

church members; when the Sunday school languishes for want of teachers or funds; when the treasurer feels like going around the corner when he sees his pastor coming, and the only way to pay church debts seems to be through the very questionable agency of tea-meetings, basket socials and the like. Christ is not with us always as He might be, because we have not obeyed His command. He is not with us as He longs to be, because our sins in this particular have separated us from Him.

We say we love our Lord. He says, "If ye love Me, keep My commandments." Dear sisters, have we kept them? Once let those commands first referred to be obeyed and our churches would be thronged with eager worshippers, and hosts of sinners, being at last persuaded that we ourselves believe what is preached from our pulpits would come in answer to our many prayers, asking, "What shall I do to be saved?" Our prayer-meeting rooms would be filled, and we would sing with happy hearts,

"Oh, praise the Lord with heart and voice,

Let God's own words your doubts destroy.

Let those that trust in Him rejoice,

Yes, let them shout for joy."

There would be a constant surplus in the Lord's treasury, "and meat in His house." Then would the promise of Mal. iii: 10, "I will open the windows of heaven and pour you out a blessing that there shall not be room enough to receive it," be fulfilled as it never has been since it was made.

Arthur T. Pierson, editor of the *Missionary Review*, estimates that if one missionary were sent out for every 400 church members, all the world might be evangelized in twenty years, that is, every inhabitant might have the opportunity of hearing the Gospel at least once in that time.

How can we rest satisfied with doing any less than that? Are we ready to do our part? Are there any to say that we cannot do any more than we are doing? Then let me say that what ought to be done can be done. God has given no command that cannot be obeyed. It is high time that we stopped playing at mission work, and make it the business of our lives to send the Gospel to as many as possible.

Let us see what others have done—the Moravians of Europe, numbering 30,000 members, send 353 missionaries to other lands, more than one for every 100 members. If we should do as much as that, the 44,000 Baptists of the Maritime Provinces would be represented in the foreign field by at least 600 missionaries! Perhaps we cannot do quite so well as that at present, but there is one thing we ought to do now, and that is, divide evenly with our Telugu neighbors, so far, at least, as the number of preachers go, and that, though our Sunday schools want libraries, our churches carpets, and even ourselves pastoral care.

In India we now have at most, ten missionaries, at home we have about *two hundred pastors!* If a division were made there would result one hundred and five for India, say one hundred. The ninety to balance should leave our shores this very year, and could; and would go if only our hearts were in accord with the Spirit of Christ.

Mr. Higgins writes, February, 1894: "We find that the people need to be told over and over again; even then they amaze us by their ignorance. The worst difficulty, I sometimes think is, that in so many cases we can visit a village only once or twice, and then do not see it again for a year perhaps. Such work, I fear, is largely time and strength wasted. When we can get missionaries enough, so that each man can see all the villages on his field once or twice a year, and visit them on each occasion four or five times, I think we would be in a position to make our work tell. Humanly speaking, we have been largely wasting our powder by scattering it too much. *But what can we do with these enormous fields!*"

Now, if we should furnish one hundred missionaries instead of ten, the reasonable wish of Mr. Higgins might be gratified, for then we should have one missionary to every 17,000 people, and each man might be able to preach in every village on his field four or five times a year. When shall this be done? "There is that scattereth and yet increaseth; there is that withholdeth more than is meet, but it tendeth to poverty." Have we not proven the truth of the second clause of this text, and shall we fear to put the first to the test?

C. A. STEADMAN.

FROM THE AID SOCIETIES.

EAST POINT, P.E.I. The Associational meeting was held in the Hall, July 2nd, meeting conducted by Mrs. Spurr, opened with singing and prayer. Reports were read. Mrs. Jackson read a letter from Mrs. Archibald, which was very interesting. Mrs. Corey read a paper by Miss Wright. Mrs. Spurr gave a short address. Miss Mary Davis was re-elected to the office of Provincial Secretary, Miss Maggie McLeod as County Secretary.

THE Aid Society at East Point have just held their annual meeting, and elected officers as follows: President, Mrs. Elijah McVane; Secretary, Mrs. A. McLean; Treasurer, Mrs. Alex. Scott. The Society mourns the loss of their former President, Miss Jessie Fraser, one much beloved and esteemed. The funds for Home Missions are collected by the Mite Society, which meets every two weeks and has a tea, each one present paying five cents.

J. McL.

CANNING, N. S.—On Friday evening, July 27th, our Aid Society held a public meeting in the audience room of the church. The pastor presided, and led the opening devotions. Mrs. Kempton, the Cor. Sec., said a few words, explaining the aims of the Aid Societies, and urging the women of the church to rally to the work. Mrs. Churchill followed with an address full of informa-