

circle of friends. But, 'there being a synodal rule that nothing should be printed without previous approbation of the Directory for the time being,' the matter was deferred until leave could be obtained from a Synod. It was taken up again in 1787, by C. I. La Trobe, whose plan, altered and improved, was proposed to the General Synod held at Herrnhut just a hundred years ago. In reply, Bishop Spangenberg wrote: 'Your proposal to print a short account every quarter of the missionary labors among the heathen, for the benefit of the honorary members of your Society and others who feel interested therein, has the hearty concurrence of the Synod.' And so it came to pass that the printed magazine superseded the laborious preparation of manuscript matter for circulation among those who loved the work of the Lord and longed to hear or read of its progress among the heathen. The first number was introductory, and gave a concise account of the whole of our affairs relating to the missions. The second commenced that series of missionary letters, reports, items of intelligence, statistics and accounts of the sums received and expended for the spread of our Lord's kingdom, which has now continued for a century."

But even this venerable and modest body of Christians is in touch with the times and announces a change of policy.

"Our next number for March, 1890, will (D. V.) commence a new century of the 'PERIODICAL ACCOUNTS relating to Moravian Missions.' Surely that will be a good time to move forward in any direction that may be of real advantage to the cause, which we all—writers and readers—have at heart.

"A brief word first on behalf of the Editorial department. We hold it no small honor to edit the oldest missionary magazine. The office has passed through few, but worthy, hands: Christian Ignatius La Trobe, Peter La Trobe, Thomas Leopold Badham, Henry Edwards Shawe. These have been the writers of more than thirty volumes of our missionary annals, each containing ten or twelve quarterly issues. And we trust we have inherited the purpose 'not to emblazon our own (Church's) deeds or to exhibit to the world a picture of our achievements,' but 'to glorify God and magnify His saving grace. We have already endeavored to give our venerable magazine a brighter and more readable appearance within and with-

out, and, while retaining the individuality of the well-known 'blue book,' we intend to move forward on these lines. May the Lord help us still to present true and interesting 'PERIODICAL ACCOUNTS' of a living and blessed work, which is ministering to many the life that is life indeed."

All honor to this noble Church, with its glorious example of self-denial and sacrifice and heroic endurance; and all honor to this venerable "Periodical" which has lived to chronicle so many achievements of missionary enterprise and triumph. May its career in the coming centuries be like the path of the just, shining brighter and brighter unto the perfect day! J. M. S.

#### China Inland Mission.

It is known to our readers that in the summer of 1888, Rev. J. Hudson Taylor, the founder of this Mission, on his way to China, passed through the United States and Canada, and attended Mr. Moody's Summer School for Students at Northfield. Such interest was awakened in his China Mission at this Convention, and at subsequent meetings, that fourteen missionaries sailed with him in September for China, and others have since followed. The support of many of these missionaries was pledged. Many others offered their services. A Provisional Council was also formed to carry on this work in behalf of the China Inland Mission.

The arrangements have now been put on a permanent basis, and a "Council for North America" duly organized, with J. Hudson Taylor, Director, and H. W. Frost, Secretary and Treasurer, located at Toronto, Ont. All correspondence should be addressed to the Secretary, at the office of the Mission. The Council will meet quarterly, and on special occasions; but some of the members resident in Toronto will meet weekly for prayer and for the transaction of business. Several candidates have been accepted, and parties will be sent to China as the Lord may open the way. J. M. S.