

THE LONDON MISSIONARY SOCIETY.

[For the Maritime.

The London Missionary Society is now nearly a centenarian, and was born in a time of great social and political trouble. At the period of its formation it seemed indeed utterly useless to start a new Christian enterprise. The faith, however, of a few godly ones was exceedingly strong, and touched with pity for the perishing heathen this society was started and has achieved a noble work for the Master.

At first a few ministers met together, once a fortnight, at Aldersgate, for prayer, reading of the Scriptures and conference on missions. Then a committee was formed inviting the co-operation of ministers in England and Scotland.

In Sept. 1795 a week of special services was held at various chapels in London. Thousands attended these meetings, and a deep interest was manifested. A special sermon was preached at one of them, at the close of which a plan of the Society's work was laid before the people and approved. Good and noble men of different evangelical denominations were among the founders of the Society. At the first annual meeting steps were taken to prosecute the missions in the South Sea Islands. On the 6th March, 1797, thirty missionaries landed on Tahiti. Sixteen years passed away before a single Tahitian was baptized, but immediately thereafter great numbers came over to Christianity. Other fields were soon taken up, and now the London Missionary Society has many agents in different parts of the world.

Our own Presbyterian Church in its early history received some laborers from this Society. The Rev. John Mitchell, who was settled at River John, was sent out under its auspices. In one of his tours through New Brunswick he met with a great number of persons who heard him gladly and who longed for the preaching of the Gospel among them. Many also of the inhabitants of P. E. Island earnestly entreated the Society to send a missionary to them. In most of these places the Roman Catholics are very assiduous in making converts, while those who incline to the Protestant faith are in vain soliciting assistance from Europe.

"The directors lament the situation of multitudes in this part of North America, descendants of British Christian parents,

but are unable to afford them any effectual help, especially while our missionary students are so few in number and are needed in situations more directly within the design of our institution."

They were, however, somewhat mindful of us and we should be interested in this honored institution, the London Missionary Society.

D.

THE SIN OF DOING AND SAYING NOTHING.

Num. xxxii: 23, Be sure your sin will find you out.

How many easy going idlers and silent partners we have in our churches; Probably about nine-tenths of our members are engaged in no active Christian work. Where are the nine? Well, many of them would claim that they lead quiet and peaceable lives, do no harm, and bring no dishonor upon the cause of Christ. Let us ring it out in their dull ears. from God's word, that idleness is a sin. Let us arouse them from torpor by shouting in their ears that many of the severest curses of God have fallen upon persons for doing and saying nothing.

Num. xxxii: 23, It surely reports for retribution.

Judges v: 23, Meroz was bitterly cursed for doing nothing.

Prov. xxiv: 20, 23, The sluggard is condemned and warned.

Isa. lviii: 1, Prophets are commanded to cry aloud and spare not.

Isa. lvi: 10, Those who do not are called dumb dogs.

Ezek. xxxiii: 8, Those who do not thus warn the wicked are themselves doomed to their penalty.

Amos. vi: 1, Woe rests on all who are at ease in Zion.—*The Record of Christian Work.*

One of the wisest sayings that ever fell from human lips was that of Peter when Jesus said to the twelve, "Will ye also go away?" Peter promptly replied: "Lord, to whom shall we go? Thou hast the words of eternal life. And we believe, and are sure that thou art that Christ, the son of the living God." Yes, if men do not like Christ and his salvation, what will they like? Where will they find anything better, or anything as good? Rejecting Christ, to whom will they go?