## PARABLES ON THE CHURCH

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have a 1, who y, and yet we already fill your cities, islands, camps, your palaces, senate, forum; we have left to you only your temples."

Sufficient data can also be given to show the remarkable development in recent years. For instance, in China fifty years ago, it is estimated that there were only three hundred Christians, in 1890 some forty thousand, whilst in 1900 there were as many as one hundred and thirteen thousand. When we consider that nearly every convert becomes a centre of Christian influence, we may know how quickly the leaven of gospel principles will spread till all shall know Christ.

Whilst the parable of "The Leaven" illustrates the secret but certain working of the Grace of God, the parable of the "Mustard Seed" points to the truth that there are given to the Church unmistakable manifestations of her steady and symmetrical growth.

The Church of to-day is not a weakling that needs to be supported by argument and apology. Instead of requiring