

TWO MESSAGES FOR ALL.



TWO messages come to all Christian people from the May meetings of the Missionary Societies in London. One is from the Archbishop of Canterbury who speaking with all the authority and weight that belongs to his high office, as Primate of all England, said as to the claims of Missions upon every Christian: "It is well that we should endeavor to press upon men's minds the obligation which lies upon all Christians to take part in the conversion of all that are not Christians. . . . We are called upon to make them see that this obligation is part, not of something external to their Christian life, but a part of that Christian life itself; and that Christian life is not complete if it is shut up within a man's own bosom, or within a man's own neighborhood, and is limited by anything short of the whole human race. . . . Every Christian is bound to follow Christ. Very often men think of this . . . as realized in the endeavor to live a life of self-denial, to live for others, in the endeavor to purify their own souls by the help of God's Spirit, in the endeavor to love Him better year by year. Yes, this indeed is the Christian life. But if you would see in its completeness, understand that a very real part of it consists in the perpetual desire to make His name known over all creation."

Another message is from Mrs. Bishop the traveller who, pleading for a right conception of the foreign field, pointed out the danger that Christian people were in of having their minds taken up with the bright gleams that reach us of the light shining from our mission stations into the darkness of Heathendom, and not realizing fully the awful darkness which such light only seems to intensify. After speaking of some of the horrors of Heathenism such as polygamy, slavery, torture, unblushing immorality, the deification of vice, infanticide, demon worship, etc., she presses upon those present at the meeting: "the degraded condition of Eastern women, their firm belief in their own superstitions and customs, their immense influence over their children, a fatal influence which seems more than anything else to ensure the continuity of false religions," and she summed up this part of her speech in the terribly true words, "*We take the state of the perishing Heathen much too easily.*"

In connection with these statements of Mrs. Bishop the words of Miss Oxley and Miss Power, writing from Fuh-Kien ought to command the attention of Church women. They write of "crowds of women accessible to them." Of Lieng Kong city they say: "We are the first ladies to live in this place, and so wherever we go crowds follow us. If we play a

hymn on the little organ in the church, numbers of people stream in to listen and look. Before these people we want to shine for Jesus. . . . There is not one Christian family in the city." In the villages around they found everywhere women waiting to be taught. There is one Bible-woman placed where the plea for a teacher was most urgent, and they hope women from various villages will come to her for instruction.

HYMN FOR THE DIAMOND JUBILEE.

Threescore years of crowning mercies
Neath Victoria's happy reign,
Claim our praise to Thee, Jehovah,
Monarch of the land and main;
Praise to Thee that by Thy guiding
She hath been so true, so good;
Thou hast ministered thy blessing,
In Thy strength her throne hath stood.

For this Empire's sovereign ruler
Through our lands most palmy days—
Days of progress, peace, and plenty—
Lord of all, accept our praise;
For her firm and gentle sceptre,
For her pure and spotless fame,
For her sympathy in sadness,
Father, we adore Thy name.

Praise we render that the Gospel,
In these threescore years so blest,
Hath gone forth from Britain's borders,
North, and south, and east, and west.
That from continent and ocean,
Savage shore, and sea-girt strand,
Grateful strains acclaim the Sovereign
Of our free and Christian land.

We extol Thee for the virtues
Bountifully on her shed,
Virtues which, like gems most precious,
Shine around her crowned head:
As a maiden, wife, and mother,
True and faithful she hath been;
We adore Thy name, exclaiming—
"God hath blest our gracious Queen."

In old age, still be Thou with her,
Lord and Monarch of our race;
Still enrich, enable, keep her,
Still support her by Thy grace;
So when earth's long reign is ended,
And life's stewardship is o'er,
Full of days, and crown'd with honor,
She shall reign for evermore.

WILLIAM A. BATHURST.
Vicar of Holy Trinity, Eastbourne.

C.M.S. WORK DURING THE QUEEN'S REIGN.



THE sixtieth year of the reign of our beloved Sovereign is an epoch in the annals of our country which may well make us pause in the forward rush of work to cast a look over the past and call to mind all the way the Lord has led us in His wonderful mercy to our Church and nation. Never in the history of the world has there been such a reign as that of Queen Victoria,