

you have honoured yourselves, and acquired a name among the noble children of England who, at an expense of above Six Thousand Pounds, provided and fitted out the "John Williams," to convey the agents of the Lon. Miss. Soc., to the scene of the martyred Williams's enterprises, in the South Seas.

We feel that you are associated with the dear lambs of Christ's fold, in our own beloved Scotland, who have contributed above three thousand pounds to procure the Calabar Mission Ship, for the illustrious Waddell and his associates, who have devoted themselves to the service of the Lord, among the degraded, neglected, and abused inhabitants of Western Africa.

We feel that you have come up most seasonably to the help of our own babes in Christ, who have just begun to labour in his cause, and to provide for themselves an interest in the glorious work, which we have been privileged to commence; and we believe your example and your cooperation will inspire them with courage to persevere, till many of them are enrolled with you as shareholders in a Missionary vessel, for our own Church, to carry our own dear brethren, Geddie and Archibald, to and fro among the dark isles of the sea. In the vessel provided by your united efforts, will they go to tell the victims of darkness and cruelty of a Saviour's condescension and a Saviour's love, ay, and to tell them too, that, to the children of our churches at home, are they indebted for the ship that conveys them from place to place, and enables them to sound out the word of life to the regions beyond, and to respond to the call of the man of Macedonia, "Come over and help us."

Truly the children of the present day are a chosen generation. When before, did God to an equal extent, out of the mouths of babes and sucklings ordain praise? When before, did he admit them so extensively to be co-workers with himself in the evangelization of the world?

When, before the times in which we live, did ships traverse the mighty deep, purchased, equipped, manned, and maintained, by children's shillings and children's pence? When before, were ships devoted exclusively to the merchandise of the gospel, and freight-

ed with the messengers of peace? When before, did a whole generation commence business for themselves, by investing their capital in an enterprise, the merchandise of which is better than the merchandise of silver, and the gain thereof than fine gold? Solomon had ships that traded far, and came home richly laden. Hiram's navy brought gold from Ophir, great plenty of Al-mug trees, and precious stones. Thousands and tens of thousands of silver and gold, and all manner of precious things, are wasted to and from the shores of our own country in the ships of all nations: but the price of the merchandise of the children's ships is above rubies, and in their choice of the business in which they have embarked, they have excelled all.

What exports can ever compare in importance with the bread of life, and the water of life? What emigrants so noble, so disinterested, as the self-devoted, self expatriated Missionaries? What imports so valuable as the wreck of heathenism—the stump of Dagon, laid prostrate before the ark of the Lord—the idols of the heathen made trophies of the power of the cross, and preserved among the things that were, in missionary museums—or the thank offerings of converted Pagans, for the preached gospel, which has proved to them the wisdom of God and the power of God in their salvation? What returns of expatriated countrymen so interesting as those of the men of God, who, having gone abroad to spend and be spent in his service in foreign lands, come home to seek an asylum for exhausted nature and it may be, premature old age, in the land of their birth—or the widows and orphans of the soldiers of the cross, who have fallen nobly fighting the battles of the Lord in inhospitable climes, or among barbarous and savage men? Yet in the conveyance of exports and imports such as these—in the transport of passengers of these descriptions, are the Children's Ships engaged; and it is to the help of such an enterprise, that you, my dear young friends, have now come up. Could you have made a better investment of your funds? Read in the Records of the London Missionary Society—which I hope your Sabbath School Library can furnish you—read with what enthusiasm the appearance of the chil-