

## MISSION FIELD.

[From the Spirit of Missions N.Y., for April.]

## THE SUCCESS IN CHINA.

In travelling across America, on my return from China, I have many times met Christian people—and they were by no means enemies or half-hearted supporters of missions—who evidently had the feeling that Mission work in China has not been very successful. Even missionaries in China themselves are sometimes found dwelling too exclusively on the smallness of the results.

I for one think that the 50,000 Chinese who have been brought to Christ are an abundant evidence of God's blessing on a most successful work. It is safe to estimate that there are at present 40,000 more in heaven. Bear in mind that the 40,000 Christians in connection with the various Protestant Mission societies are full communicants, and that if we include the children of believers, inquirers and friendly adherents, there is a Christian community of nearly or quite 100,000 souls. We must remember also that in such statistics no record is made of the great numbers, actually amounting to hundreds of thousands, who have heard the Gospel. Who can tell how many of these have been led to saving faith? Our colporteurs and missionaries have met men who had given up idolatry and were worshipping the true God because of truth heard in some distant chapel or far-off mission station.—Rev. J. B. N. Smith.

## THREE VOLUMES OF TESTIMONIES.

The author of a paper in the *Church Missionary Intelligencer*, on the present condition of Foreign missionary enterprise and its demands upon the Church of Christ at home, says, that more well informed pleaders are needed in pulpit and on the platform, and that greater efforts should be made to educate the public mind, and to elevate the public estimate of the work. He says that very much may be done by a careful use of the three volumes of testimonies recently issued from the press—'Are Foreign Missions Doing Any Good?' a small book by Mr. Arden; 'The Great Value and Success of Foreign Missions,' by the Rev. John Liggins, and the 'Success of Christian Missions,' by Rev. R. Young. The first and the last volumes are published in London, and the second in New York.

Of Mr. Liggins' book the *Critic* says: 'A timely and interesting book on 'The Great Value and Success of Foreign Missions' is that of the Rev. John Liggins, who a few years ago wrote a powerful book against 'England's Opium Policy.' There are few subjects on which the average tourist and traveller is so wilfully ignorant as the work of the Christian missionaries. In terse and animated style, Mr. Liggins makes a detailed survey of the Mission work in the various continents, lands, and a-



- A - CHURCH - INTERIOR - SHOULD - HAVE - A - SOFT - SUBDUED - LIGHT - THE - GLASS - OF - SUCH - A - NATURE - THAT - WHILE - EXCLUDING - VIEWS, - ADMITS - OF - A - TONED - LIGHT, - HOWEVER - SIMPLE, - IT - SHOULD - BE - HARMONIOUS - IN - COLOR, - THUS - BEAUTIFYING - THE - INTERIOR, - IF - SCRIPTURAL - INCIDENTS - ARE - ILLUSTRATED - THEY - SHOULD - BE - IN - CONCEPTION - AND - DRAWING - WORTHY - OF - RELIGIOUS - ART -

IN - PRIVATE - RESIDENCES - A - FEW - WINDOWS - COMMAND - AN - UN - PLEASANT - OUTLOOK; - A - PICTURE - IN - STAINED - GLASS - SHOULD - BE - USED, - ALSO - IN - VESTIBULE - DOORS, - TRANSOMS, - &c.

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lands, and then arrays the favorable testimony of diplomatists, men of science, naval officers and students of social science. The book seems too mature and thorough to be a hasty polemic. It is rather the calm study of a wide surveyor of facts.

## TARNISHING AN ANCIENT DOCTRINE.

The Rev. Dr. J. T. Gracey says: 'Much has been written about Confucius in relation to the Golden Rule. He is credited with being the originator of this, but Dr. Legge, than whom he has no stouter champion, says here he tarnished a doctrine of the ancients rather than proclaimed it. Confucius is said to have advocated the negative side of the Golden Rule: 'Do not unto others what you would not that they should do unto you.' But the ancients went further than that. Lao-tze taught: 'Return good for evil.' But Confucius said: 'What then will you return for good? Recompense injury with justice, and return good for good.'

Moses made a very wise choice when he 'refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter, choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God, than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season.' (Heb. xi, 24-25). Upon that choice depended his future career. Every sinner makes a wise choice, alike for time and eternity, when he turns his back on 'the pleasures of sin,' which are but 'for a season,' and betakes himself to Christ for service and salvation. Upon that choice hangs his eternal destiny.

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