

idols have been utterly abolished. Forty years ago, the Fiji Islands were inhabited by brutal cannibals; now, they are a respectable colony of Great Britain. They have six hundred chapels, twenty-four thousand communicants, and fifty thousand children in their Sabbath-schools. In the small group of New Hebrides, where John Williams planted the first Christian mission, and where he suffered martyrdom, there are now three thousand native Christians, two thousand scholars, and seventy native teachers. The story of Madagascar * is of itself sufficient to settle the question as to the success or failure of missions to the heathen. Does any one want to know the results of single handed effort directed to foreign fields? We point them to pastor Gossner's mission to India. In 1845, he educated and sent out from Berlin four missionaries to a station one hundred miles north of Calcutta. For five years they laboured without making a single convert. "Should they give up in despair, and return to Berlin?" "No, said the old pastor, "you must work harder, and I will pray more earnestly for your success." Their courage revived. In 1850, four were baptized. In 1857, *nine hundred* had been baptized! Then came the mutiny: the converts were dispersed and their chapels destroyed, but not one apostatized. In 1862, they had baptized *nineteen hundred*. Now they have five thousand and communicants, and twenty thousand adherents. At Tinnevely, in the south of India, where a large native Christian church already existed, no fewer than *sixteen thousand*, hitherto strangers to the Gospel, voluntarily placed themselves under Christian instruction during last year. India has 143,000 scholars in mission schools, and 1,600 pupils who have passed the entrance University examinations. Among the savage tribes of Africa, the missionaries of different churches claim to have sixty-five thousand communicants, sixty thousand children in their schools, and altogether a million of natives under Christian instruction. The American Board of Foreign Missions has two hundred and fifty mission stations in Turkey, with over five thousand communicants, and twelve thousand children in Christian schools. It is estimated that there

are 12,000 mission schools in the world, containing at least 400,000 pupils.

It was a favourite idea of Norman Macleod's that it might be possible to lay the foundations of a National Christian Church in India that should be neither distinctively Presbyterian, nor Episcopal, nor Congregational, nor Methodist, nor Baptist; yet one that should comprehend them all. Was Dr. Macleod dreaming about the millenium? If such a church were possible in India, why not in Canada, and in all the world as well? However that may be, in the meantime missionaries in India and China and elsewhere are found co-operating wherever it is found possible to do so, and if they do not always succeed so rapidly as some impatient and unreasoning people think they should, the fault lies nearer the door of highly favoured communities than most of them are willing to admit. The selfishness and indifference of the great mass of people in Christian countries is one of the greatest drawbacks to the conversion of Heathendom. Said Paul to Agrippa,—“Why should it be thought an incredible thing with you that God should raise the dead?” Why should it be thought an incredible thing *with us* that the Heathen world shall be converted? If Christianity is only true to itself, the child may now be born who will yet join in the universal anthem of praise, “Alleluia! for the Lord God omnipotent reigneth. The kingdoms of this world *have* become the kingdoms of our Lord and of His Christ.” All other motives to work, and give, and pray for this blessed consummation centre in this,—“The love of Christ *constraineth us*, because we thus judge that if one died for all then were all dead, and we who live should no longer live to ourselves but to Him who loved us and gave Himself for us.”

The Waldensian Pastors.

AT the meeting of the General Assembly in Ottawa, a communication was read from the Continental Committee of the General Presbyterian Council appointed to provide means for increasing the salaries of the pastors of the Waldensian Church in the valleys of Piedmont, Italy. The Rev. G. W. Sprott was