

people to earnestness in such a task as this. You do not get people to understand it all at once; still less do you get people to feel the value of it all at once. It is only little by little, by long perseverance, that we are able to produce any effect whatever; but it can be produced nevertheless. I have no doubt at all that God is now awakening this country and Church to the discharge of this great duty; and that year by year we shall find that there is a warmer and deeper interest in it, and that many who now seem altogether to stand outside, and feel that they have no concern in it, will end at last with understanding. Of all the things that can be done to show our love to our Heavenly Father, to our Saviour, there is nothing that can be put by the side of doing our part in bringing souls to Christ. As we can do very much amongst those with whom we are living, so also we may do very much, and we are bound to do more and more, for those who are far away from us, but still are God's creation and are redeemed by the Lord, by the sacrifice of the Cross—if only they could be called speedily into the fold. It is this work with which you are charged.

Let me go on to point out that in this, as in so many other cases, the more you can do for those who have not yet been converted in foreign lands, the more you will do for those to whom you yourselves speak in this land of ours. The work abroad tells upon the work at home. The work abroad, as it perpetually enlarges before our eyes, stimulates the work at home. If you can imbue a few with any Missionary zeal at all, you may be certain that the great body of those who are trained in this way—serving the Lord—will find that there is a true service which they have to render. They will be more keen to come to the Lord and give their whole hearts to him—far more keen if they are asked to give their hearts to Him by spreading the knowledge of the Gospel to others. Just as it was when the great miracle of the feeding of the five thousand was worked by our Lord Himself, just as it was then when the Apostles distributed the five loaves and two fishes, and found, after they had so distributed, that there was more in their possession than that with which they began—so also in the Church of Christ. The more you share your spiritual privileges and blessings with other people, the more do you find you have for your own use; the more do you find that the spirit which animated you in speaking to others, animates you still in turning yourself personally to the Lord. And by your very endeavors to make His holy will known you are able to come nearer to His very Self; to enter more entirely into His purposes, to understand more thoroughly the message which He has given to you; and to be more devoted and earnest in your own personal religion because you have endeavored to kindle the flame of such personal religion in the hearts of millions outside.

THE LIVING GOD.—Said a Japanese woman to Miss E. A. P. Sells, on hearing for the first time the life of Christ, and that He is even now alive, "This is the first time I have heard of a *living* God. Our gods are not like that."

WITNESSING FOR GOD.

GOD calls upon us to bear witness for Him with a distinctness which leaves no doubt of its sincerity. His truth needs human witnesses, in spite of His undemable ability to enable it to prove victorious by His own unaided might. He bids us witness for Him for His own sake. He has taught us that He desires and enjoys our spiritual service and co-operation. He does not, and does not wish to, dwell in any independent grandeur of holiness, indifferent to what we think and do, except so far as His own righteousness renders it necessary to consider us. He longs more for our voluntary, loving witness, for the sake of its sympathy, than the most consecrated of us all loves to render it.

He bids us witness for Him for our own sakes also. We need the stimulation, the education, the discipline of witness-bearing. It involves the development of our hearts and minds alike. We cannot grow aright in spirit without it. He also bids us witness for Him for the sake of our fellow-men and women. To those of them who do not know what it is to have true fellowship with Him, He seems to live apart. But they know us and know that our experiences and feelings are such as their own.—*Selected.*

A LESSON FROM THE WAR.

DURING the last few months the country has beheld a splendid spectacle. It has seen thousands of young men willingly putting aside their own business pursuits, leaving friends and home comforts, and offering themselves to fight the battles of their country in a just and righteous war. It has seen women cheerfully giving up sons, brothers, and husbands, and bidding them Godspeed, while they remained at home to weep, to work and pray. The life of a soldier is, in many respects, a type of that of a Christian. It is one of self-sacrifice. The soldier watches that others may sleep in safety. He fights that others may be at peace, and dies that they may live. All honor to the brave men who thus offer themselves to their country. The Lord of Hosts, the God of their fathers, go with them and bring them to their homes again in peace.

There is another great army calling for valiant and faithful men to fight under her standards—the army of Christ's Church militant. Brave and tried officers of this army are calling urgently for