





From a photograph by Garver, 1884.

*To obtain citizenship and heirship in the kingdom of heaven,
we have but to surrender to God and receive Jesus.*

John Taylor, Bp of Africa



Dedication.

I humbly dedicate to my Divine Sovereign, and to my fellow Subjects, the Story of my life. It is not a book of fiction, but of facts, not remote reminiscences, but facts, written mainly in the present tense, fresh from memory, occupying thus the leisure of about a hundred voyages at sea, covering a period of nearly forty years: illustrative facts in vast variety. A picture all shine, or all shade, would not truthfully represent real life. Some may not like the shade, but the shine abounds, and is open to free selection. My special work for edifying and energizing the hosts of God's elect in climes remote, and for the birth and development of churches in purely mission fields, is the work of God, and it abides, and spreads out like an Asiatic Banyan, or like the Eucalyptus forests of California. There were no such trees on that coast when I went there in 1849. I sent the seed from Australia to my wife in California in 1863. Her seed sowing made such a marvelous growth that a horticulturist neighbour of ours wrote me ^{to send} him a pound of seed - the smallest of all seeds, and the nurseries, thus seed-ed, dotted the whole country with great forests of evergreen, the most prominent land marks of the Pacific Coast.

"But you did not cultivate them with your own hands."

"No, I can't do the work of a million of men, but such seed sown in good soil makes such a showing as will arrest attention, excite interest, enlist co-operative agency and furnish work for millions of workers through the roll of the ages till our Lord shall come."

"And you furnished the seed and started the movement?"

Yes, in the variety of fields, methods of work, and skilful rendering of the word of God, as illustrated in this life story.

"Well, if you had not put in the seed which set all this work into vital activity, other persons of greater renown might have done it." All I have to say is, that they didn't, & I did.

(150 Fifth Ave. N.Y.
August 13th 1895;

Respectfully submitted.

John Taylor, Bys of Africa.

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