

TEN FACTS.

BY REV. THEODORE L. CUYLER.

During the early part of our Civil War, and during the last siege of Paris, it was common to go up in a balloon in order to take an observation of the position of the enemy. Let us take God's Word in our hands, go up in the balloon of faith, and with a wide outlook over the globe, see how the land lies. Ten facts come into view:

1. This whole world of ours, whose soil once drank the precious atoning blood of Calvary, has been guaranteed to Jesus Christ for His possession. He ought to have it at the earliest day; at some day He will be enthroned over every rood of it.

2. The barriers which have hindered the advent of missionaries are level with the ground in every land except one or two in the heart of Asia. When brother Underwood can preach Christ in Corea, and Stanley can promenade through the heart of Africa as safely almost as through London, then the apostles of the Cross have secured the "right of way" almost everywhere. No climate has proved to be a fatal obstruction whether in the Arctic regions or under the Equator.

3. God has constructed the engineering tools and apparatus for the spread of His kingdom, in the shape of steam-presses, steam-vessels, telegraphs, universal mail-service, and telephones. To-day this globe is becoming a vast whispering gallery, in which every syllable spoken for Christ Jesus may echo to the antipodes. To-day a ton of Bibles can be sent from London to Syria or Egypt in less time and with less trouble than Hebe carried the original Epistle to the Romans from Corinth to Rome. If Paul lived in our times he could visit in ten years the capital of every nation under the sun.

4. Caesar is constantly giving his testimony to the teachings of Christ. Sir Richard Temple and the British authorities in India have made repeated official statements of the influence of Christian missions in changing the whole social and moral characters of the districts in which they have gained sway. Muslim Pashas admit the same facts in regard to Beyrout and the Lebanon; the Mohammedan Khedive of Egypt gave the ground for the erection of the Presbyterian mission-build-

ings in Cairo. Similar facts are multiplied else-where.

5. The Christian characters which are wrought out of heathen material compare very favorably with those which are produced here or in Britain. Read the narratives of travellers in the Fiji Islands, for example. Look at the test of pecuniary benevolence. The converted Karens in Burmah though a poor people contributed \$30,000 to the Baptist missionary treasury in one year, while all the Baptist churches in our State of New York gave only \$39,400 in the same year. Dr. Lansing showed me a converted Coptic produce dealer in Cairo who gives \$600 a year to sustain the American mission there. The "London Missionary Society" received last year almost \$100,000 from the native converts in their various stations. The Gospel will soon be self-supporting and self-propagating in lands which, when I studied geography, were set down as heathen and barbarous.

6. The sixth fact is that the four most powerful nations made up of the most powerful races on the globe, have the Gospel in charge. The Saron race, strongest of all, is going to be the King's "imperial Guard."

7. The ratio of conversions in Foreign missionary congregations is two or three times greater than in our Presbyterian churches at home. In one Baptist mission station in India there were 5400 conversions within a single month! Read the reports of the growth of the new churches in Japan, and of the marvellous revivals in Liberia, and that of a year ago in the neighbourhood of Paul's native town of Tarsus.

8. Woman, who has suffered most bitterly from the degradations and cruelties of false religions, is coming to the front as the disseminator of Gospel-light. Half the missionaries on the globe to-day are women. Mount Holyoke Female Seminary alone has sent out ninety-five to heathen lands! Fifteen years ago the Presbyterian Women's Boards raised \$7000 for Foreign Missions; last year they raised \$224,000! When Woman's hand grasps the trowel, the structure rises.

9. But in the face of these soul-thrilling facts looms up one terrible fact. The chief hindrances to the conquest of the world for Christ come from Christian lands! The churches are as yet (as Dr. Duff well said) "only playing at missions." Last