

Editorial Department.

THE INTERCOLLEGIATE MISSIONARY ALLIANCE

THE sixth annual meeting of the Intercollegiate Missionary Alliance, lately held in the Wesleyan Theological Seminary of this city, deeply impressed three facts upon the minds of those who attended its sessions: the rapidly developing opportunities for extended work presented to evangelistic workers; the phenomenal growth of the missionary spirit and deepening of missionary zeal among the Christian churches; and the pressing need of greater means for the utilization of the forces at the disposal of the various Mission Boards of the Church.

It is a subject of deep anxiety as well as of fervent thanksgiving to those who have the cause of missions at heart, that the whole world may now be said to be open to the advance of Christ's army. If the burden of the world's salvation rested on the Church of Christ when many nations had closed their doors against every attempt to propagate the Gospel among them, it weighs with tenfold force now that they are ready to receive the Gospel. The work of the world's evangelization is nearing a critical point in its history, for many tribes are casting aside the religions of their false gods, and are trembling in the balance between the influences which shall draw them into the light of the Gospel of Christ and those which tend to Atheism and Materialism. One life spent now among such a people may avail more for their salvation than a score when their intellectual life has become confirmed in its Atheistic philosophy. And while the Church of Christ raises her voice in thanksgiving for the manifest working of His spirit in the opening of so many new ways into the midst of heathen peoples, she feels with an ever keener appreciation the weight of the Master's yet unfulfilled command to make known His Gospel over all the world. The merchant and the explorer have become the forerunners of the Gospel herald, and new avenues have been prepared on every side for the missionary's advance, "till, at the command of Jehovah, land after land be