

career is sketched in its pages. We can well believe that to the author it was "a work of sorrow—a labour of love" thus to mark the footsteps of a departed brother; but the work is honestly done and it scarcely requires this modest apology of the Preface:—"No doubt it presents some indications of fraternal predilections, and precipitancy in judgment almost inseparable from inexperienced youth. But with all its defects he humbly hopes that, having done what he could, none may deal harshly with his work."

The MEMOIR contains Twenty Chapters, with an Appendix. We have first an account of Mr. Gordon's early life and education, with a vivid sketch of the social and educational state of P. E. Island. Then follows his College career, and a chapter devoted to his labours as a City Missionary. The reader then follows him into the sick chamber where his life was long despaired of, but from which he came forth a stronger and healthier man than ever, and fully resolved to be a Missionary to the heathen. In due course comes the trying hour when he must leave home and kindred and venture out alone on the vast lonely world: he does so in faith; and God raises him friends wherever his lot is cast. In England he is fortunate in the selection of a wife; and, thus strengthened with a helpmeet, he proceeds to the field of his labours, to Eromanga, an Island now forever associated with his name. Who can tell the trials, the toils, the painful vigils of those four long lingering years on Eromanga—far off from human help and christian intercourse and influence—at the mercy of cannibals fanatical as well as ferocious,—disease and war doing their deadly work on every side—thousands falling helpless and hopeless, rejecting the offered Redeemer: no wonder the soul of Gordon burned in deep unceasing agony as he watched the havoc of the destroyer. God was most merciful when he permitted that swift, deadly translation from this sorrow up to everlasting joy.

The writer of the Memoir treats incidentally of questions that are very interesting to the friends of Missions. The contemporary

history of Missions on Aneiteum, Tana, Mare, &c, is also given to some extent.

The Life of Mr. Gordon is very instructive and encouraging. It shows how a young man who is in earnest may surmount almost any difficulties if he encounter them in faith and with unflagging perseverance. Mr. G. was well advanced in years before he entered college, yet he could and did make remarkable progress in secular learning as well as in Theology. His career was short, but it was brilliant in all the best qualities that constitute true greatness. He was a diligent and successful student, an effective and eloquent preacher, a brave and faithful missionary.

The partner of his four years of perilous toil on Eromanga—the sharer at last of his martyr's crown—seemed in every respect worthy of the high calling to which she was called. Devout, and trustful in God, as she was intelligent and brave-hearted, she shrank from no responsibility that can devolve on a Missionary's wife. On one occasion she had to remain one whole week alone on Eromanga,—her husband having been called away to Aneiteum,—alone for days and nights amid savages the most degraded and ruthless on the face of the earth!

We cordially commend this Memoir to our readers. The author must shortly leave our shores on the same errand as his devoted brother. It is no doubt desirable, (as the book is published on his sole responsibility,) that it should be extensively sold and paid for before his departure.

Home Missions.

REPORT OF HOME MISSION BOARD.

The work of the Board embraces two distinct provinces—aiding weak congregations, and supply of mission stations, by probationers and catechists.

I. Supplementing the salaries of ministers in weak charges.—Under this head payments have been made to fifteen ministers during the past year. Ten or eleven of them were on the list of previous year, and the sums