THE LAST MARTYRS OF EROMANGA. BEING A MEMOIR OF THE REV. GEORGE N. GORDON AND ELLEN CATHERINE POWELL, HIS WIFE

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The Last Martyrs of Eromanga. Being a Memoir of the Rev. George N. Gordon and Ellen Catherine Powell, His Wife by James D. Gordon

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JAMES D. GORDON

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Ellen Catherine Gordon

THE LAST

MARTYRS OF EROMANGA.

BEING A

MEMOIR

OF THE

REV. GEORGE N. GORDON

AND

ELLEN CATHERINE POWELL,

"Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord from henceforth; yea, saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their labors; and their works do follow sbem,"—REV. xiv. 13.

> HALIFAX, N. S. MACNAB AND SHAFFER, 15 PRINCE ST. 1863.

> > KNOX COLLEGE

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PREFACE.

Unimportant as this Memoir may appear to many, yet, to the writer it has been a "work of sorrow—a labor of love." Though he has spared no pains in its preparation and revision, yet he is but too well aware that it is not what it ought to be, and none can be more keenly alive to its imperfections and blemishes than himself. No doubt it presents some indications of fraternal predilections, and precipitency 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; and it is his earnest prayer that God may bless it to the salvation of souls.

Though the late Missionary of Eromanga had neither sons nor daughters, yet there is reason to believe that his spiritual children were not a few. Even in the island where he and his heroic partner spent so trying a part of their days, and whence they ascended in their "blood-red car," there is much reason to believe that, through their instrumentality.

some were begotten again of the Holy Spirit; and, that others, born again of God, will yet arise and call them blessed. The hope may be cherished that their spiritual lineage may be transmitted unimpaired through succeeding generations.

The writer gratefully acknowledges his obligations to the Rev. R. Murray and Dr. Parker, of Halifax, N. S., and to the Rev. Mr. Keedy, of London, G. B., for their contributions to the Memoir.

As the writer had an opportunity of reading only a portion of the proof-sheets, the work, unavoidably, is not free from typographical and other errors.

The last part of the work partakes somewhat of the nature of an Appendix; but as it consists principally of papers affording information intimately connected with the history of Polynesian missions, and, in an especial manner, with missionary efforts on Eromanga, the writer has preferred calling it — Part Second.

JULY, 1863.

J. D. G.

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