

The life and missionary labours of that holy man
Francis Xavier.

No exercise can be more edifying, to the Christian, than to read the lives of eminently pious men. It elevates the affections, strengthens the faith of the weak believer in Jesus, and enables him to follow the example of those men of God, who spent their lives in the service of the Redeemer, and died triumphing in the full prospect of spending an endless eternity with angels and glorified saints.

Such was the person who shall be the subject of the following remarks. But for an account of the narrow limits to which we are confined, and for fear of ~~instructing~~ ^{extending our experience thereby} ~~weariness upon your patience~~ we shall be constrained to omit many things which ~~would~~ ^{would} be very interesting.

This truly devoted servant of God, ^{Francis Xavier} derived his pedigree from Navarre a province of Spain. His parents were of noble descent. Francis who was the fruit of their old age, was born on the 7th of April 1506. He was of a strong habit of body; his complexion was lively and vigorous, his genius sublime and capable of the greatest designs, his heart fearless, and ~~capable~~

his deportment, ^{highly} agreeable; but above all he was of a gay
complying, and winning humour. He was passionately
fond of ostentation, and yet an extreme aversion
to all insolence; and ~~was~~ insatiable thirst for
^{acquisition of} the knowledge. His parents took ^{great} ~~particular~~ care to instil
religious principles into him in his ~~infancy~~ early
youth, as well as to ^{instruct} him ~~in~~ ⁱⁿ ~~the~~ ^{various}
of the useful branches of literature and sciences.
As he had a quick conception, a ~~happy~~ retentive
memory, and a penetrating mind, he advanced rap-
idly. Having acquired a sufficient knowledge of
the Latin in a few years, he was sent to the univer-
sity of Paris in the eighteenth year of his age, ^{where} ~~he~~
immediately commenced the study of Philosophy.
It is almost incredible with how much ardour he
surmounted every difficulty that presented itself in
his diversified studies; his ambition always prompted
him to be at the head of his class. After having obtained
the degree of A. M. he commenced to teach philosophy,
in which he soon became celebrated.

About this time Ignatius Loyola came into France,
to finish his studies. He soon became acquainted with
Navier, and considered him a ^{very} suitable person to preach
the gospel, provided he would become pious.

often permitted him to support slaves in various circumstances,
but he thought much of the ^{diminishing} profits of the trade
and he was gradually becoming acquainted with the principles
of the trade by seeing many ingenious methods to give
his affections, he at length succeeded, ~~and~~ ^{and felt}
Slaves now began to see the ~~value~~ ^{value} himself ~~ought~~
to have as human creatures, and the necessity
of a particular object, he also began to see as
a maintenance, such, to think him to ~~be~~ ^{as a} ~~trading~~
question; he therefore ~~thought~~ ^{thought} to feel to give
for money, and assigned himself to give and became truly
influenced with a good trade, and so on. This chief
delight was now the certain state of the things. He
formed a resolution to devote himself to the promotion
of ~~God~~ and the abolition of man's inhuman trade,
after becoming truly changed, and enjoying much of
~~the~~ ^{the} ~~same~~ ^{same} ~~spirit~~ ^{spirit} ~~of~~ ^{of} ~~the~~ ^{the} ~~same~~ ^{same} ~~kind~~ ^{kind}
with his god, he received the orders of the priesthood with
great zeal and holy confidence, which are more
readily conceived than expected. Before he entered on
the discharge of his office, he sought out a solitary place
where he might converse with his god, and

contemplate the eternal ~~the eternal~~ and sublime truths of our great salvation. He commenced his first labours among his neighbours, whom he exhorted to penitence and faith in Jesus, while humility and dignity combined in his deportment gave efficacy and weight to all he said. When he first officiated as priest at the altar, ~~he was~~ ^{he} ~~was~~ ^{was} often seen to steal down his cheeks, and at times in such abundance that his audience could not refrain from receiving their own whittle his.

The austere laborious life which he led, joined with much sensible devotion, so much impaired his constitution, that he ~~was~~ took sick and was carried into one of the town hospitals, where he was accessible to visit; which was so crowded, and so poor, that Xavier had in it but one half of a wretched bed.

His viaticals were no better than his lodging, and never was a ~~poor~~ ~~fallen~~ sick man more destitute of human succor; but his God whom he served had not forsaken him, but administered to him in all his spiritual wants. Scarcely had he recovered from this first illness before he was seized with another much more ~~vicious~~ malignant and obstinate

then the first: in the mean time when he could not
to come of his sick companions, he would speak them
in respectance. It is true he spoke ~~but~~ very ~~and~~ his
language was only a kind of confused mixture of Italian
French and Spanish, but he spoke not with the wisdom
of men, nor with a view to be taken to some points of
honour among his fellow men, but with freedom and
demonstration of the spirit.
After his health was again restored he frequented with
more vigour and reluctance than ever. Death, probably more
and the honours of his station, were ^{to the last of} the concern of
him of his discourse. He would not let any thing of a
order of men should have been set forth in all his
words and offices, for if the love of god, as manifested
in the redemption of the world through Jesus Christ,
will not move the human heart, in other subject will
But no doubt this truly divine argument who had as a
undoubtedly approved the love of god in his own soul,
was not deficient in knowing how rightly to observe
with the law and the gospel. His arguments were plain
not so moving, that the people who came in crowds
to hear him preach, departed out of the church in a
performance silence, and thought not of help of god.

