THE

PRESBYTERIAN RECORD

FOR THE

DOMINION OF CANADA.

VOL. IX.

SEPTEMBER 1884.

No. o.



Ber. George E. Mackay, D.D.

No human being can ask for himself a higher honour than that his name be modeled in the list of "the noble army of missionaries." That army never has been, and is not now very large, but in its archives are written the names of some of the greatest heroes that ever lived. As we look back through the vista of years, even in the darkest periods of the history of Christianity, we discover noble witnesses for the truth and learn from their lives how grand a thing it is to be a missionary. The more closely we scan the record, the more difficult we find it to make a selection. St. Patrick with his three hundred and sixty-

five followers in the fourth century: Columba with his school of the prophets at Iona in the sixth; Aidan, of Lindisfarne. in the seventh: Augustine and Boniface in the eighth; Anschar, the apostle of the North, in the ninth: Adelbert, the missionary among the Sclavonians, in the tenth: Raymond Lull in the fourteenth; Francois Xavier in the sixteenth: Eliot, the apostle to the North American Indians, in the seventeenth; Schwartz, Ziegenbalg, Carey and Brainerd in the eighteenth; and, in the present century, such names as the saintly Henry Martyn, Judson, Morrison. Burns, Williams, Patteson, Heber, Vander-Kemp, Shaw and Hunt, Duff, Livingstone, and Robert Moffat. To the names of these illustrious men, all now in their graves, let us add the name of a Canadian missionary, still living and labouring in the good cause. and who, judged by the fruits of his labours, is worthy of honour and justly entitled to all the sympathy and encouragement which the Christian public have it in their power to bestow upon him. allude to the Rev. George Leslie Mackay, D. D., of Formosa. A very brief reference to this missionary, his field of labour, and his work, will suffice to justify these remarks. Dr. Mackay was born in the township of Zorra, Oxford county, Out., on the 21st of March, 1844. His parents came from Sutherlandshire. By his own account he himself was a Christian from his youth up and "does not remember the time when he did not love the Saviour." Having chosen the ministry as his calling, he studied at Knox College, Toronto, and completed his curriculum at Princeton, U.S., in 1870. He spent the following winter in Edinburgh attending lectures in the Free Church College, and coming in contact with such men as Guthrie, Candlish, and Duff. He resolved