excellent Sermons preached before the Society, during this Anniversary; to the Rev. James Dixon, President

of the Conference, the Rev. Robert Newton, the Rev. Thomas Waugh, the Rev. Dr. Hannah, the Rev. P. C. Turner, and the Rev. Thomas Cryer, for their very acceptable Pulpit Services on the same occasion, to all other Ministers who have publicly advocated the cause of the Society during the past year, and to the Auxiliary and Branch Societies, the Ladies’ Associations, the Juvenile Societies, and their respective Committees, Treasurers, Secretaries, and Collectors, both at home and abroad, for their very successful exertions on behalf of the Funds of the Institution, in which exertions they are most earnestly entreated to continue and abound, and that, while recommending increased exertion, this meeting solemnly recognizes the importance of connecting with every effort and contribution to the cause of Missions, unceasing prayer to Almighty God for His furthering blessing.”

The Rev. Wm. M. Bunting seconded the resolution, which was put, and carried unanimously.

Richard Crook, Esq., of Laverpool, had also the pleasure to propose a resolution which, he was sure, required no speech to recommend it. It would, equally with the last, speak for itself—

“That the cordial thanks of the Society are due, and are hereby presented to the General Committee, to Thomas Farmer, Esq., and the Rev. John Scott, the General Treasurers, and to the Rev. Dr. Bunting, the Rev. John Beecham, the Rev. Dr. Alder, and the Rev. Elijah Hoole, the General Secretaries, for the valuable services which they have severally rendered to the Society, in the direction and management of its affairs during the past year.”

John Howard, Esq., of Leeds, had much pleasure in seconding this resolution. He seconded it most cordially, because he felt that to have been the treasurer and secretaries of this society, for the last three years, must have been anything but a sinecure. [Hear, hear.] A good deal had been said about the debt, and he as heartily wished it done away with as Dr. Bunting could wish for that happy event. He did not like debts, nor did he take exactly the same view of this subject as either the worthy President or Mr. Newton. There were various opinions in the country as to the actions of their Committee in London. Some censured them, and found fault with them. His reply to those observations was—“Go and take a seat at this Board—go and hear the appeals, before you form your opinion.” [Hear, hear.] He confessed, that he felt, if he had a seat in that Committee, the debt, instead of being £30,000, would have been £60,000. [Cheers, and laughter.] There had been a proof of the necessity of an increased expenditure by the society in what had been addressed to that meeting to-day. If Missionaries from the north, and from the south, and from the west, had come forward, and made similar statements to those made by the Missionaries from the east, ample reason would have appeared why the debt should have been much larger than it really was. [Hear, hear.] He had a deep interest in this cause, and that interest had grown with his growth. He believed the cause only wanted the opportunity of taking a proper hold on the Christian public, and then the most sanguine hopes of its sincerest friends would be realized. No doubt the society was under deep obligations to the gentlemen to whom this resolution referred, [Hear, hear.] and if an additional proof of that obligation had been required, it was found in the more than handsome manner in which Mr. Farmer had come forward to meet the call that had, a short time ago, been made on the meeting. [Cheers.]

The resolution was put and carried unanimously.

Mr. Wagon here intimated that he had just received a note which stated that an Irishman had sent £5. [Cheers.]

Mr. Newton likewise said, that he was authorized by a lady, who had just left the meeting, to say that she would give 20 guineas, for which he would be responsible. [Much cheering.]

Thomas Farmer, Esq., had an easy and pleasant task to perform in the duty he was about to discharge. In his own name, and that of his respected colleague, he begged to say that they felt under great obligations to the meeting. They felt obliged by their presence, and particularly obliged by the presence of their honourable chairman, who had graced the meeting on many former occasions, and not grown