

## WILLIAM CAREY, THE MISSIONARY ORGANIZER, PREACHER, AND TEACHER.—PART II.

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The same hand of God, in history, which guided Columbus to America, when he set out for India, led William Carey to India, when he had desired to go to Tahiti. So, three quarters of a century later, David Livingstone determined to be a medical missionary to the Chinese, but God kept him for Africa. The "fulness of the times" came in India, as in Great Britain, America, and France, in the last quarter of the eighteenth century. When Carey was mastering seven languages, as he sat on his cobbler's stall at Hackleton and Moulton or among his flowers and birds opposite his chapel in Harvey Lane, Leicester, the surgeon of an East Indiaman, John Thomas, was rudely trying to convert the natives of Calcutta and Bengal. He had no scholarship and little common-sense, but he yearned for the souls of men, and in his three voyages he had learned the local facts. Filled with these, he met Fuller, Ryland, and Sutcliff—the three to whom, as the executive of his own Baptist Missionary Society, Carey had offered himself. He met Carey also, when they embraced each other with tears of joy, and Bengal was chosen as the scene of the mission. Carey and Thomas went forth, two together, one an ordained and the other a medical missionary, with their families and £150 a year between them, to win to Christ the Hindus and Mohammedans, first of a province in which they now number seventy-five millions, then of all Northern, Central, and Western India, and then of the half of Asia from the Gulf of Persia to the Yellow Sea of China. While we thank God for Carey's faith and love, which the delays of twelve years had only intensified, let us not blame the thirteen ministers who, at Kettering, subscribed £13 2s. 6d. wherewith this mighty enterprise was begun.\* As with a few loaves and fishes the Son of Man fed the multitudes of His day again and again in the wilderness, so the Risen Lord and Reigning King multiplied the first mites then cast into His treasury, till before he died Carey saw them grow to £400,000 a year. And now, after a century, we reckon them at £2,500,000 a year, and count that all too small. Carey's minimum for "every person" was 10s. 6d. a year, which these poor struggling ministers more than doubled at starting; and if every communicant of the Evangelical churches had given even the minimum in the last hundred years, there would not be

\* This is the ever memorable list:

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
John Ryland, Northampton.....	2	2	0	Samuel Pearce, Birmingham.....	1	1	0
Reynold Hogg, Thrapstone.....	2	2	0	Thomas Blundell, Arnsby.....	0	10	6
John Sutcliff, Olney.....	1	1	0	William Heighton, Road.....	0	10	6
Andrew Fuller, Kettering.....	1	1	0	John Eyres, Braybrook.....	0	10	6
Abraham Greenwood, Oakham.....	1	1	0	Joseph Timms, Kettering.....	1	1	0
Edward Sharman, Cottesbrook.....	1	1	0	A Contributor, name not recorded			
Joshua Burton, Foxton.....	0	10	6	(Carey ?).....	0	10	6