

## OUR LEAGUE MISSIONARIES.

The somewhat recent plan of District Leagues supporting a missionary abroad—and in many cases a medical missionary—is quite in accord with the example and teaching of Christ. The young people of our Leagues cannot go anywhere on the merciful mission of preaching and healing, so they do what is next best, help to send some one else who has time and talents for the important enterprise. Let it be well remembered that our medical missionaries, even if conversions to Christianity be not as numerous as we might hope, yet are doing God's service in relieving pain, healing disease, disseminating information in physiology and hygiene, and thus paving the way to healthier lives and happier homes than heathenism can possibly furnish. The fundamental law of self-preservation, if nothing more, would dictate such a course. For so closely are all lands and nations connected together by the modern means of communication that the diseases of heathenism, arising from ignorance and medical knowledge are readily communicated to civilized lands, and the safest means of prevention is the work of the medical missionary, and other similar enterprises. Above all, however, there should be kept in view the highest motive for such efforts of which our Saviour reminds us in the well-known words, "Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these, my brethren, ye have done it unto me." We strive to save the heathen, and all others, because we love Christ, and because Christ came to seek and to save that which was lost.

## THE HARVEST IS GREAT.

A great stimulus to interest in missions is to take into view the number yet unreached by Gospel truth and light. Think of these facts, and think of your duty in view of their solemn import. It is said that while there is one minister to 700 persons in the United States, there is but one to 400,000 in the Congo, and to 435,000 in India, one to 600,000 in China, one to about 700,000 in Siam, and one to 1,500,000 in the island of Hainan. In the whole heathen world, a conservative estimate places one missionary in the midst of 200,000 people. Even if we were disposed to dispute the value of these people as compared with our own race, we do not know that it is open to us to do so, for evidence is daily accumulating to prove that the mental acumen of many of these so-called inferior races is not a whit less than our own. If, then, the new commandment is to prevail, and we are to love them as Christ loved the world, we must regard it as the paramount problem of the Christian Church to save these numerous peoples. And if it be further true that the average cost of leading a so-called civilized man to accept the Gospel is \$630, while it costs only ninety cents to lead a heathen to accept him, then it is the sevenfold duty of the Christian Church to send the Gospel to them. And consider for a moment what opportunities for the medical missionary there must be for healing and help amid these hosts of the human race yet unchristianized.

## HUMAN BROTHERHOOD.

The work of mercy and help accomplished by the medical missionary is further endorsed by the fact of the unity and brotherhood of mankind. All men being brothers, then comes the Christian obligation to extend the benefits of advanced civilization, physical, mental, and spiritual to universal humanity.

The Bible aims at this happy consummation. The Gospel unifies the races of the earth, and gives a cosmopolitan character to every dweller upon it. Jesus Christ is the Saviour of the world, and in him there is neither Jew nor Gentile, circumcision nor uncircumcision, barbarian, Scythian, bond nor free, but Christ

is all and in all. In Christ national prejudices must evaporate. Their existence would vitiate the fellowship of the Gospel. Max Muller says that Christianity trod down the word "barbarian" and in its place the word "brother." "Humanity is a word which you look for in vain in Plato or Aristotle. The idea of mankind as one family, as the children of one God, is an idea of Christian growth; and the science of mankind is a science which, without Christianity, would never have sprung into life. When people have been taught to look upon all men as brethren, then, and only then, did the variety of human speech present itself as a problem that called for solution; and I therefore date the real beginning of the science of language from the first day of Pentecost."

## THE CENTRAL IDEA.

If our Leagues would realize the true relation of missions to the work of God—missions in the broadest sense of sending the truth at home and abroad wherever needed—every pulse of their life would throb with missionary zeal, and every activity of the Church would look missionary. All its institutions, as a writer, would be sustained for the sake of their mission value, and vigor poured into them in proportion to their missionary possibilities and results. Could we but displace the narrow and hampering conceptions of the purpose of the Church, which are now squeezing out her very life, and implant in our young people the imperial idea of the universal dominion of the cross; if we could but get it into the very heart of believers that the Church has simply and absolutely no reason for existence except to bring to pass the time when all nations shall acclaim Christ the blessed and only Potentate, King of kings and Lord of lords; if we could do this, we could develop an enthusiastic loyalty to Christ as King, which would make all our Church members enthusiastic and courageous for the kingdoms of God. This is the main question, the great issue. We must never doubt it. It must be the supremely formative and inspiring force, and then our Master, whose we are, and whom we serve, shall see of the travail of his soul, and shall be satisfied. He is loudly calling us to the conflict to-day.

