

MISSION FIELD.

FOREIGN MISSIONS IN THE
EMPIRE OF AFRICA
VICTORIA.

At a week evening service for the members of the London Lay Helpers Association in the East London Rural Deaneries. Mr. Eugene Stock delivered a most interesting address on "Foreign Missions during the reign of Queen Victoria." He pointed out that great as had been the progress in the Church at home during this period, that of the Church abroad had been even greater. The number of our bishops abroad had risen from seven to seventy-seven, and it was difficult to estimate the immense growth of Christian work which this one fact indicated. The year of the Queen's accession was an epoch in Missions. In that year Krapf started for Africa, and his labours first in Abyssinia and afterwards in East Africa, have led even more than those of Livingstone, who went out four years later, to the opening up of Eastern and Central Africa, now dotted over with Missions. A few years afterwards the Niger territory was opened up on the West Coast of Africa. In the same year Charles Simeon died, who had done more than any other one individual for promoting Missions, especially in India. In the same year Bishop Wilson by an act of faith, took possession of the Punjab for Christ, though at that time it was not British territory, nor was there any prospect of its becoming so. In the same year, a layman named Squire, was sent out to inquire as to the possibility of commencing mission work in China. His headquarters were fixed at Singapore, 1000 miles off, and he reported that there was no means or hope of entering China. After alluding to the altered state of things at the present day in these different countries, and in Japan, New Zealand, Persia, and elsewhere (for the details of which he referred his audience to a small pamphlet recently written by the Rev. E. Bombe, and published by the Church Missionary Society), Mr. Stock urged the paramount duty of obeying the Saviour's last command—His only command of which we have a five-fold record, and His only recorded post-resurrection command—and concluded by calling attention to the coming February Simultaneous Meetings in London, and bespeaking hearty support for the movement.

The following is an interesting statement of the missionary ships which go to and fro in the work of Christ—

"The steamer Henry Venn on the waters of the Niger; the Henry Wright those of Zanzibar; the Eleanor goes to and fro upon the surface of Lake Victoria Nyanza; the Good News plies upon Lake Tanganyika; the Good Hope, the whistle upon the Congo; the John Brown, waits on the Mendel Mission of the United Brethren; the Morning Star is on the

Pacific seas; the Allen Gardner plies between the Falkland Islands and Terra del Fuego; the Henriette bears men and means between Walfisch Bay and Sandwich Harbor; the Charles Tanson is for use on Lake Nyanza; the John Williams is on the South Seas; the Ellen Gowan and the Mary attend upon New Guinea; the Day spring of the Free Church of Scotland upon New Hebrides; the Illala plies on Lake Nyassa; the Plymouth and the Livingstone on the Lower Congo; the Henry Reed on the Upper Congo.

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