~~beginning~~ applauding

~~from~~ the preacher, then how they might obtain the
peace and favour of god.

We have given you a short sketch of his early youth,
his conversion, and first labours, now let us dwell brief-
ly upon his successful and almost unequalled mis-
sionary labours and sufferings. ~~in the following~~

His first missionary appointment was to the East Indies,
where he had an opportunity of satisfying that fervent
desire which he had of carrying the gospel into remote
countries, where he had not a narrow palestine or a province
of asia in ^{view} prospect, but ~~was~~ ~~fixed~~ a vast extent of ground,
innumerable kingdoms, yea an entire world was reserved
for his labours. He departed from Rome in the company
of Mascaregnas the Portugal ambassador, on the 15th of
March 1540 without any equipage besides a single book.
He soon by an excess of humility which caused him
to forget the dignity of his character, was made every
mans servant. He was so zealous that he could not
be persuaded to bid his friends farewell, but deferred his
visit till he should meet them in heaven.
During his stay at Lisbon, he was principally engaged in
visiting the hospitals, and comforting the sick; And
when he ~~at~~ got on board of ship he undevoured

parents. Such was the deplorable condition in which
Xavier found this people, but he commenced the useful
work by consecrating the major part of the night
to prayer, invoking the blessing of God upon his
labours, allowing himself but 4 hours sleep. The Lord
blessed his labours, and enabled him to rejoice in seeing
the Redeemers kingdom prospering in his hands.
From Goa he went to the east of Fishery, to promulgate
the gospel of Salvation to a certain ~~place~~ people called
paravus. He soon acquired a knowledge of their language,
and translated the Lords prayer, and part of the gospels
into their language. This had a very great effect upon
them, they cast their idols to the rocks and to the bats, and
began to serve the true and living God. The very Bramins
themselves were constrained to honour ~~him~~ Xavier, notwithstanding
they had persecuted him so severely, exposed
him to so many dangers, and even endeavoured to take
away his life.

The life which Xavier led wherever he went came con-
tributed as much as anything ~~else~~ to the success of his
~~labours~~. His food was the same with that of the poorest
of people; rice and water. But while he lived an
austere life in the body, his soul feasted upon

are bread food. Heavier appears to have enjoyed himself
 in ~~an extraordinary manner~~ in all his labors, serious
 & now ~~inventions~~ and affections ~~for~~ ~~his~~ ~~former~~ ~~acquaintances~~ they
 may have been.
 Not if he goes to an island called Val-Mare. Oh the
 noble barbarous situation of the island. People called land
 by in the noise of the Macedonians, "come over and help us"
 they pursued each other, they hid themselves with humor
 flesh, and many other things to ~~whom~~ ~~to~~ ~~be~~
 rejected. He was much ~~pleased~~ ~~by~~ ~~the~~ ~~conduct~~ ~~of~~ ~~his~~ ~~friends~~
 not to go, that he would exchange his life; but he refused
 "If that takes abundance in precious mines of silver & gold,
 the Christians would have the courage to go thither; ~~not~~ ~~all~~
 the change imaginable would not fright them; and
 shall it be said that glory is less than their own?"
 Notwithstanding see the substance of his friends ~~the~~ ~~words~~
 & to hazard his life for the salvation of their souls.
 He endured in this ~~banishment~~ ~~and~~ ~~riches~~ ~~to~~ ~~be~~
 counting all the miseries imaginable of his own that
 and ~~nothing~~. And the comfort he received from heaven,
 infinitely ~~exceeded~~ all his labors, and ~~unusually~~ ~~was~~
 invited him for all his sorrows and affections.
 He went for other miseries to assist him, and gave

them directions how to execute their various offices.
Many embraced Christianity and became truly pious.
Such was Xavier's zeal for the glory of God, that he was ever
ready to sacrifice his life in the cause of ~~god~~ the Redeemer
or. He considered it the highest privilege to die for Christ's
sake; ~~and he would have~~ he would rather have
chosen to suffer any torments ^{for} the service of God,
than to have enjoyed all these spiritual delights; being
content to wait for them, till he would be introduced
into the eternal world of spirits.

