

writing; the making of grammars and dictionaries for the more speedy and successful study of the languages by their successors; the introduction of the gospel of Christ by preaching and teaching; the formation of churches; the translation of the Scriptures, and the preparation of a Christian literature; the setting up of printing presses and the making up of types for newly acquired languages; the establishment and development of institutions for higher education; these are some of the things which had to be done, and which required much wisdom and patient endeavor and no inconsiderable outlay of money, and the spending of the whole life time of devoted men and women.

Now, however, we may say in a general way that the work of preparation is for the most part completed. Foundations have been deeply and firmly laid, and all is ready for the erection of the great superstructure throughout all the world, and in some countries this great work is already well advanced. The century on which we have now entered will, without doubt, judging by what has been accomplished in the past hundred years, see very great wonders in the Christianization of the nations. Dr. George Smith in his book, "The Conversion of India," said ten years ago, that, if the same rate of progress of Christianity in India which has characterized the last forty years should be continued, the Protestant church would absorb the whole population of India about the middle of the twenty first century.

But even during the period which we have spoken of as largely a time of preparation much fruit has been gathered and the encouragements have been many and great. There have been signal triumphs of the gospel in various parts of the world which have filled Christendom with wonder and praise. A few examples may be given of the great harvests which have been gathered in different mission fields and which have so abundantly repaid the labor and money expended on them.

**BURMA.** Adoniram Judson and his wife landed at Rangoon in 1813 and began missionary work in that pagan kingdom; and we know through what trials of faith and patience they followed up that work. There are now in Burma 741 Baptist churches, with a membership of 47,770. The additions to the churches during the last year were 2695. In the Rangoon Baptist College and High School there are 754 students in all departments, and in the Theological Seminary 135 students for the ministry. Much work also is being done in Burma by other Protestant Missionary Societies.

**INDIA.** For the sake of brevity I will take only one part of India and the work of only one mission. Other societies have done a vast amount of work in that land, and have been greatly blessed.

The American Baptist Telugu Mission was begun in 1840, by Mr. Day, at Nellore; and for many years the results were small and discouraging. But about 1867 the gospel seed so long and faithfully sown, began to bear a bountiful harvest; the converts came in by thousands, and now we have in that mission 116 Baptist churches, having a total membership of 54,995; during last year 2,501 were added. (Note. It will be noticed that the number of churches is comparatively small in proportion to the large total membership. This is because there are some churches which embrace many villages and number their members by thousands. An effort is being made to form many smaller churches in place of these unwieldy bodies.) In the Baptist College and High School at Ongole there are 392 students, and in the Theological Seminary at Ramapatnam 119 are enrolled.

**THE FIJI ISLANDS.**—There was not a single Christian in Fiji Islands in 1835 when the mission (English Wesleyan) commenced. In 1885, at the Jubilee, there was not an avowed heathen left in all the eighty islands. There were 1322 churches and preaching places; upwards of 2000 ministers, including local preachers; 28,147 accredited church members; and 104,585 attendants on public worship out of a population of 110,000.

**UGANDA.**—This country of Central Africa was the scene of the apostolic labors of Hanington and MacKay, and its soil has been wet with martyr blood. Bishop Tucker of that mission field speaking in London in 1901 said:—"Ten years ago the number of baptized Christians in Uganda was something like 300; today it is 30,000. Ten years ago there was but one place of Christian worship in the whole of Uganda; today there are 700. Ten years ago there was but 20 native evangelists, at work; today there are 2000. The 2000 native evangelists, and the 27 native clergymen are all maintained by the native church. The 700 church and school buildings are built repaired and maintained entirely by the natives themselves. Not one half-penny of English money is employed for any part of the work of the native church."

Though these words were uttered only three years ago there has been great advancement even since then. Evangelistic activity, the increasing demand for the Bible and readiness to pay for it, the deep interest of the ruling classes in the spread of Christianity, are some of the wonderful features specially noticeable at present. Uganda is now connected with the east coast of Africa by a railway, some six hundred miles long.

