

only a blindness *in part*, and as in the times of the apostle, so even now, there is still a "remnant according to the election of grace" and Christian effort on their behalf would again result in proving that the gospel is still the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth, to the *Jew* as well as to the Greek.

THE FULLNESS OF THE GENTILES.

But if it is still urged that the fulness of the Gentiles has not yet come in, we inquire, what is understood by that expression? It cannot mean as some seem to think till every Gentile be converted, for the apostle says, "If the fall of them be the riches of the world and the diminishing of them the riches of the Gentiles how much more their fulness," and again "If the casting away of them be the reconciling of the world, what shall the receiving of them be, but life from the dead." May the expression then not mean "till the time when the full number of the Gentiles shall be converted, which God has determined in his own mind to call before the Jews as a nation shall be converted." If this be so then, as we cannot ascertain the precise point of time, when this purpose of God shall be fully accomplished, is it not dutiful to be engaged in seeking their spiritual welfare if perhaps the time of promise has arrived? If it has not yet come there will at least be the satisfaction of having obeyed the Master's command, "Go preach the Gospel to every creature."

RESULTS OF MISSIONS TO THE JEWS

It is indeed true that there are many things in the way which tend sadly to discourage. But there are not wanting some symptoms of progress. "The London Society for promoting Christianity among the Jews" in 1859 could report as among the apparent results of their efforts the existence of 30 Mission Stations in Europe, Asia, and Africa; the employment of 78 missionaries of whom 59 are converted Israelites; the establishment of 20 schools with an aggregate attendance during the last 30 years of about 10,000 Hebrew children and 50 of its converts are said to be ordained over Christian congregations at home. In the *Encyclopædia of Missions*, to which I have already referred, the number of its converts is set down at about 11,000. Again, the number of those brought to the knowledge of the truth, by the agency of "The British Society for the propagation of the Gospel among the Jews" is estimated at 100, and of the 24 missionaries employed by that Society in 1859 all but one or two were converted Jews. The efforts of the Free Church have also been more or less successful. It is true that little progress has latterly been made in Pesth, where before the revolution in 1848 there were such wonderful signs of a work of

grace. More recently, however, affairs have assumed a brighter aspect at that station. In Amsterdam there is quite an interesting field, and a young Jew, with whom I was in conversation about a week ago, who has spent the past summer in laboring occasionally among his fellow countrymen told me, that there seemed to be a spirit of inquiry abroad among his brethren there, which quite encouraged him. Upon the whole the church feels encouraged to continue her efforts. Now I am well aware of the danger of placing implicit reliance upon statistics, and while I feel fully disposed to admit that matters have not been as favorable as has been indicated, yet still, after making every reasonable allowance for exaggeration, I cannot think that there is good grounds for the assertion which is sometimes made, that Jewish missions have been a failure. The time which is required to set on foot all great movements must be expended here, as elsewhere, but if the work is done in faith and with prayer, God will pour out a blessing, and the dispersed of Israel shall be gathered unto Jesus' fold. That there are difficulties of no ordinary magnitude, in connection with the undertaking none can deny. All who have been employed in it testify to this fact. But the eye of faith turns to this promise, and to every suggestion of unbelief, the Christian can reply "Hath the Lord said and shall He not do it; hath He spoken and shall He not make it good." There are other difficulties, however, besides those immediately connected with the work itself, which in the mean time give me more anxiety than even those to which I have just adverted. While at present the ultimate end at which I ought to aim, seems tolerably clear, the way by which this end is to be attained is involved in darkness.

OBSTACLES AND ENCOURAGEMENTS.

Our Church is already engaged in a Mission to the New Hebrides, and I cannot conceal from myself the thought, that she may think that her energies are sufficiently taxed in maintaining, and extending her operations there. I see however by the Minutes of the last Synod that the Church has not yet given up the idea of reviving her mission to the East, and I know that not very long ago some of the members of the Synod expressed themselves very strongly upon the subject. If then she is determined to carry on Missionary operations there, might it not be possible to establish a mission to the Jews in that quarter, and carry on eastern and western operations simultaneously. Perhaps if this were done the Lord might be pleased to smile upon the effort, and bless the Church by giving her enlargement on every hand, and thus while lengthening her cords, enable her also greatly to strengthen her stakes. Should the Church see fit to engage in this