

—That, as there is an urgent call for a great extension of Missionary Effort, the Board thankfully acknowledges and warmly approves of such a generous consecration of property as is proposed; and that such representations be made, by the Committee and other Members of the Board, to the religious public, and especially to the more wealthy and prosperous of its patrons, as shall bring the claims of a perishing world before them.

On the proceedings of the Board at this Anniversary it is remarked—

The proceedings, which have been described, in the abstract of the Minutes, plainly shew, that the Members of the Board felt, in a manner unusually deep and solemn, their responsibility to the Christian Public and to their Divine Master: but no written account, much less the mere copy of Resolutions, can give a full and adequate impression of the state of feeling. All the deliberations were interesting; but on Friday, Saturday, and Monday, they were so, to an extraordinary degree.

On Saturday morning, a large Committee reported on the subject of the Call for Augmented Efforts in carrying forward the Missionary Operations of this country. When the Board was about to enter on the consideration of this Report, a Member proposed, as the subject was one of the most important that ever engaged the attention of any deliberative assembly, and as there was an inexhaustible Source of Wisdom, to which all who felt their need of Divine Teaching might have access, that special prayer should be offered for the blessing of God upon the Board in the approaching discussion; a prayer was immediately offered, and the subject was then resumed.

The Corresponding Secretary gave some description of the opening fields for Missionary Labour. The Board then requested the Rev. Jonas King, lately returned from the East, to make such statements, as his own observation would prompt, with reference to those countries of the East, which he had visited: this was done at considerable length; and was closed by an allusion to his reflections when abroad respecting the happy condition of Christians in America, and the peculiar obligations under which they are laid. A most animated discussion ensued, in which Dr. Spring, Dr. Beecher, Mr. Bissel, Dr. Mathews, Dr. McAuley, and others, took a part. Several Gentlemen, both members and spectators, declared that they had never before been present at so interesting a deliberation—debate it could not be called, for all were of one heart and one soul. The great topics, which filled the mind, and caused the bosom to heave with emotion too big for utterance, were the wonderful preparations, in the Providence of God, for evangelical effort—the ability of this country to furnish faithful, devoted, efficient labourers, in constantly increasing numbers—the vigour and enterprise which American Christians are capable of exhibiting, whenever they shall be generally and fully embarked in this Great Cause—and the indications that they are speedily to be thus embarked.

It was the opinion of not a few, who were present, that the effect of this Meeting, and of the unexampled liberality which it was the occasion of bringing forth, would be immediately felt through the land. It will animate Missionaries, and operate powerfully to increase their number: it will turn the thoughts of rich men to their obligations, and do much toward forming a new standard for their efforts; and, in these various ways, may exert an influence greater than can now be foreseen or conceived.

Of the Meeting which took place a few days afterward, some account was given at p. 566 of our last Volume: we subjoin fuller details:—

The Corresponding Secretary of the Board, was introduced to the Meeting, and was requested to state what openings there were for an immediate increase of Missionary Labour, provided additional funds should be offered: in compliance with this request, gave a rapid glance at the Missions now in existence, and at desirable fields for new Missionary Enterprise: among the latter, he dwelt a little upon Western Africa, and the North-West coast of America: he concluded by stating, that these increased exertions, to which the Board was invited, would demand an additional expenditure of one hundred thousand dollars the first year, leaving what might be called the ordinary receipts to defray the expenses

of existing operations; and that the continually-increasing sphere of Missionary Labour would probably require an equal or greater expenditure, in subsequent years. The Rev. Jonas King was next requested to state the result of his own observations, in countries bordering on the Mediterranean, with respect to the need and the utility of increased efforts; this he did, in a very interesting manner, by mentioning many places, which he had visited, in which Missions might be planted with great advantage; he described these places and their inhabitants, and the countries adjacent: and urged on the Gentlemen present their peculiar duties as American Christians. The Rev. Dr. Beecher was then invited to address the Meeting as he had previously expressed his views to the Board, somewhat at large, on the same subject: he spoke about twenty-five minutes with great effect.

