

standard set. Such an appeal will rouse to the most strenuous endeavor, to the most consecrated devotion, to the most patient endurance. It will spurn all selfishness, scorn all pettiness, save from all narrowness.

"Worthily of God," of His infinite greatness and goodness, who gave up His well beloved for us, appeals to all who are really, truly, His. Would it not be well that we should try ourselves oftener by this standard, that we should make it a matter of conscience, of will, of earnest endeavor to attain? Would it not solve some of our problems of conscience and conduct? Would it not help congregations to meet their financial obligations? Would it not save them from resorting to such methods of raising revenues as one often blushes to hear of? Could any one, with this standard clearly in mind, raise money for the church of Christ by any method he would not resort to in providing for himself, or his family? This standard would secure that the house of worship would be the best possible in the circumstances of the congregation, and that it would be cared for and kept, inside and out, as well as the best home in the congregation. It would help to keep the services of worship, and the Sabbath School, and everything pertaining to them at their best. The minister and people, the superintendent and officers and teachers, and children, would reach higher levels of life and work if "worthily of God" were the goal to which they were all striving.

Annan, Ont.

### "How About Prospects?"

*By Rev. R. W. Ross, M.A.*

We are living in a time of great material progress and prosperity. We are experiencing, as a result, a wave of worldliness, in which love of pleasure, luxuriousness and greed appear to be overwhelming the church of Christ. We live in a world where gigantic wrongs abound, where evil men wax worse and worse, and where good men faint and fail. The conflict between the powers of good and the powers of ill is acute. The church and the world are struggling for supremacy. "How about prospects?"

We often wonder how God tolerates human wickedness, how He permits colossal evils. We are solicitous for God. We are fearful for the kingdom. Why? Does not history teach us that God is never in a hurry, that in nature's laboratory everything is worked out with infinite leisure, that all our great achievements are the result of patient working and waiting? The gourd of a night withers in a day, the oak takes a century to grow in, and lives and dies at leisure. God has an eternity in which to complete His tasks. Well then: "How about prospects?"

Jesus sent out His little band of twelve nervous men nineteen hundred years ago. Their mission was to capture the kingdoms of this world. They faced an empire possessed of unlimited resources of power and influence. They were trained, for three years, in the school of Christ, they were saturated with His mind and spirit, they went forth with a sword, "the sword of the Spirit which is the Word of God." Teachers went out against armed men; spiritual weapons clashed with carnal weapons. "How about prospects?"

Three centuries passed, and the preachers were victorious; the ideas of Jesus had prevailed; the gospel made conquest of the souls of men; and the Roman empire bowed to the Nazarene. What have the succeeding centuries wrought? The banner of the cross floats over every island and continent; and a great multitude that no man can number is enlisted in the service of the Christian church. "How about prospects?" It is "not by might, nor by power, but by My Spirit, saith the Lord." When Thomas Buxton first stood up in the British House of Commons, to propose the abolition of slavery, the House laughed at him; prospects were forbidding. He faced the laughter unmoved, and said: "The battle is not man's, but God's." All God's battles are victories. When we forget Him, we doubt and hesitate, we lose hope and confidence; but—

God's in His heaven—

All's right with the world."

"Be of good cheer." His grace is sufficient; like charity, it never faileth; He saves to the uttermost.

Judson spent ten years in Burmah, with only one church and eighteen converts to