MEMOIR OF MRS. LOUISA A. LOWRIE, OF THE NORTHERN INDIA MISSION

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Memoir of Mrs. Louisa A. Lowrie, of the Northern India Mission by Ashbel G. Fairchild

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ASHBEL G. FAIRCHILD

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Trieste

MEMOIR

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MRS. LOUISA A. LOWRIE,

OF THE NORTHERN INDIA MISSION :

BY THE

REV. ASHBEL G. FAIRCHILD.

WITH AN INTRODUCTION,

BY THE

REV. ELISHA P. SWIFT.

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INTRODUCTION.

MAN is, in himself, a lost, ruined, and perishing sinner. Of this fact, the world is full of the most convincing evidence. The Bible professes to reveal to us God's true and only system of salvation. This is a dispensation of life to guilty man through a Mediator, and it is also a distinct practical principle of the heart and life, developing itself by the production of a free self-consecration of its recipients to the glory of God, and the well-being of mankind. Its vital power-its ascendency over the inner man, in the production of pure and holy principles and actions, is an essential evidence of one's interest in its blessings; while the most abundant and convincing

manifestations of it to others becomes the surest way by which its great Author is honoured and the world improved. Hence the lives of devoted Christians become useful and instructive, just in proportion as they are truly and wisely conformed to the great pattern; and the examples and biographies of eminent believers stimulate the pious in the path of duty, and impress the consciences of the wicked with a sense of their criminality.

Periods of great trial and persecution in the world, and seasons in which God has, by his providence, especially called forth the visible power of religion, or remarkably poured out his Spirit upon the earth, for its increase, have been most distinguished for the development of the Christian principle. The present state of the world is peculiarly favourable to its useful display in judicious and disinterested efforts to bring millions of benighted and perishing sinners into the kingdom of God. The temporal and eternal benefits which the gospel can impart to the heathen are beyond all computation : and the Bible, while it urges the duty of its immediate dissemination, pledges its own veracity for the certainty that it shall eventually overspread the world. The events of providence are now more and more distinctly every year indicating the near approach of that joyful consummation.

The labour and the self-denial, however, which a personal engagement in the missionary service in foreign lands requires, is so great, and the zeal of the disciples to spread the triumphs of the cross among remote and barbarous tribes of men is so small, that it must be long indeed before such a re-