

heathen darkness. Soon after the death of his wife, Dr. Mullens was called home to England and appointed assistant-secretary with Dr. Tidman of the London Missionary Society. On the death of Dr. T., in 1868, he became sole secretary and entered upon perhaps the most important missionary services of his life. His learning, his energy, and his unsurpassed knowledge of the history and working of modern missions were extremely valuable. In 1870 he was appointed one of a deputation to visit the United States and Canada. In 1873 he went in the same capacity to Madagascar. In 1879 he headed an expedition to Central Africa for the purpose of establishing a mission at Ujiji, on the shores of Lake Tanganyika, and on the 10th of July fell a victim to the climate and hardships of the journey before reaching his destination, in the 60th year of his age. He was the author of a number of valuable books on the history and statistics of missions in India and Madagascar, and earned for himself a lasting reputation in the annals of modern missionary enterprise.

The Centenary of Foreign Missions

THE greatest Missionary Conference in the history of the Christian Church met in Exeter Hall, London, on the 9th June, and continued its sessions for about ten days. One hundred and thirty societies and boards were represented, including men of many languages and nations. The Earl of Aberdeen presided. They met in that historic Hall from Africa and India; from Australasia and China, from South America, from Japan, from many parts of Continental Europe. Truly the Church of Christ is Catholic, extending her operations to every race and every zone. This conference has been preceded by several only less important than itself—in England, in India and elsewhere. Christians are finding out more and more clearly that their wisdom is to be fellow-helpers in the Lord and to hold sweet counsel together as brethren. The Mission enterprise, as far as Protestant Christendom is concerned, may be spoken of as a hundred years old. The work had commenced before that date; but a century ago it was still a day of small things, a day of weak beginnings. But to-day the pro-

spect is, indeed, full of hope. The Conference surveyed the whole wide field. Papers of great value were read. Most earnest appeals were uttered. Problems confronting the Church were discussed, and resolutions concerning them were adopted. The opium traffic in China, the odious "license to sin" in India, the drink nuisance in Africa, were all under consideration. Good, great good may well be expected from this conference. Our own Church was well represented there, and most of our readers will hear more that was said and done than we can tell them. The Christian press is full of it. Our venerable friend, Dr Jenkins, formerly of Montreal, in a private letter speaks of it as "a most successful and stimulating gathering, led by noble, earnest-minded, wise men, full of zeal, courage and hope." All the meetings were largely attended, and great enthusiasm prevailed.

Towards the end of the series a great meeting was held in Exeter Hall, Bishop Bickersteth (Exeter) in the chair. Among the speakers were Rev. H. W. WEBB PEPLOB (Episcopalian) of South Kensington, whose address was particularly earnest and eloquent on the practical subject of individual responsibility and effort in furthering the work of missions. Rev. Ebenezer E. Jenkins, Secretary of the Methodist Missionary Society, spoke of the sufficiency of the Gospel to meet men's needs and interpret God's love. Dr. William M. Taylor of New York made a powerful plea for a larger measure of liberality, "All that a man has should be devoted to Christ." Dr. A. J. Gordon of Boston (Baptist) made a noble speech. Referring to the outward divisions of Christendom, he emphasized what was of far greater importance—the substantial inward unity of the different branches of the Church of Christ in regard to the various means used to promote the spread of Christianity throughout the world. Sir William Hunter spoke with telling effect of the Mohammedan problem in India, and Dr. Post of Beirut on the powerful aid of medical missions. Dr. Taylor of Newark, N.J., advocated "Coöperation on mission ground" in a very convincing manner. Bishop Crowther of Africa dwelt on the necessity of training and educating native missionaries. The Bishop of New Zealand told how Christianity had elevated the Maories in that country, and Rev. J. Calvert spoke of the great things it had done in Fiji and the other islands of the South Sea. There were over 1200 delegates present, including many missionaries from foreign lands, and a host of familiar names, among which we are glad to notice the names of Dr. Parsons and Prof. Maclaren, of Toronto, and Principal MacVicar and Dr. Warden of Montreal, all of whom took part in the proceedings of this memorable Missionary Conference.