## POWER FROM ON HIGH.

The great central power, after all, by which we may gain success in missions, is not physical power, nor the power of eloquence, nor the power of logic, nor the power of thought merely, but the power which Christ promised to his disciples—the power from on high. The power from beneath is mighty to drag the world down; the power from above working through men is mightier to draw the world up. This is the power of the Holy Spirit, spoken of in the Scripture, "Ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you." Wait, then, in expectation, young people, and devoutly pray for the great gift promised in these words; and as you receive it, use it for the glory of God and the extension of his kingdom on the earth. Then our Leagues shall not be in vain—the power of God shall be in them.

## WHY MEDICAL MISSIONARIES!

Medical missions need no other authority than Christ's example, for he was the greatest medical missionary that ever lived.

They need no other authority than Christ's words, for he bade his disciples heal the body as well as the soul, and the body as a means of reaching the soul.

Medical missions are more than the practice of medicine. They are missions. A Chinese official, after the massacres, urged that hereafter no medical professionaries alone should be permitted to go to

China. But they are the most powerful of missionaries.

There are two reasons: it is hard to comprehend any truth while the body is wrecked by disease; the healing of the body is a proof of the love and sympathy which is at the base of our divine religion.

## SOME EXAMPLES.

A medical missionary in Africa received a woman who had been carried for three days through a country closed to the Gospel. Four months later she returned, walking, through the same country; and when the missionaries again tried to go there, they found that this cure had opened the entire region to them.

No one but a woman medical missionary can reach the upper class of women of India, whose secluded lives are probably as sad and pitiable as those of any women in the world.

The important friendship of Li Chung Chang was won for Christianity by two medical missionaries who rendered his wife valuable service. "Send us more missionaries," he said in the United States; "especially doctors."

The story of the first medical missionary to Madagascar illustrates the influence such workers gain. He performed an operation for cataract, and the next day they brought him a dead man. "You can open the eyes of the blind; surely you can raise the dead also."—Wells.

## SOME FIGURES.

Six hundred and fifty medical missionaries scattered among 5,000 mission stations, each with an average population of 200,000 souls. What a stupendous task!

Often a medical missionary puts up 50,000 prescriptions in a year, or 140 in a day, besides all the work of diagnosis, etc.

A single Christian hospital in India, in the charge of three native women doctors trained by missionaries, treats about 16,000 cases a year.

## SOME OPINIONS.

Medical missions are perhaps the nearest approach to Christ's mission work in Galilee and Syro-Phoenicia.—Alfred Oates.

The history of medical missions is the justification of the title—Encyclopædia of Missions.

Our remedies frequently fail, but Christ as the remedy for sin never fails.—Mackenzie.

There is certainly no such field for evangelistic work as the wards of a hospital in a land like China.—Mackenzie.

## POINTS FOR THE PRESIDENT.

Probably the best hint for the president this week is to advise him to make the best use of the material in the foregoing exposition. And in doing so incorporate as many members of the League as possible. In the above will be found facts, figures, arguments, motives, and encouragement for the great work of medical missions, and missionaries generally. Dig the gold from the mine and bring it to light.

## AUGUST 3.—"THE CALL TO SEPARATION."

2 Cor. 6, 14-18; 1 John 2, 15-17.

## HOME READINGS.

Mon., July 28. Dagon and God ..... 1 Sam. 5, 1-5  
Tue., July 29. God or Baal ..... Kings 18, 15-39  
Wed., July 30. God or darkness ..... 1 Cor. 10, 14-31  
Thu., July 31. Light or darkness ..... Eph. 5, 1-11  
Fri., Aug. 1. Depart ye ..... Rev. 18, 1-19  
Sat., Aug. 2. Come out ..... Rev. 18, 1-19

The separated life is the life of holiness. We are glad to claim as young Methodists that our Church exists to spread Scriptural holiness throughout the land. And what is holiness? Well,