

**LIFE AND LETTERS
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AND JEFFERSON COLLEGE.
MISS MARY C. GREENLEAF,**

Missionary to the Chickasaw Indians.

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"If thine eye be single, thy whole body shall be full of light."  
MATT. 6: 22.  
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WRITTEN FOR THE MASSACHUSETTS SABBATH SCHOOL SOCIETY, AND
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From Rev. Dr. Wilson, Secretary of the
Presbyterian Board of Missions.

*“Mission House, 23 Centre street, }
New York, December 23d, 1857. }*

“Yours of the 21st inst., has been received. I regret very much that I was not here in time to furnish the correspondence between Miss Greenleaf and this office, and to bear my humble testimony to her great worth, both as a Christian and a missionary teacher. Very few have gone forth to engage in this holy work, of whom higher hopes were entertained, or in relation to whom those hopes have been more fully realized than in her. In all of her intercourse with us here, she left the very pleasant impression, that she was impelled by no other motive, than the simple and

earnest desire to honor her Saviour, and do good to the souls of her benighted fellow-men ; and this impression was fully sustained, as I have learned from her associates in the missionary work, through the whole term of her missionary labor.

“ The term of her labor was short, it is true. But who can tell the full extent of her influence, already felt, and still to be continued, long after her mortal remains have crumbled to dust ?

“ Miss Greenleaf combined in her views and character two of the most important elements of the missionary spirit. She was ready to accommodate herself to the new circumstances of her calling, and to engage in any department of labor that the general interest of the missionary cause might demand ; and she engaged in it with the view of making it the work of her life. That she acted up to these principles,

might easily be shown, if we had time to refer, either to her own correspondence, or to the honorable testimony that has been spontaneously borne by almost every one of her missionary associates. The full impression made upon the minds of the girls by her instructions and example, and by those assiduous attentions bestowed upon them in sickness, and by which, her own fatal illness was no doubt brought on, can be fully known, only when we come to read the pages of this world's history in the clear light of eternity. We shall always think of your dear departed relative, as a model of missionary excellence, and we trust, that many more such, in answer to hers, and the prayers of other Christians, will be raised up to take her place, and extend the knowledge of the Gospel among all the nations of the earth.

“ I am sorry that my engagements do

not allow me to express all that I would like to say on this subject.

“Yours in Christian bonds,

“J. LEIGHTON WILSON.”

Thus, after patience had had its perfect work, did her heavenly Father permit her to fulfill her vow, and then call her to come up higher, before her eye had become dim, or her natural force abated. Thus did he cover her eyes, that she saw not the face of the angel from whose presence nature shrinks.

We had almost forgotten that Miss Greenleaf was mortal. While she, upon her bed of death, was saying to a sister missionary, “You cannot do better than to commend me to the Great Physician,” we had begun to watch for her returning foot-