

the field need not discourage us. We can reach this thousand millions with the gospel and we can do it with surprising rapidity, if we have the will to do it in God's way. He has gone before us. He has flung the doors wide open, actually challenging the church to enter and take possession. He has wrought results within a half century that have constrained even unbelievers to say, 'This is the finger of God.' There is much said in these days about the amazing progress of science and invention. Within a quarter of a century the most stupendous achievements of the human mind seem to have reached their climax. Think of the telegraph and telephone; the photometer and audiphone; the spectroscope and microscope; the wenders of optics and anæsthetics of photograph and phonograph, of steam-printing and typewriting; and these are a part of man's ways in scientific research and ingenuity. But God always keeps pace with man. However rapid man's strides have been in letters and art, in discovery and invention, God has moved yet more rapidly in his providence and grace. The study of history shows that in the march of humanity God has always led. Even the van is always but the rear of a vaster procession. Accordingly God has accomplished within half a century what we should have supposed it would require half a millenium to effect. Talk of "waiting upon God?" God has been long waiting for his people. He is a thousand leagues ahead of the foremost of his missionary hosts. Japan could fully occupy ten thousand missionaries to-day. China could fill the hands of ten times that number. Africa has only been explored; the first chain of stations is yet to stretch from Zanzibar to the Congo's mouth. What are we doing? O for a kindling of apostolic fires on the smouldering altars of the church! We have scarcely made a beginning and we talk as though the work were almost done. Ten millions of dollars is all the entire Church of God can raise to prosecute the missions of the world; while one city spends far more than that on a city hall and two others, on a suspension bridge, and there is buried in jewelry, gold and silver plate and useless ornamentation, within Christian homes, enough to build a fleet of fifty thousand vessels, ballast them with bibles and crowd them with missionaries, build a church in every destitute hamlet and supply every living soul with the gospel within a score of years! only let God's fire come down and take possession of our hearts and tongues, and the gospel would wing its way like the beams of the morning and illumine the world's darkness!

MISSION PROBLEMS AND WORK IN ABYSSINIA.

By PROF. GEORGE H. SCHODDE, PH.D., COLUMBUS, O.

PROBABLY nowhere in the wide world has this great mission century to deal with a more unique and in some respects more difficult problem than in the Ethiopia of history—the Abyssinia of recent centuries. All