**COREA.**—That country, which is now convulsed by the

rude alarms of war and which may soon be the scene of a terrific conflict between two great armies, has been in recent years one of the most interesting of mission fields. Regular, organized mission work is only about fifteen years old in Corea, and already there are 70,000 Christians, gathered into many churches. The Presbyterians of these Maritime Provinces are well represented in that great work. The prospect is that not many years will elapse before Corea becomes a distinctly Christian country.

While the above mentioned missions seem very noteworthy in the largeness of their results, many other examples of most encouraging prosperity might be gathered from mission fields in almost all parts of the world. God has again and again, in the most unmistakable manner, set the seal of his approval on this great enterprise. There are very prosperous missions in many parts of Africa, in Egypt, Syria, Eastern Turkey, in Madagascar, in all parts of India, Ceylon, in many groups of Islands in the Pacific Ocean, in China and Japan.

Even if the work had not been so signally blessed, the duty of the Christian church would still have been the same. Our Lord and Saviour, the founder and head of the church, said, "Go, and preach the gospel to the whole creation;" that is enough. The Marquis Wellesley, when in India, early in the last century, as commander of the British forces there, was present at a dinner, when in the course of conversation, the missionary enterprise, then its beginnings in India, was referred to. An officer present spoke of it in a very scornful and depreciating manner, as was so much the fashion in those days. He thought the undertaking was a visionary, foolish, unnecessary scheme, and turning to the Marquis asked if he did not think so too. The commander's reply was as true and noble as it was apt and conclusive. He said, "You are a soldier; what are the marching orders of the Christian church? That is enough to settle this question."

Wolfville, February 1904.

### Items From India.

The Christians of Vizianagram arranged a festal occasion in honor of the first anniversary of Mr. and Mrs. Glendinning's marriage and the arrival of their beautiful daughter, Jean. They also rejoiced over the recovery of Miss De Prazer who for seven weeks had been dangerously ill. Miss DePrazer attributes her conversion to Mr. Sanford's sermon on John 3:16, remembers with pleasure her visit to Canada has and has had for some years a very practical interest in the Savara mission, conducts a large medical work in Vizagapatam and has lately donated her new house in that place (valued at 10,000 rupees) to our mission.

A few months ago while studying at Kodaikanal, Frank the son of Mr. and Mrs. Higgins, Tekkali, gave his heart to Jesus, we were glad to hear of his baptism the other day. At the same time a Savara and five Telugus put on Christ.

Parlakimedi is sometimes called the garden of the Ganjam District of the Madras Presidency. The twenty-four miles of the main railway is now spanned by the Parlakimedi light Railway. Irrigated by river channels, the cultivated fields are varied by luxuriantly wooded hills, rising in pleasing form on every hand. At one end of the main street stands the Mahajahs' magnificent palace, built after a European design; while at the other end is the Rajas' College. To the east is the commodious Mission house in which Mr. and Mrs. Corey and Miss Harrison live. The field under their care was opened in 1892 and has a population of 325,000 scattered in 800 villages. Yes 325,200 people on this field alone while the lowest estimate is that there should be one missionary to every 50,000 of the population.

In Parlakimedi our conference and Telugu Association were recently held. In regard to the latter the eight churches were well represented and an increasing interest and capability on the part of our native Christians was manifested. "Helpers, their call, necessity and qualifications, Christians, their spiritual growth, duty in reference to giving and to the propagation of the gospel"—formed topics for a number of the addresses.

The temperance committee presented a carefully prepared report. The delegates expressed a decided opinion that betel, opium or tobacco in any form or in any quantity should not be used by any of our Christians. It was recommended that the Churches do more in regard to observing Temperance Sunday and the distributing of Temperance Literature; it was also urged that the Total Abstinence Lessons be taught in all our schools.

The Foreign Mission meeting conducted by Mr. Archibald was full of interest. Pithy papers, map exercises and statistics were given showing the history and work of the various Baptist Missions in India, special attention being directed to the work of the American Baptist Missionary Union, the English Baptist Mission and that of Ontario and Quebec. All along the shores of the Bay of Bengal the Baptist flag is unfurled. Ten Boards bearing the Baptist name are at work in India and the total number of churches is 1,220 with a membership of 120,000.

