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EDITORS

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THE GRASSHOPPER.

Thou bounding tenant of the green,
 To human eye but seldom seen,
 At sultry noon thy chirp is heard,
 When ends his lay the tuneful bird;
 Again at eve thy lively note
 Doth Nature's harmony promote;
 Vaulting among the scented hay,
 In perfume glides the time away—
 Like flutterers of the summer hours,
 That live and die amid the flowers.

Oh what to thee shall I compare,
 Thou restless thing, light as the air?
 Thou'rt like the flirting maiden gay,
 Who looks, and loves, and starts away—
 The bright coquette, whose fickle mind
 Not love himself can ever bind;
 Who prized, pursued, beloved in vain,
 Rejects all suitors with disdain,
 Till shunned at last, and wise too late,
 She finds herself without a mate.

Thou'rt like those fleeting summer
 friends,
 Whose love with prosp'rous fortune ends;
 In summer hour who flock around—
 In winter skip to brighter ground:
 A selfish world! how hard to bind,
 With friendship's chain one single mind!

Thou'rt like the bold, aspiring soul,
 Whom duller thoughts cannot control,
 Who springs upon the mountain steep,
 While others in the valley creep!
 There basks in sunshine, place and
 power,
 And chirps with joy his little hour.

Oh life itself, thou little thing,
 A fit comparison may bring;—
 Soon shall thy bounding days be o'er,
 Thy cheerful note be heard no more;
 We too come on this stirring scene,
 And gaze a while on meadows green,
 Feel for a while the beaming sun,
 Then ends our joy when scarce begun:
 Though health our earthly days prolong,
 Life is a chirp, a leap, a song;
 But sweet the contrast!—God of love,
 Thou offerest lasting joys above.

R. T.

GEOGRAPHICAL SKETCH OF REV. ARCHIBALD MACLAY, D. D.

[CONTINUED.]

In the month of August, 1836—the same year in which the American and Foreign Bible Society was organized, and of which Dr. Maclay was elected one of the first vice-presidents—he commenced that series of journeys which has made his face familiar and his name potential in almost every state of the Union, and in most of the Baptist churches of Great Britain. No other agent of the society ever accomplished half so much for its interests. Every where he was well received and drew large audiences who listened to him with deep attention. He plead the cause of the Bible—**THE BIBLE TRANSLATED—the Bible for the world.** He entered upon the work with the same spirit with which he has steadily prosecuted it. "Assure the brethren," said he in a letter to the President, Dr. Cone, "that nothing shall be wanting on my part to promote the interests of the American and Foreign Bible Society, which I consider the noblest institution on the face of the globe. Its object is to give faithful translations of the Bible to all the nations of the earth, without any human addition, diminution, or concealment;

which cannot be affirmed of any other Bible Society in the world; for it would seem that they are more zealous to conceal from the nations the real meaning of the ordinance of Baptism, than to give the unadulterated Bible of God to men. But all attempts to conceal the truth will prove abortive. Men may with equal prospect of success, attempt to stop the sun in his course, as to arrest the progress of the truth of God. I consider my Baptist brethren highly honored of God, in being chosen of him, and ordained to be witnesses for him of the whole truth. May we be humble and faithful unto death, and he will give us the crown of life."

Having done much to establish the Society on a firm and broad basis in this country, he was commissioned, on the 7th September, 1839, to visit the Baptist churches in Great Britain, and to arouse them to action in the Bible cause.

Dr. Maclay returned to America in the ill-fated steam-ship President, which on her return voyage was lost. He resumed the usual duties of his agency with more than his usual success. Every year seemed to increase his influence and his power to do good; and every year added to his zeal, and the efficiency of his labors. In the Autumn of the year 1845, as he was passing down the Mississippi, he experienced one of those wonderful interpositions of Divine Providence, which indicate his signal care and watchfulness over those who love and serve him. When the vessel Bellezane was wrecked on the Mississippi, brother Maclay was exposed to the rigor of the elements under circumstances of such aggravation, that few men in the prime of life and strength would be likely to endure. Yet at the advanced age of sixty-nine years, amid the dead and dying, he was preserved, and was enabled after a few days' interruption, to resume his laborious exertions for the Society. His own graphic description of the scene is given in a letter, which on account of its interesting details, we copy almost entire.

"The steamer Bellezane, of Zanesville, Ohio, left that place for New Orleans: she ran on a snag on the 18th instant, about one o'clock in the morning, five miles below the mouth of White River, and about fifteen above the mouth of the Arkansas River.

Nearly all the passengers were asleep at the time she struck upon the snag, which went completely through her bottom. She creened first on one side and then on the other; the boilers rolled off, which riddled her a little, and the vessel then went completely over on her side and filled with water. I was asleep when she struck, but was roused by the shock and the rolling of the empty barrels on the hurricane deck into the river. I instantly sprang from my berth. The vessel gave a heavy lurch, the water rushing in at the same time up to my chest. I struggled across the cabin floor, and, aided by the handle of the door between the ladies' cabin and ours, I reached the stateroom on the opposite side of the boat, and as both doors were providentially open, I passed through them to the outside; the boat was then on her beam-ends. The scene was truly awful; the night was intensely cold, and those who had escaped immediate death were clustered together on the wreck, destitute of clothing, bareheaded and barefooted. The hurricane deck separated from the cabin, and the captain and four others floated ashore on it. Three of these were frozen to death.

