

THE SIN OF DOING NOTHING.

When the Israelites were about to cross the Jordan to conquer the land of Canaan, Moses feared that the children of Gad and the children of Reuben were in danger of committing a great sin. It was the sin of doing nothing. These two tribes came to Moses with a request that they might receive their inheritance on the eastern side of the Jordan, because they had a multitude of cattle, and the land of Gilead was a place for cattle. Gilead had already been conquered by the combined strength of the twelve tribes, and Moses feared that the two tribes which came to him with this request desired to take possession of the strongholds that had been captured by the combined army of Israel, without helping their brethren of the ten tribes to subdue the land of Canaan on the other side of the Jordan.

Gad and Reuben assured him that armed men of the two tribes would assist in conquering the entire land before returning to the country which they desired on the east side of the Jordan. This promise somewhat allayed the fears of Moses, but he was still so much disturbed by the thought of a possible do nothing policy, when the help of every man was needed, that he bound them to their promise with emphatic words, and added, "But if ye will not do so, behold, ye have sinned against the Lord; and be sure your sin will find you out." *Selected.*

THE Archbishop of Rupertsland questions if the Church members in Manitoba "are excelled in giving in any diocese. Wherever there has grown up in a Mission a village of 250 Church people, including children, the Mission has become self-supporting." Last year the local contributions for Church purposes were £15,000 or £3 for every family attending the services, besides £1,300 raised for Missions. In addition the people have built nearly 100 churches and 50 parsonages.



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