At the close of these statements and arguments, which were heard with the most profound attention, the Chairman observed, that the Meeting was now ready to receive any motion. It was accordingly moved, that a subscription be opened, for the purpose of raising funds to enable the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions to make NEW AND AUGMENTED EFFORTS. In the object of the motion the Meeting was perfectly united; but there was a diversity of opinion, as to the form which the subscription paper should take: some Gentlemen thought, that, for the sake of securing a large sum, and affording a strong ground of confidence to the Board in regard to new efforts, it would be well for the subscription to be annual, for five years, payable on the condition that it should be raised to One Hundred Thousand Dollars annually; others were of opinion, that it would be better to have the subscription for the present only, and without any condition as to the amount: supposing that the sum given would increase from year to year. To meet the wishes of both these classes, it was decided that Two Papers should be laid on the table. The subscribers to the first stipulated, that they would, with the permission of Providence, pay the sums annexed to their names annually, for five years, and on the condition that 100,000 dollars were raised, as an additional effort within twelve months from this time: they also engaged to make the first payment, without any condition, as to the whole amount raised: on this Paper, one Gentleman subscribed 5000 dollars; another, 10,000 for himself and his friends in the western part of the State; several others 1000 dollars each; two 500 each, &c. amounting, in the whole, to 20,675 annually, or 103,375 for the five years. On the other paper, 5000 dollars were subscribed; making the sum of both Papers to be 108,375, of which 25,675 are payable within twelve months, and the remainder is payable in future years, on the condition above specified. Except the large sum engaged from the west, the subscription was made by a few Friends of Missions in the city of New York. Gentlemen from other States did not subscribe; reserving themselves to act in connexion with their friends, in the towns and counties, where they reside: but it was very pleasing to hear the assurance given, from many quarters, that the contributions would be greatly increased in the Auxiliary Societies generally: one Gentleman, who belongs to an Auxiliary which raised 1800 dollars the present year, guaranteed that the sum should be doubled next year: another had previously given a similar guarantee in writing. Several Clergymen expressed the opinion, that the offerings of the Friends of Missions, generally, could easily be doubled.

On the whole, the result of the Meeting was most auspicious; not merely or principally on account of the sum raised; but because it afforded a practical illustration of the ease with which the Friends of God can contribute of their substance, when he imparts the disposition.

[TO BE CONTINUED.]

## BIOGRAPHY.

### MEMOIRS OF JOHN URQUHART.

*Memoirs, including Letters and Select Remains, of John Urquhart, late of the University of St. Andrews. By William Orme.*

Dr. CHALMERS, in a letter to Mr. ORME, speaks of the youth who forms the subject of this Memoir, in the following terms of commendation:—

—My first knowledge of him, was as a student, in which capacity he far outpeered all his fellows: and in a class of uncommon force, and brilliancy of talent, shone forth as a star of the first magnitude.

I do not recollect the subject of his various Essays: but the very first which he read in the hearing of myself, and of his fellow-students, placed him at the head of the class in point of estimation: a statement, which he supported throughout, and which was fully authenticated at the last, by the highest prize being assigned to him for those anonymous compositions, which are submitted to my own judgment, and among which, I decide the relative and respective merits, without any knowledge of their author.

For several months, I only recognized him as a person of fine taste, and lofty intellect, which, recurring forth, as they did from one who had not yet terminated his boy-hood, gave the indication, and the promise, of something quite superlative in future life. It was not till after I had, for a time, admired his capacities for science, that I knew him as the object of a far higher admiration, for his deep and devoted sacredness.

It was in the second session of my acquaintance with him, that I devolved upon him the care of a Sabbath school, which I had formed. In the conduct of this little seminary, he displayed a tact, and a talent, which were quite admirable, and I felt myself far out-run by him, in the power of kind and impressive communication: and in that faculty, by which he commanded the interest of the pupils, and could gain, at all times, the entire sympathy of their understanding. Indeed, all his endowments, whether of the head or of the heart, were in the best possible keeping. For example,—he was alike literary and mathematical, and combined the utmost beauty of composition, with the rigor and precision of the exact sciences. But his crowning excellence was his piety: that virtue, which matured him so early for heaven, and bore him in triumph from that earth on which he hath so briefly sojourned. This religious spirit gave a certain ethereal hue to all his college exhibitions. He had the amplitude of genius, but none of its irregularities. There was no shooting forth of mind in one direction, so as to give a prominence to certain acquisitions, by which to overshadow, or to leave behind, the other acquisitions of his educational course. He was neither a mere geometer, nor a mere linguist, nor a mere metaphysician; he was all put together, alike distinguished by the fulness, and the harmony of his powers.

I leave to you, Sir, the narrative of his higher characteristics. I have spoken, and fully spoken, of the attainments of his philosophy,—to you it belongs, to speak of the sublimer attainments of his faith.

Urquhart was but eighteen years old when he died; and rarely, if ever, has so young a man come before the public with a character combining so many and such great excellencies. His progress in human science, though indicating the finest genius, was not more remarkable than his attainment in divine knowledge, and he was equally distinguished for his habits of practical piety. Whatever he found to do, for the glory of God and the good of man, he did with his might. Alluring as were the prospects which his own country held up before him, he had resolved upon offering himself to the London Missionary Society, for the benefit of the heathen, as soon as his age and the feelings of his relatives would justify the Society in accepting his services. Meanwhile he erected the Missionary standard among the venerable Halls of St. Andrews, and succeeded in forming an association, which ultimately numbered among its friends and supporters more than one-third of all the members of the University.

These volumes are specially and admirably fitted to be useful to young men in pursuit of a liberal education; but no serious and intelligent person can peruse them without interest and profit.

A few extracts will be made from an address of Urquhart to the St. Andrew's Missionary Society. "on the duty of personal engagement in the work of missions."

—We have been too much accustomed to regard the missionary life as an undertaking of most extraordinary magnitude, and as reserved for a few of the more daring and devoted spirits in the race of living Christians; and thus we easily succeed in pushing from ourselves the duty of personal engage-