

Mission Field.

THE CHILDREN OF THE KINGDOM.

Our blessed Master, in describing the harvest of the Gospel, not only says that "the seed is the Word of God," but He also declares that "the good seed are the children of the Kingdom," thereby plainly intimating that the propagation of His truth in the world is not only dependent on the preaching of His blessed Gospel, but also on the presence and influence in the world of His devoted people.

Surely a study of the lives of our missionaries, and of the effects which have been produced upon those who witnessed them, bears abundant witness to this truth. The presence of such men as Henry Martyn, or David Livingstone, or Alexander Mackay, has often proved to be a gospel in itself, and has testified to the existence of a nobler denouement than their degraded hearers had ever dreamt of. "Send me none of your agents or ambassadors," exclaimed Hyder Ali, "for I do not trust their words or their treaties; but if you wish me to listen to your proposals, send me the missionary Schwartz, of whose character I have heard so much from every one. Him I will trust and receive. Send me the Christian."

But why should such happy influences be confined to the appointed missionary? and why should not every Christian aim at being a "living epistle, known and read of all men?"—Dr. W. Pakenham Walsh, Bishop of Ossory.

MORE GIVING AND SERVING NEEDED.

An English Church paper says: The financial position of the Church Missionary Society is so far satisfactory, that, with one exception, the total receipts for the year exceed those of former years. Nevertheless, the society has so increased its expenditure that it has to face a deficit.

We must of course be thankful for any advance at all, but we may well regret that the advance is very small. Bearing in mind the enormous growth of wealth in the country of late years, we cannot regard the advance in the incomes of our religious societies as affording any ground for congratulation. It is rather, we think, humiliating to remember that a penny increase in the income-tax produces an amount at least five-fold the entire sum devoted to the world-wide work of the Church Missionary Society.

We want to enter more fully into the mind of God as "the Lord" of the missionary "harvest." It is His harvest, and His interest in it should stimulate ours. We pray every day "Thy Kingdom come," but how feebly do our self-denyings offerings indicate the strength of our desire for the evangelization of the world! May "the Lord of the harvest send forth more laborers," both in giving and in serving, who are animated by His spirit of self-sacrificing love and zeal.

TEMPTATION NOT SIN.

"Jesus, our great Master, was sinless, yet was He tempted; yea, in all points and respects, even as we have been, are, and will be. Thus is mere temptation not sin. Often, in these poor lives of ours, with our consciousness of temptation aside, we are the stronger for it, not the weaker. If to be tempted is to sin, He had been a sinner; yea, chief of sinners, for who is tempted as He was? Let our hearts take courage; we are not sore sinners because sorely tempted. Increasing temptation is sometimes proof that we are struggling against it, or it would not so beset us."—Rev. Dr. Lowrie.

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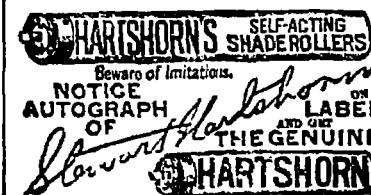
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