

## THE REFORMATION SEASON.

With the names and the work of the leaders we are familiar; but besides the leaders or officers, there was an army small, at first, but growing, and at length, most commanding from numbers, training and enthusiasm. They caught the fervour and zeal of the Luthers, Zwingles, Farel, Knoxs, and Latimers and Bilneys. They prayed and sang and worked. They became talkers and printers and colporteurs and pedlers, going every where, with their precious treasures and wares, their gospels and theses and tracts, so that society became permeated and leavened with the gospel, and the social fabric was overturned and a new world arose.

## THE YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION MOVEMENT

Must be noticed in his connection. It is contained in the text. Its distinctive feature is that Laymen are to be perfected for a work for Jesus. They have stepped forth as a Band, marshalled for work, their own class claiming their first attention, and affording them the finest field. What a sublime spectacle does this movement present! What a grand up-rising of energetic and ardent spirits! For such marshalled bands of christian workers, the ministers of Christ should indeed thank God; and they should take courage, for already this movement has doubled the working power of the Christian Church on this continent. 'The Young Men's Christian Association is just our laymen going to work in earnest, in the Lord's vineyard; and one of the signs of the times which makes glad the hearts of the Lovers of Zion.

## THE SCOTTISH REVIVAL OF 1874

has many features of great interest, and has developed results in which angels and saints rejoice alike. The year, 1874, will be memorable and glorious on its account, but the one feature which I am called in connection with my text and subject to notice is the great impetus given to work for Christ.

It is quite possible that it would not be an extravagance to say that every one brought to Jesus has gone to some brother saying, "Come with us," for such records as the following abound, "Few young men have been changed or freshly quickened during the past winter who are not already seeking to win others." Again, "Especially have christian women under the influence of revived love and zeal been making fresh efforts to reach the neglected of their own class." Scores have offered.

as Missionaries, Lay, Clerical and Medical. Hundreds in city and country are seeking the lost. Thus, nearly the whole revived population are becoming a ministry, and engaged in truly evangelistic works.

Such zeal for the salvation of their fellow-men, on the part of our whole people, is the hope of our land, and to this end the prayers and labours of every minister and elder should be directed in faith and hope.

It remains only to notice the application of the principle of the text to

## FOREIGN MISSIONS.

1. *Dr. Geddie trained the Aneiteumese* to works of service for Christ from the commencement. Money they had not, but they were taught to give time and labour, first to build their School Houses and Church, to maintain their own teachers, and pay for their own Scriptures, and next, to go themselves at the peril of life to carry the light of the Gospel into other dark islands; and native missionaries have always been forthcoming. And Aneiteum with her scant population has had as many martyrs as the hundreds of thousands of the Lower Provinces.

2. *It is one of most hopeful features of our Trinidad Mission*, that the teaching of our Missionaries has in fact been largely blessed in training their converts to works of service for Christ. All have given services of prayer, and the fruits of their toil, and many have brought in others to hear the Gospel. Some have given themselves to be teachers, and whenever the field was ready for Evangelists, the men were ready for the field.

3. *Foreign Missions are all adopting this principle.* It is recommended by the best Missionaries, to be acted on as early and as far as practicable. Instructions are going forth from Missionary Conferences and Mission Boards, that Missionaries are to make the native churches as self-sustaining and independent as possible, by teaching all the converts that the work of evangelizing their native land, must be taken up and carried out by themselves, in humble trust on the sufficiency and grace of the Lord Jesus.

## THE WORLD'S CONVERSION. IS IT PRACTICABLE?

Will the whole Church loyally take up the yoke of Christ in its bearing on the world's conversion? If the field is the world, how much of it is lying uncultivated, barren and waste! What myriads have never heard of Christ and the God of all Grace. How can these be reached, and when, at the present rate of progress? True, as Dr. Angus at the New York meeting of the Evangelical Alliance shewed, the