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Sunday School Banner.

W. H. WITHROW, D.D., Editor.

TORONTO, FEBRUARY, 1886.

\$250,000 FOR MISSIONS

The Missionary Crisis.

So important do we deem the present crisis in the history of our missions, that we gladly make room in both BANNER and *Pleasant Hours* for the stirring appeal of the Rev. Dr. Douglas, that we print on page 37. We wish that every Methodist in the Dominion could read it and be aroused by its eloquence and power. We therefore bring it in these two periodicals before the eyes of nearly 200,000 persons. On every side God is opening doors of opportunity. On every side the fields wave white unto the harvest of souls. God is calling the united Methodists of Canada—as the largest Church in this Dominion—to thrust in the sickle and reap. For years we have had our missionaries among the Indians of the great North-west; and, as a striking result, not a single Methodist Indian took part in the revolt. If a tithe of the money

were spent in evangelizing the Indians and half-breeds that has been spent in suppressing that revolt, the probability is that there would have been no revolt at all—that all their grievances would have been so intelligently set forth as to have led to satisfactory adjustment long ago.

God has given our missionaries in Japan wonderful favour in the eyes of the people, and wonderful success in preaching the Gospel. It would be criminal to draw back from such a glorious opportunity as our missionaries there enjoy.

But not less heroic than the labours of either Indian or Japanese missionaries are those of the brethren labouring on many of the domestic missions of our own country. They must not be allowed to suffer for the bread that perisheth, while breaking the bread of life to those around them.

Our schools, while they do a good deal for the cause of the missions, do not yet accomplish as much as they might. In England the missionary offerings of the Sunday-schools are about one-third of the whole amount raised by the Church. In Canada, the Sunday-school offerings are only about one-sixth the amount raised by the whole Church. Our English friends accomplish the wonderful result they have achieved by their superior organization and methodical way of gathering up the small amounts. When we think that two cents a week from each scholar would raise as much as the whole Church now raises, we cannot think that it is impossible, or even difficult to extricate the Missionary Society from its indebtedness, and to give the missionary cause such an impetus as it has never received before. Even a cent a week for each scholar would be \$90,000; enough to pay off the debt, and bring the income for 1886 up to the quarter of a million needed, even though the rest of the Church should do more than before. Let superintendents, teachers, parents, all combine in giving our schools the honour and the blessed reward of coming up to the help of the Lord in this crisis. The blessing will a hundredfold repay all the effort. The boys and girls will be baptized with a missionary spirit. They will realize the joy of doing something for the dear Lord who did so much for them. They will be brought into active sympathy with the missionary operations of the Church, the great work which the Church has before it in the conversion of the world. Many of them, doubtless, will become