

the most triumphant book of this generation, it will not be the speculations of a philosopher, it will not be the researches of a scientist, it will not be the story of the campaign of a great general; it will be the autobiography of John G. Paton, out there alone on cannibal islands, smitten to the very heart by the death of wife and child, left there with nothing but the ocean about him and the cannibals around him, yet singing his triumphant anthems of praise and thanksgiving for it all." This apostolic man has lived to see the Prince of Peace reigning in those islands where before there were only the most cruel savages. The profits of his book, more than \$25,000, have been devoted by him to continuing the work of grace so gloriously begun.

Taking the whole group known as Polynesia, including all the islands of the Pacific within the tropics east of Australia, to which New Zealand, Micronesia, New Hebrides, Fiji, and others belong, seventy-five years ago they were all heathen. Now more than 300 islands are Christianized, there are more than 500,000 converts, and they are sending a large number of native missionaries to the unevangelized islands about them.

In Greenland, where the daring missionaries found nothing but heathen, it is said that to-day not a heathen is to be found. The Gospel has conquered.

Of the Sandwich Islands, now the subject of political consideration, the Hon. Richard H. Dana, of Boston, wrote in 1860: "Whereas the missionaries found these islanders a nation of half-naked savages, living in the surf and on the sand, eating raw fish, fighting among themselves, tyrannized over by feudal chiefs, and abandoned to sensuality, they now see them decently clothed, recognizing the laws of marriage, going to school and church with more regularity than our people do at home, and the more elevated portion of them taking part in the constitutional monarchy under which they live."

India, in the face of the violent and persistent opposition of the East India Company, until it was abolished by the British Parliament in 1857, has been the scene of some of the most devoted and heroic work on the part of the Christian Church. The progress of missions has drawn forth splendid tributes from English civil officers and military and naval chieftains, as well as from native princes and learned Brahmins, testifying to the power of the Christian faith. "Of one thing I am convinced," said a learned Brahmin in the presence of a large number of his own rank, "do what we will, oppose it as we may, it is the Christian Bible that will, sooner or later, work the regeneration of our land."

Within this century the fires of suttee were burning in all parts of India, and the widow

bound to the dead body of her husband was with him burned to ashes; infants were publicly thrown into the Ganges as sacrifices; young men and maidens, decked with flowers, were slain in Hindoo temples before the goddess Kali, or hacked to pieces to propitiate the god of the soil; the cars of Juggernaut were crushing hundreds of human victims annually beneath their wheels; lepers were burned alive; devotees publicly starved themselves to death; children brought their parents to the Ganges and hastened their death by filling their mouths with the sand and the water of the so-called sacred river; the swinging festivals attracted thousands to see the poor, writhing victims, with iron hooks thrust through their backs, swing in mid-air.

All these horrors have been abolished. "These changes," says Canon Hale, "are due to the spirit of Christianity. It was Christian missionaries, and those who supported them, who proclaimed and denounced these tremendous evils. Branded as fanatics, and satirized as fools, they ceased not until one by one these hideous hallucinations were suppressed." Still their main work has been the preaching and teaching of the Gospel of Christ, ministering to the sick, and leading souls to the Lamb of God. Many thousands of native converts have died in the peace and joy of faith. There are now more than 150,000 communicants, half a million baptized converts, and a million of adherents.

Of the results associated with the name of Cauldwell in Tinnevely and of Judson in Burmah, of the opening of the Dark Continent and all that has followed, and of the recent progress in China, Japan, and other places, we need not now speak particularly; nor need we cite more examples in proof of the gracious omnipotent power of the Gospel to bring light to them that are in darkness and salvation to the lost.

The great commission stands out in bold relief. The Church, charged with a world-wide mission, asks of all her members, Who will give themselves, who will give their means, who will sacrifice most to extend the dominion of the cross, and make the kingdoms of this world the kingdom of our God and of His Christ?—*Quarterly Message.*

A GENTLEMAN who is being greatly prospered pecuniarily said lately: "I used to give as I felt inclined; now I intend to give of that which God blesses. I have bank stocks, railroad stocks, United States bonds, etc. These draw interest seven days in the week. But the first day of the week is the Lord's day, and all that pertains to it belongs to Him. So one-seventh of my income from investments is saved to the Lord. Then I manage to secure an income during the six days of the week, and from this also I will give to religious purposes."