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THE LATE PROFESSOR D. M. BLAIR

By the death on Friday, November 10th, 1944, of Professor Duncan MacCallum Blair, M.B., B.Ch., D.Sc. (Regius Professor of Anatomy in the University of Glasgow), *The Evangelical Quarterly* loses one of its most loyal friends and valued helpers. One of the earliest subscribers, he had lent his powerful advocacy and enthusiastic aid to the late Rev. Principal Donald Maclean throughout the years of the latter's Editorship. He consistently maintained this interest both during the pioneer years, and also when at length the value of the *Quarterly* came to be recognised by the adherents of the historic Reformed Faith both at home and overseas. It was therefore with cordial unanimity that he was invited by the *Evangelical Quarterly* Committee (when the latter was formed in 1941, to share with the late Editor the responsibilities of continuing and extending its unique witness) to become its first Chairman.

To those who knew Duncan Blair best there seemed nothing in the least unusual or unfitting that he, a Medical Professor—and an Anatomist at that—should lead the discussions of a Committee which exists to promote a cause which calls for the best theological scholarship. Such was his absorbing interest in any form of knowledge which promoted the glory of his Sovereign Lord, that he passed with ease and sure discernment from his scientific studies to encourage any theological research which would contribute to a better understanding of the Divine Revelation.

And what was his secret? He himself has told us. He availed himself of every proper opportunity to emphasise what he owed to his early training in his beloved Free Church of Scotland. Taught in childhood the *Shorter Catechism*, at the same time as his multiplication tables (which, he always added, were printed on the back of the same little booklet), he thoroughly took home to his heart and mind the Reformed Faith in one of its clearest expressions. Supplementing this at a later age with the ampler paragraphs of the *Westminster Confession of Faith*, he never wavered in his adherence, and the submission

of his mind, to the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments, nor in his joyous loyalty to the redeeming Christ and Lord of Whom they speak. If ever there was a lay member of the Church whose thrilling privilege in life was "to glorify God and to *enjoy* Him", this was he! He not only *enjoyed* Him himself, but he taught many students and other young men and women to *enjoy* Him too. Well might the Principal of Glasgow University close his stirring tribute at the funeral service with the words: "I have not known a man happier in home, in work, in public duty, or more constant in his reliance on that Christian faith which was to him the source of his serenity and strength."

D. MARTYN LLOYD-JONES.

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