

THE MEN FOR MISSIONARIES.

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AND the women as well. Through long years the cry for more men has been painful almost to agony. For lack of laborers the Master's work has languished everywhere, while much more than half the world has lain altogether untilled and desert. But, now at length, we begin with joy to behold hundreds offering themselves, ready to go even to the ends of the earth. And hence, it may not be amiss, indeed, there is special need to remember, that though numbers are indispensable, the spiritual quality and the intellectual caliber of the heralds of the Cross are a matter of even greater moment. For, after all that has been said to the contrary, the idea is still by far too common, that the choicest of the sons of God must be reserved for regions where the gospel is already well established, and that if only possessed of piety, anybody will answer for the frontier or the foreign field. Whereas, the task of exploring and pioneering, of founding and building, of gathering and moulding, is such and so great, that the mediocre, the thin-blooded the white-livered, the dull-eyed, are certain to fail and prove a hindrance, and only men of nerve and mettle, of force and fire, of large capacity for planning, and leading, and inspiring, can at all meet the demands of the case. And, in particular, the mission field has boundless room for

1. *The man who loves.* That is, through the combined operation of grace and nature, has a genius for loving—goes after people heart foremost—and thus readily wins confidence and affection. What continual cheer and manifold benediction arise in a face and voice overflowing with kindness and sympathy! The missionary must love men as others love gold or glory, pleasure or power—with a passion. He must love all men, great and small, white and black, cleanly and unkempt, and especially the bad, even to the non-churchgoing and the outrageously wicked. Concerning publicans and sinners, harlots and saloon-keepers, instead of passing them by as outcasts and hopeless, his cry must be, Lord, show me how to teach and win! Love effectually smothers disgust and fear of failure. With a life evidently so pure as to be above all suspicion of countenancing the least of their evil-doing should be joined such a spirit and demeanor that the worst shall feel instinctively that they have found a friend and helper. Love finds slight place for frowns and rebukes, and none at all for scolding and fault-finding.

2. *The man who prays.* As Jesus did, who had no need to travel or climb to the place of communion, but lived every hour as in the immediate presence of His Father, and breathed continually the atmosphere of devotion. There is special need that the missionary pray in this deepest, fullest sense, because the task on hand for him is so arduous that only heavenly wisdom and might will at all avail. The very highest of merely human helps are ridiculously inadequate. Not to speak of the