The hull of the boat became detached from the cabin and turned bottom up fifteen

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of the passengers climbed upon the hull and were saved. Some of the passengers, clung to the side of the cabin and were taken off by a small boat. I floated with others on a portion of the wreck, about ten miles down the river, near Napoleon, at the mouth of the Arkansas river. From some of the berths, which constituted a portion of the wreck we were on, a few quilts were obtained. I gave a mattress which I had procured to Mr. Chapman, who had the child of Captain Hins in his arms. I put the mattress over him and the child. With some difficulty I obtained another; but a planter from Kentucky, whose name, I think, was Burns, suffered excessively from the cold and, being in danger of freezing to death, I gave up to him the second mattress. I remained afterwards four hours on the wreck. Some of the boat's crew who had reached the shore, obtained a small boat and came to our relief. The ladies were very properly first taken from the wreck. I was brought to the shore with Mr. Burns, the planter before mentioned who had suffered so much from the cold. Almost the instant we had reached the shore, he gave one groan and expired. Colonel Rives, a relative of Mr. Rives of Washington, was on board of the steamer, and was the first man who reached the shore. He possesses great energy of character, and was exceedingly kind and attentive to me and the rest of the passengers. He travelled along the shore through the woods a number of miles, and obtained a small boat, and came to the wreck as the last of the passengers were taken off.

We walked about a mile to the house of Mr. Cook, an overseer to Mr. Hibbard, of Napoleon, by whom we were received and treated with the utmost kindness. Judge Sutton and other citizens came from Napoleon, and tendered us every assistance that our wants required. The captain states that there were one hundred and twenty-five passengers: sixty-five were lost; four of the number were frozen to death. I attribute my powers of endurance (sufficiently put to the test on this terrible night) to my constitution and temperate habits. I have lost my watch, money, clothing, &c., but my life has been graciously spared.

During the four hours I was on the wreck I spent most of the time in mental prayer, and was resigned and composed. I would with gratitude raise another Ebenezer, and say, "Hitherto hath the Lord helped me: what shall I render unto God for all his mercies toward me?" I am at the house of Cornelius Paulding, Esquire, who has always exhibited toward me much kindness and Christian sympathy, and has, if possible on this occasion, manifested more kindness to me than ever.

In his new relations Dr. Maclay has renewed his youth. He was never before so successful in overcoming opposition and winning co-operation. His progress through the country is almost uniformly marked by a change of sentiment on the part of those who were in favor of the new policy and position of the American and Foreign Bible Society. His uniform urbanity, his ardent piety and disinterestedness, his zeal in the cause of truth, tempered by Christian discretion, his plain exhibition of facts and principles, and his undoubted honesty in all that he says and purposes, gives him a power over the people which is almost irresistible. Never before have his character and reputation stood so high. His very presence seems to secure success to the cause which he advocates.

Dr. Maclay has the faculty of attaching to himself, by the ties of a warm personal friendship, the individuals with whom he comes in contact in the discharge of his official duties;

this results from an impression which he leaves on every mind that his cause is good, and his heart is in it; that he loves his Master more than he does himself; that after buffeting the world for more than seventy years, he still retains all the simplicity of childhood, and all the warmth of early affection; and that he is working with all the energy of his soul to do what he can for the glory of God, before he receives the crown of a blissful immortality, and hears the plaudit, "Well done, good and faithful servant, enter thou into the joy of thy Lord."

Of Dr. Maclay's character as a man, little need be said. No blot has ever been cast upon his name. Over the ordinary intercourse of society and in the family circle, he diffuses the charm which is always felt from the presence of simplicity, cheerfulness, and virtue. He loves the society of children, and one who is no stranger to him, observed, that their happiness always seemed to be his pleasure. He has a care for one, a story for another, a smile for all.

"His ready smile, a parent's warmth expressed,
 Their welfare pleased him, and their care distressed."

Dependent upon his own exertions from the period when he was seven years of age he uniformly evinces a sympathy for, and an intelligent appreciation of the struggles of the poor.

The father of a numerous family, he never showed in regard to them any apprehension of the future, owing, no doubt, in part to the early lessons of self-reliance, which he had been thus taught, but chiefly to a constant recognition of the providence of God.

Such is the habitual control and government of a temper, naturally irritable and ardent, that what is usually the result of a successful struggle with a natural infirmity, has often been mistaken for native sweetness of disposition.

An attempt to describe his conversation, must encounter the hazard of conveying an imperfect or perhaps an erroneous impression to the mind. It is marked by singular ease and fluency. It abounds in racy and apposite anecdotes, springing appropriately out of the occasion; and yet the effect produced by them is so blended with and dependent upon his manner, that the citation of any example would as inadequately illustrate the truth of our remark, as a description of a picture which the reader never saw, or a melody which he has not heard.

His modesty and entire freedom from any thing resembling vanity, prevent him from monopolising an undue share of conversation, as is frequently the case with fluent talkers, while other qualities, to which we rightly bow with more deference, constrain him to unite instruction with amusement.

Perhaps, in all the circles in which he has moved, no one ever heard him speak in other than warm terms of commendation, of all his ministering brethren, whatever differences might exist among them in respect to reputation or influence.

His love of the cause in which he is engaged makes him less disposed to criticize, than to hail with pleasure the humblest auxiliary to it. These characteristics give to his whole deportment in social intercourse the air of a man, who simply wishes "to enjoy himself, and to contribute his share to the instruction and happiness of others."

(To be concluded next week.)

Education begins the gentleman, but reading, good company, and reflection must finish him.—Locke.