

to what was then known as Upper Canada. To-day the missionary force represents a little army of more than twelve hundred persons. The income exceeds \$230,000, while the field covers half a continent and extends into "the regions beyond."

The missionary spirit which for years had been growing in the Methodist Church found a new outlet in 1880 in the organization of the Woman's Missionary Society. The constitution for a Connexional Society was not adopted till 1881, but in the fifteen years following, the income has risen from \$2,916.78 in 1881-82, to over \$40,000 in 1894-1895. At the present time thirty-four lady missionaries and teachers are in the employ of the Society, and decision has been reached to increase the force in China and Japan in connection with the onward movement of the parent society.

As at present organized, the mission work of the Methodist Church embraces five departments, namely: Domestic, Indian, French, Chinese and Foreign. All these are under the supervision of one Board, and are supported by one fund. Each department, in view of its importance, claims a separate reference.

#### I. THE DOMESTIC OR HOME WORK.

Under this head is included all Methodist missions to English-speaking people throughout the Dominion, and in Newfoundland and the Bermudas. Many of the settlers had, in early life, enjoyed religious privileges in lands far away, and these welcomed again the glad sound when heard in their new homes; while others who, under more favorable circumstances, had turned a deaf ear to the Gospel message, were touched with unwonted tenderness as they listened to the fervid appeals of some itinerant preacher amid the forest solitudes. The constant change taking place in the status of these Home fields renders any comprehensive numerical statement impossible. Suffice it to say that at the present time there are 425 Home missions, with 365 missionaries and an aggregate membership of 40,121, and on these is expended about 42½ per cent. of the Society's income.

#### II. THE INDIAN WORK.

This department of mission work has always shared largely in the sympathy of the Church and of the Mission Board. An important feature of the Indian work at the present time is the establishment of Industrial Institutes, where Indian youth are instructed in various forms of industry suited to their age and sex. No less than six of such institutes are now in successful operation. Statistics of the Indian work for 1895-96 give the following results: Missions, 47; missionaries, 35; native assistants, 17; teachers, 26; interpreters, 13; members, 4,264. The expenditure for the same year amounted to about 23 per cent. of the Society's income.

#### III. THE FRENCH WORK.

In the Province of Quebec there is a French-speaking population of a million and a quarter, which is almost wholly Roman Catholic. The difficulty of reaching these people by direct evangelistic effort led the Missionary Board to adopt the policy of extending its educational work. About seventy pupils are already in attendance, and the future is bright with promise. The amount expended on the French work, including the Institute, is only about 3 per cent. of the Society's income.

#### IV. THE CHINESE WORK.

During the past quarter of a century vast numbers of Chinese have landed on the Pacific Coast of the American

continent; of these, not a few have found temporary homes in British Columbia. For work among these people, commodious mission buildings have been erected in Victoria, Vancouver, New Westminster and Nanaimo, and schools established in all these cities. At the present writing the statistics of the Chinese are: Missions, 4; missionaries, 4; teachers, 6; members, 239.

#### V. THE FOREIGN WORK.

The most conspicuous and decided onward movement of the Methodist Church on missionary lines took place when it was decided to open a mission in Japan. Since the inception of the work, in 1873, its growth has been steady and permanent. In 1889 it was found that its growth had been such as to necessitate reorganization. Accordingly an Annual Conference was formed, which now embraces five districts, with twenty distinct fields, besides numerous outposts. General statistics of the Japan work are as follows: Missions, 20; missionaries, 28; native evangelists, 32; teachers, 10; members, 2,137. The Woman's Missionary Society has a number of agents in Japan, and they are doing good work.

At the General Conference of 1890 the project of a new foreign mission was favorably commended to the General Board of Missions, with power to take such action as might seem advisable. After careful consideration, the Province of Sz-Chuan, in West China, was selected. In the spring of 1892 the missionaries reached their distant field, and for three years pursued their work with faith and patience, chiefly in the cities of Chentu and Kiating. Then came the riots. For a time the work was entirely broken up, but subsequently the missionaries returned to the scene of their former labors, and at the time of the present writing (August, 1896) it is probable all the buildings have been restored. The work may be said to consist of three parts: evangelistic, educational and medical, the latter two, however, being most helpful to the former.

### How to Use Great Men.

NEARLY everyone who is interested in the advancement of our Lord's kingdom and the uplifting of their friends and neighbors would count it a great privilege to accompany such men as Bishop Thorburn, Rev. Arthur T. Pierson, D.D., Rev. A. J. Gordon, D.D., Bishop Taylor, Rev. J. Hudson Taylor, Martyn, Carey, Judson, Morrison, Marsden, John Williams, William Johnson (of Africa), Hunt, Gardiner, Duff, Livingstone and Patteson, to the homes of their friends and introducing them. This is an honor that would be worth the most valuable time we could spend. It is a privilege within the reach of nearly everyone to be the medium of conveying the thoughts of these men of God to our neighbors and friends.

"As a man thinketh, . . . so is he." A man's thought is the man, his book is his thought; therefore, by introducing the book we introduce the man. Although some of them may "rest from their labors, their works do follow them." There are many grand men whom to know is to be helped by them. Let us know as many as possible, and then introduce them to our friends. At a very small cost we may move in this society, if we simply buy the works of these writers, and read and then circulate them. The price is one, for ourselves and our friends. By thus working, and then watching and praying for God's blessing upon our efforts, we can lift many a life into higher service.