He ~~was~~ resolved next to go to Japan. Although it
was a long and extremely dangerous journey, and tho'
he was earnestly solicited by his friends to remain
with them, yet he embarked for Japan in April 1549.
He had for his companions three Japanese and two
of his friends. After a long and dangerous voyage
they arrive at Congoxima in Malacca on the 15 of
August 1549. All the Japanese, ^{were idolaters} excepting a few
who made profession of Atheism and ~~believe~~ deny
~~the~~ of a future state of existence beyond the grave,
~~were idolaters~~, and held the transmigration of
the soul, ^{according to} after the doctrine of Pythagoras. Some
pay divine adoration to the sun & moon; others

overship begets, besides a mysterious deity, whom they
call Shintoo. They say that this god has knit a parallel
so far from the earth, that the soul cannot reach it, unless
a voyage of three years. They also have a god called Kooa, of
whom they report great wonders, who seems to be a con-
fessit of the true Messiah. They say that he was born
of a queen who never had the common knowledge of a
man, & retired into the desert of Seirin, and there
encountered seven sufferings to obtain the title of
man. It is not easy to imagine how far their superstitions
have carried them; they think themselves beyond firm high
works, or build themselves above in error. It is common to
see boats full of men of various sorts, who talk about their
needs, singing the praises of their gods, after which they
cast themselves into the depth of the sea.

The first thing which Deaver had to do was to make
himself acquainted with the language. It is almost im-
possible with what facility he surmounted these difficulties
and facts which interested themselves to him. It may be truly
said that the Holy Spirit assisted him on these occasions
when he first commenced to teach many ~~the~~
to be a miracle. Their language or dialect of his
is ^{very} remarkably, and according to nature, their people do not

not to listen to Xavier. But at length they found that their
priests were actuated more by self interest than ~~any~~
thing else, so they became doubtful about their own religion
and replied, that it ought to be defended not by affronts
but arguments.

Notwithstanding ~~his~~ ^{opposed,} was violently his labours were blessed,
many embraced christianity, and finally become as
ardent in its defence, as ^{firmly} they were opposed to its
prosperity. They became so devoted that ~~Jesus was~~ ^{Jesus was}
the only object that was spoken of throughout the whole
Town. The more the gospel was opposed the more it
flourished; and they by their patience in persecutions
and christian deportment convinced ^{was} ^{an} ^{amen} ^{men} ^{to} ^{as}
knowledge that they were teachers sent from God.

The next day leaves Amanguchia, and goes to the King,
donor of Bunge, where he was received with the greatest
possible honour, amidst the acclamations of a rejoicing
people. Although ~~he~~ externally he had the appearance of
of a pauper, yet he was rich, "he laid up his treasure
where moth doth not corrupt nor thieves break ^{not} through
and steal."

"The exterior show of greatness he declined,

"But for an Eden lost, gained paradise of mine,

Mourning of their poor and benighted heathen nations
and openly professed their faith in Jesus Christ's promises
and longed all hearted to ^{the same} government and ^{the same} which
is remarkable they were so firm in their professions,
that all the opposition of wicked men combined with
the powers of darkness, were unable to move them from the
rock upon which they had built. They bore all their persecu-
tions and afflictions with the most astonishing fortitude.
It was now 2 years since Martin had come to ^{the same} ^{the same}
which time, it pleased the Lord to deliver ^{through his instrumentality}
~~the~~ ^{the} ^{the} from the power of the devil, ^{the} ^{the} ^{the}

Although there was a gloomy prospect, and the sky gathering black-
ness and darkness around them, yet he set out for China
in full reliance on that God who had ^{promised} to ^{bring} him ^{from}
all his former difficulties. The success of the recovery of the
the most costly and magnificent presents were presented
at, and about all the front of great price, that ^{was} ^{sent}
He therefore, such a present as no King ever made to
another Prince in the gifts of Jesus Christ which was

first announced to man with ^{the} shouts and acclamations
of angels, singing "glory to God in the highest peace on earth
good will to ~~men~~ ^{men}". But his hopes of dispossessing
the Devil of one of the greatest empires in the world, were
soon blasted; ~~after~~ ^{it} appears that Providence
had designed that he should not see China. After arriving
at the island of Sancian he was compelled to remain
there. Shortly after he was taken sick with a violent fever
which was on the 20 of November, and at the same time
he foretold the day of his death.

From that moment he perceived in himself a strange
disgust to all earthly things, and thought of nothing but
that heavenly country, whither God was about to call him.
On Friday the 2 of December having his eyes all bathed
in tears, and fixed upwards, with great tenderness of soul,
he pronounced these words "In te Domine speravi; non
confundar in aeternum", and at the same instant
with a holy joy, ^{by} ~~which~~ ^{the} ~~of~~ ^{will,} such as give new charms to an angel's song,
he sweetly breathed his spirit into the hands of God,
while waiting angels conducted the happy spirit into
the ~~presence~~ ^{presence} of that God whom he served &
loved so ardently. Here we draw the curtain, and ~~put~~ ^{close}
~~end~~ to our remarks on this telegraph of God. We can
trace him

This example is truly worthy to be imitated. It is true we are
at times in many instances, but when the whole has gone
in ~~perfect~~ ⁱⁿ devotion, his unreserved labor, his ~~heart~~
in afflictions, ^{selection of} his ~~heart~~ ^{humility and confidence in} god for the sake of
god on most perfect examples for imitation. And by doing
so youth shall be guided, and old age be supported, and
by ~~the~~ ^{constant} and ^{active} church, and thus shall life and
even old age and every benighted world and nation
be, and thus shall all and the year be the field of our
their honor, and thus shall we be introduced into the
presence of god. To join in singing the new song of
Halleluia and the Lamb for ever and ever.