

dom which the world will not soon forget. This book should make the prayer for the coming of the kingdom of God ascend to the throne of grace from every heart with increasing fervor, and should spur on every soldier of the cross to increased activity and self-denial, that the knowledge of Christ may be spread abroad in every land and in every heart.

In "The Vikings of To-day"* Mr. Grenfell has given us an exceedingly readable and able picture of life in the sterile and uninviting peninsula of Labrador. He vividly describes the hardships of the life of the white settlers in those regions, and the great need for medical and spiritual work among them. There are chapters dealing with the natural features of the country, its vegetation (almost *nil*), its bird and animal life, and the fish which swim in its waters. The life of the fishermen is novel if not inviting, and the descriptions of missionary work contain many inspiring and thrilling incidents, which should awaken the interest and sympathy of men and women who are surrounded by the comforts of home and civilization. The illustrations which accompany the volume add to the interest of the description and narrative.

"Heroes of the South Seas"† is a compilation of stories connected with the progress of Christian missions in the islands of the Pacific. Each chapter is a narrative of some heroic life, some marvelous transformation, or some battle with hardship and disappointment in the far-off corners of the globe. These histories are extremely interesting and helpful, and make excellent subjects for missionary meetings.

Wellesley C. Bailey, the secretary of the Mission to Lepers in India and the East (Edinburgh, Scotland), is the au-

thor of a book of deep interest in regard to the work among the lepers of India* and Burma. Only those who have seen leprosy in its advanced stages can imagine the suffering of the poor victims. No more Christlike work exists than the ministering to their bodily and spiritual needs. A few asylums and hospitals have been established, but what are these among the 500,000 lepers in India?

The American Board has issued a pamphlet entitled "A Chapter of Missionary History in Modern Japan,"‡ being a sketch of the work since 1869. Rev. J. H. Pettee, the editor, contributes an exceedingly interesting chapter on "Now and Then: 1869-1895," and Dr. D. C. Greene one entitled "The Message of the First Quarter Century to the Second." Other chapters are contributed by missionaries familiar with the work of the various departments. The contrasts presented in "Now and Then" are striking. Then the Government of Japan was on the nominal basis of a pure absolutism centering in the Mikado; now it is a well-organized constitutional monarchy. Then Shintoism was revived and all European innovations condemned; now Japan is foremost among Oriental nations, and is absorbing the best and latest the world can offer. Then there were no railroads, telegraphs, light-houses, steamship lines, banks, mints, Sabbath, educational system, or newspapers; now there are all these, with hospitals, asylums, Red Cross Society, criminal and civil codes, 3,500,000 students in the various schools, and an annual foreign commerce of nearly \$150,000,000. Then 20 Protestant missionaries and 8 baptized natives in all Japan; now 600 Protestant, with 200 Roman and Greek Catholic missionaries, 40,000 Protestant church-members, besides 73,000 Catholic adherents. Then

* "The Vikings of To-day. By Wilfred T. Grenfell, M.R.C.S.E. Fleming H. Revell Co., New York. \$1.25.

† "Heroes of the South Seas." By Martha B. Banks. American Tract Society, New York. \$1.25.

* "Lepers of Our Indian Empire." John Shaw & Co., London.

‡ For sale by Mr. C. E. Swett, at the rooms of the American Board; price, 40 cents.