Twenty-one attended the sixteenth annual session of the M. P. Conference. A session of spiritual uplift and helpful fellowship was enjoyed. Among other resolutions it was decided that the Telugu Association be held at a separate time and place, that our Board be recommended to

unite with the South Indian Missionary Association in the matter for examinations for missionaries, that the Conference meet but once a year and that the Executive Committee form a "Reference Committee" to deal with important questions that may arise in the interim and to call a Conference if necessary. A strong appeal was drawn up asking for two more families, a lady doctor and two lady missionaries. The latter are imperatively necessary as it will soon be time for three now on the field to go on furlough.

Messrs. Sanford and Corey gave papers on the "Atonement;" Miss Flora Clark read one on "Government Grants" and Mr. Hardy forcibly unfolded at length the subject of "Self-Support." The drift of the latter paper is revealed by the following extract:—

"Carlyle in contrasting the dynamical and mechanical natures of man says, 'How did Christianity rise and spread among men?' Was it by institutions and establishments and well organized systems of mechanism? Not so. On the contrary in all past and existing institutions for these ends the divine spirit has invariably been found to languish and decay. Christianity arose in the mystic depth of men's souls and was spread abroad by the preaching of the Word by simple and altogether natural and vital efforts and flew, like hallowed fire, from heart to heart and its heavenly light shone and still shines and will shine through all the dark destinies of man. Here was no mechanism. Man's highest attainments were accomplished, dynamically not mechanically."

There is to day too much machinery in the way of God's working. There are too many second and third causes between us and the First cause. We grow to depend on methods and trust in men and schemes. The people are not clearly conscious of God.

Says Paul, "We preach Christ crucified." With nothing else in their hands but the Word of Life, with no other instrument to prepare the way but the Holy Spirit these called and sent servants of God went everywhere preaching the Word and we are told that as many as were ordained unto eternal life believed. We cannot improve upon their way and the sooner we fall in line with it the better for the heathen, the Christian and the missionary and the more glory will come to Him whom it is our daily privilege and joy to crown Lord of all."

MABEL E. ARCHIBALD.

Chicacole, India, Jan. 25, 1904.

### According to the Pattern.

Moses cautioned and commanded "See that thou make all things according to the pattern that was showed on the mount." And also Christ, in giving his last great commission to his disciples, said: "Go ye, and make disciples of all the nations, teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I command you." God gave the pattern of the divine things in the first sanctuary, and they must be made in exact conformity to the sacred archetypes Christ showed the divine originals of the church to his chosen teachers, and they must instruct "all nations" that these originals are obligatory on all. Would that these divine commands had never been forgotten or violated. How much happier would it have been for the church and the world.

Many of our readers will remember those days of innocence and simplicity when the school teacher was also the writing master (or mistress), and was wont to "set the copy" at the top of the page in the writing book, and to make or mend the goosequill pen for the youthful writer. The venerable man or woman of to-day, then the youthful writer, will also remember the constant temptation to look away from the true "pattern" of the writing, at the top of the page—it looked so far off—and to fix attention on the imperfect copy made by the youthful writer himself. The writer was thus making copies of himself, each worse than the preceding, until he reached the bottom of the page when his writing had become well nigh illegible, and a very poor copy of the teacher's perfect standard and guide that had been given to be observed and reproduced. All this resulted from following himself, because his work seemed so near, and from not following the teacher, whose work, though relatively perfect, was so remote and increasingly harder to observe, even at the top of the page.

What a parable is this of the church and her history! The church has been copying herself and forgetting the New Testament. She has been listening to synods and popes and bishops, and not listening to Jesus Christ. Look at the church to-day. The pattern that was shown in the Mount, the "all things whatsoever I commanded you," have been neglected, perverted, falsified, cast aside. There are millions of excellent Christian people in the world, but the New Testament conception of the Christian church has been almost wholly lost from the consciousness of Europe, and is greatly marred even in this country. So is it with many other things that Christ has commanded. Is it not high time that we arise, discard our human copies of divine thought and return the divine originals as revealed and commanded?—Exchange.

We soon learn that we cannot live to ourselves and be Christians, that the blessings that are given to us are really for other people and that we are only God's ministers to carry them in Christ's name to those for whom they were intended.—J. R. Miller.