

Look at Africa. The one word that describes that dark continent is "slavery." Its area is equal to North and South America combined, its population is 200,000,000, or more than three times that of the United States. They have only one ordained missionary to every 300,000 people, or one missionary to a population equal to Toronto, Kingston, Hamilton, London, Ottawa, Guelph and Brantford. The liquor traffic and the slave trade are the great curses of Africa

"Is it nothing to you, oh, ye Christians,
That Africa walks by night,
While Christians at home deny them
The blessed Gospel light?
The cry goes up this morning
From a heart-broken race of slaves,
And seven hundred every hour
Sink into Christless graves."

Look at India. The word that describes it is "crisis." Its area is equal to one-half the Dominion of Canada, and its population is 290,000,000, or fifty-eight times that of Canada, or one-fifth the population of the world. There is just one ordained minister to 300,000, *i.e.*, one minister to a population equal to Toronto and Montreal. There are 21,000,000 widows in India, 80,000 of them under ten years of age. There are more Christian workers in New York City than in all India. If each person in India could represent a letter in our English Bible, it would take seventy Bibles to represent the heathen population, while the Christian population could be represented by the Prophecy of Isaiah. The people holding hands would reach three times around the globe at the equator.

"Is it nothing to you, oh, ye Christians,
That in India's far-away land
There are thousands of people pleading
For the touch of the Saviour's hand?
They are groping and trying to find Him,
And while He is willing to save,
Eight hundred precious souls each hour
Are sinking to Christless graves."

Look at China. The word that describes that country is "death." It is larger in area than all Europe put together. It has a population equal to five times that of the United States. Would you like to see them pass before you thirty every minute? Then you must sit, never tiring nor sleeping for twenty years. A Chinaman says: "China has been a hell ever since you sent us opium." There is one ordained minister to every 500,000.

"Is it nothing to you, oh, ye Christians,
That thousands of beings to-day
In the heathen darkness of China
Are rapidly passing away?
They have never heard the story
Of the loving Lord who saves,
And seven hundred every hour
Sink into Christless graves."

Now, what can we, as Christian young people, do in this great missionary cause?

First. We can read missionary literature and find out what has been done and what is still to be done in heathen lands. When we read what the greatest Christian workers say about this cause, and see that they regard it as the *greatest enterprise* of the Church, and when we think of those who have given their lives for it, we shall feel that we must go heartily to work in it too. But, above all, let us read the Bible and see what it says about this subject and how many promises there are in regard to the heathen.

Second. We can pray for the heathen and for the missionaries. It is urged strongly that every society throughout this district should select some missionary in whom they are especially interested, and pray at each meeting for

that missionary as well as in private prayer. Think what a source of strength it must be to those hard working, self-sacrificing men and women to feel that they are borne up to God's throne by earnest young people. Oh, do not let us forget to pray for the missionaries and for the heathen in public, in private and in family prayer.

Third. We can give towards this cause. Let me state a few facts in regard to giving. Only one-half the Protestant church members of America give anything. One cent a week from S. S. scholars alone would equal the gifts of the entire Church. One cent a day per church member would ten-fold multiply the present gifts. A class of poor servant girls in New York give \$1,500 yearly from their scanty earnings. Thirty-five souls were brought to Christ by a native, supported by a class of seven boys (\$30). One stenographer, by her gifts, has gained more than 1,000 souls in India. One woman, living in a tenement house, gave \$700, and lived on the remaining \$300. We sing, "Bring forth the royal diadem and crown him Lord of all," and then give fifty cents to Christ and crown ourselves with a five dollar hat without a thought.

Fourth. We can live for this cause. A missionary says: "Account for it as we may, what Christians are at home the missionaries are abroad, neither better nor worse. If you are living comfortable, easy-going lives at home; if you have little love for God and the souls of men; if your Christian life is spotted and inconsistent; then you may look across the water and be afraid that some of your missionaries, too, are living comfortable, easy-going lives; that they, too, have but little love for God and the heathen around them. But if, on the other hand, you are living faithful, self-denying lives at home, yielding yourselves unto God to do His will, and walking before Him in simplicity and joyfulness, then you may be hopeful that your missionaries, too, are faithfully serving Him among the heathen." If this is true, and I believe it is, ours is a great responsibility.

Fifth. We can go ourselves and tell the glad news. But you say, "I must wait for a special call to go." Well, there is a special call. The heathen's need, that is a very special call. To every true, tender-hearted Christian, the sight of a great need is a great call for help. It was so with our Master, it must be so with us as far as we truly represent Him. Then, the Master's command was a special call given to His disciples. We are His disciples now, and as long as the command is not fully carried out we must be found doing it. Do not let us say we do not believe in missions. We might as well say at once that we do not believe in doing what He tells us. This has been such a highly-favored community. Our fathers before us knew and served God humbly and consistently. Our whole lives have been surrounded by Christian influences. We have had a goodly heritage. Surely God wants some one of us to go and carry to others the blessings that we have enjoyed so richly. It is a serious matter, and one that each of us must settle for himself before God, and God will lead us right; do not let us be afraid to trust Him. But let us remember that it would be a dreadful thing for Christ to come and find us here when He wants us in China or Africa.

"Is it nothing to you, oh, ye Christians!
Will ye pass by and say—
It is nothing, we cannot help it?
You can give, or go, or pray;
You can save your souls from blood-guiltiness,
For in lands that you never trod
The heathen are dying every day—
And dying without God."