

THE

Canadian Missionary Link.

CANADA.

In the Interests of the Baptist Foreign Mission Societies of Canada.

INDIA.

VOL. VI., No. 1.] "The Gentiles shall come to thy light, and kings to the brightness of thy rising."—Is. lx. 2.] SEPT., 1883.

"Bequeathed Trusts."

BY THOMAS OAKES CONANT

Ye sons of godly sires,
 On whom the burden of to-day doth rest,
 Keep bright the holy fires
 Your fathers lighted! In each generous breast
 Let the pure passion glow
 That had them gladly go—
 Or others send, with large-d' visting hand
 To bear the torch of truth to ever-darken'd land

Do ye not hear the cry
 Of souls sunk down in heathen hopelessness?
 "O brothers, ere we die,
 Shed the sweet light upon our dark distress
 That on your way doth shine!"
 Shall they in darkness pine
 For whom Christ d'ed, when you the precious light
 Of life divine may pour upon their rayless night?

The Lord hath chosen you
 To this high honor; to your hearts and hands
 A mightier work to do
 He doth confide than conquering war-worn lands
 Your task? From chains of sin
 A captive world to win;
 With love's strong hand from Satan's grasp to wrest
 Myriads of living souls by Satan's power oppressed.

Be true to your high trust!
 As wrought the fathers with unflinching zeal,
 So, o'er their sacred dust,
 Vow to their God, and yours; the world's appeal
 Shall grandly answered be,
 Till, over land and sea,
 Lips touched with altar-fire the blessed Name
 To every tongue and tribe shall faithfully proclaim.

The Church and Missions.

Not a few of our church members, and we fear some of our ministers are in danger of falling into the grievous mistake of regarding missionary operations as something which a church undertakes in addition to its ordinary work. On the contrary, missions—the work of preaching the gospel to every creature—are a part of the very life of the church. One great reason why the church exists is to "evangelize all nations." This thought ought never to drop out of the consciousness of Christians. But it does. Christian people sometimes seem even aggrieved when the claims of the destitute at home or the heathen abroad are urged upon them. If new lamps are needed—or thought to be needed—in the church building or a new sidewalk required for more ready access to it, the heathen must wait till the "so much to do at home" is attended to. There is need of a genuine and general revival of religion in the pockets of God's people. As paving the way for that there is need that we all learn to put mission

work, whether home or foreign, in its proper place in our regard, not as an addendum, an extraneous thing, but as an essential part of the very life of every church.—*Canadian Baptist.*

A Missionary Creed.

BY REV. B. S. M'LAFFERTY.

We believe that for the hope we ourselves cherish as Christians, we are indebted, under God, to those missionaries of the Cross who preached the Gospel to our heathen forefathers, and, consequently, that all true religion now existent in the world is the fruit and effect of foreign missions.

2. We believe that the command of Christ, expressed in the great commission, makes our duty, by all the means at our command, to preach the Gospel to the now existing heathen nations, both plain and imperative.

3. We believe that when Christians are engaged in preaching the Gospel to all nations, especially to those which are pagan, they are exercising their first and highest functions.

4. We believe that in so far as we fail, through our indifference, to make the Gospel known to all men, we are guilty of denying our Lord.

5. We believe, respecting the comparative claims of the home and foreign fields, that they can never be deemed equal in their demands upon us till all upon the latter have had at least one opportunity to hear the Gospel.

6. We believe that every pastor ought to testify his interest in foreign missions by studying the current missionary literature, in so far as he is able to procure it, and by frequently laying before his congregation the conditions and wants of the field.

7. We believe all Christians ought to testify their interest in foreign missions by an annual contribution to maintain them.

8. We believe it is impossible to be sincerely interested in, and to effectively pray for, foreign missions, when, having received of God, we give nothing to their support.

9. We believe the alleged fact that nine-tenths of all contributions to foreign missions come from one-tenth of the membership of our churches, ought to be seriously pondered by at least 2,066,688 American Baptists.

10. We believe we need a revival of faith in the doctrines we teach and profess to believe respecting foreign missions—a faith acting like fire within our hearts, burning with an intense desire that all men may know and obey the same truth which has saved us.

11. We believe that in the prosecution of the work of foreign missions, we need more of the light and power of the Holy Spirit, without which we may have spasmodic, artificial, temporary spells of activity, but can have no permanent, persevering, and successful continuance in zealous effort.—*Baptist Missionary Magazine.*