

## THE FOREIGN MISSIONARY WORK OF THE SALVATION ARMY.

BY ROBERT E. SPEER.

The Salvation Army is a missionary movement. It has been so from the beginning. Its leaders were sent of God, and the movement which they established has known but one thing—its mission to the lost; but the lost are in every land, and it is impossible to confine to any one land any movement which seeks to bring back to God the masses of His lost ones. Every living movement is a missionary movement. As a recent editorial in the *Pittsburgh Times* on the missionary enterprise succinctly stated: "A party which should content itself with supremacy in a single State would quickly fall into decay. An idea worth entertaining is worth pushing, and the more energetically it is pushed abroad the more influence it will command at home." And back of this is the mighty propulsion of the order of the risen Christ.

The October number of *The Conqueror* reports in Australasia, 482 corps and 1527 officers; in Sweden, 175 corps and 658 officers; in India and Ceylon, 186 corps and 584 officers; in France and Switzerland, 111 corps and 421 officers; in Denmark, 70 corps and 267 officers; in South Africa, 55 corps and 195 officers; in Norway, 63 corps and 267 officers; in Holland, 61 corps and 282 officers; in Jamaica, 34 corps and 57 officers; in Germany, 21 corps and 68 officers; in Finland, 17 corps and 58 officers; in Belgium, 14 corps and 34 officers; in Argentine and Uruguay, 10 corps and 41 officers; in Italy, 7 corps and 29 officers; in Japan, 15 officers; in Iceland, 4 officers; in Spain, 3 officers; in British Guiana, 3 officers; in Great Britain, 1217 corps and 4283 officers. In the main, fields have been avoided where officers would have to acquire a new language in order to be of service. "A Year of Grace," one of the publications of the Army, declares of China: "We have not as yet seen our way to add to our existing responsibilities by attempting an attack on this vast empire," and suggests, as explaining the slow progress in South America, that the officers sent out from England have to learn the Spanish language.

The most interesting field in which to observe the missionary operations of the Army is India, where the Army has been at work for thirteen years, and where it reported for the year 1894, 188 corps and 355 outposts, with 6 training garrisons for native cadets, 322 officers, 184 cadets in training, 13,573 soldiers, 73 schools for children, 3 Homes of Rest for sick officers, 4 Rescue Homes for Women, 1 Prison Gate Home, and 1 farm colony.

The Army's supreme method is direct, enthusiastic assault upon the strongholds of sin. It sets about these assaults with the instinct of victory which Bishop Thoburn, in "The Christless Nations," declares to be the only justifiable spirit in the missionary army. "We who are at