

CALVIN'S INDEFATIGABLE INDUSTRY.

What shall I speak of his indefatigable industry, almost beyond the power of nature, which paralleled with our loiterings, will I fear, exceed all credit? It may be the truest object of admiration, how one lean, worn, spent, and wearied body could hold out. He read, every week of the year through, three divinity lectures; every other week, over and above, he preached every day; so that (as Erasmus said of Chrysostom) I know not whether more to admire his constancy, or theirs that heard him. Some have reckoned his yearly lectures to be 156, and his yearly sermons 182. Every Thursday he sat in the Presbytery; every Friday, when the ministers met to consult on difficult texts, he made as good as a lecture. Besides all this, there was scarce a day that exercised him not in answering, either by word of mouth or writing, the doubts and questions of different churches and pastors; yea, sometimes many at once, so that he might say with Paul, "the care of all churches lieth upon me." Scarcely a year wherein, over and above all these former employments, some great volume in folio or other came not forth.—*Biographia Evangelica, by Dr. Hoyle.*

Obituary.

REVEREND A. F. LACROIX.

"It is with the deepest regret that we announce the death of this eminent missionary, who, after an illness of two months' duration finished his earthly course at Calcutta on the 8th of July, in the sixtieth year of his age. He was the oldest missionary in Northern India, having gone out there in connection with the Netherlands Missionary Society in 1821; and seven years afterwards, when that Society determined on confining their operations to the islands of the Eastern Archipelago, and abandoned their station at Chinsurah, Mr Lacroix—having made himself master of Bengali—expressed a wish to remain, and joined the London Missionary Society with the entire approval of the Dutch Committee. His labours were exclusively in the vernacular. He is allowed on all hands to have been for thirty years the best Bengali preacher in the whole country; and his discourses both to Christians and heathens have contributed immensely to spread the large amount of Christian knowledge which prevails throughout the province of Bengal. His personal religious character was of the highest order, and acquired universal respect. His large hearted catholicity led him to seek friendship and Christian communion with believers, and especially missionaries of various denominations; and both by example and precept he did much to increase and maintain the practical union existing between the agents and members of the several Missionary Societies in India. He was trusted, honoured, and beloved amongst them all, and the high regard in which the London Missionary Society is held in Northern India, was built, to a large extent, upon the high character which he, its oldest missionary, maintained so long. His alarming illness, which began at the end of May, excited universal sympathy, and called forth unceasing prayers in every church and chapel of every denomination. His dying interviews with old friends—as Dr. Duff, Mr. Wenger, Mr. Wylie, and others—were affecting in the extreme; and strong men left his room weeping like children, 'sorrowing most for the words that he spoke, that they should see his face no more.' His funeral was the largest which the city of Calcutta has seen for many years. Christians of all Churches, including the Bishop of Calcutta, Archdeacon Pratt, and numerous ministers and missionaries, with a large number of the native Christians from the Society's stations, gathered round his grave. The Rev. T. Hardman, chaplain of the Scotch Church, the Rev. Dr. Duff, and the Rev. J. Wenger, of the Baptist Mission, undertook the burial service, reading the Scriptures, and offering prayer in the English and native tongues. The death of Mr. Lacroix is a great loss to the Society and the Mission, in which his eminently wise judgment, his warm affection, and his devoted zeal, have had great influence for many years. He leaves a widow and two daughters in Calcutta, his eldest daughter, Mrs. Mullens, being at present in England."—*Patriot.*