

effective, nineteen years; and L. Roy, in the United States, fifteen; of the remainder, twenty-one served six years or less, the great majority of these only two or three years. No doubt, those who were in charge of the missions put forth their best wisdom and energy to secure proper agents for this work, but with such transient workers, many of whom showed their entire inefficiency in the course of two or three years, it could not be expected that the cause would greatly prosper; and yet the Society has had to bear the expense year by year of all these inexperienced, unsuitable and unsteady workers. The force is now reduced to five, and two of these are without experience, education or influence.

The Results

What has been accomplished during these fifty years, on all this ground, by this small army of missionaries?

The work began in 1855. In 1856 no members were reported. In 1857 Roxton reported twenty-one—the first returns were made in 1858, Roxton and Farnham, a total of thirty-three; in 1859, Roxton, Stonstead and St. Armands, fifty-four; and in 1860 there was a return of one hundred and two, a very good beginning. Ten years later, in 1870, there was a record of only forty members. Almost to a certainty the record was carelessly made and incomplete, for in 1873, one hundred and thirty-seven were reported—a gain, we will say, of thirty-five in the decade. In 1880 there were four hundred and eighty-one members. In the previous year, 1879, high water mark was reached when the number was 488—the largest return ever made in the history of these missions. Yet there is every reason to believe that that encouraging report was, if not fictitious, unsound. There was at that time, among the missionaries, a man who was accustomed to return from sixty t-