

The spiritual work has been most interesting. To see a people who once were cannibals partaking of the Lord's Supper has been truly delightful. At the New Year's gathering it has been the custom for all the members of the church at Raratonga to assemble together for worship. Looking around upon this gathering, the family history of all known to him, he had seen the bread administered by one to a man whose father that man had murdered, or the reverse. The work of evangelization in these islands has been done almost entirely by the natives whom it has been Mr. Gill's object to train for this purpose. It is wonderful what they have done. *Hundreds have sacrificed their lives to carry the gospel to their brethren. Sixty of Mr. Gill's own church have been killed while acting as missionaries.*

Fifty Years of the British and Foreign Bible Society.

At the late anniversary of the British and Foreign Bible Society, the president, the Earl of Harrowby, in his address from the chair, referred to the progress of the society's work within the reign of Queen Victoria. The story is most cheering:

"Fifty years ago our receipts were £100,000; now they are nearly £225,000. Fifty years ago that great test of the interest taken in this noble work—the auxiliary societies—amounted at home to 2,370; now they are over 5,300. If there is any proof of the spread of the interest taken in the circulation of the Bible, that is one. Abroad you had 260 auxiliaries and branches fifty years ago. You have now 1,500. Fifty years ago, what was the issue of the Bible and portions of it from this great society? The annual issue was 600,000; now it is about 4,000,000. The cheapest copy of a book half a century back was issued at about two shillings; now the price is sixpence. The cheapest Testament then was tenpence; the cheapest now is Lord Shaftesbury's, and the price is a penny. And that not done by any grinding of the people who produce these works. In how many tongues and languages were the Scriptures circulated fifty years ago? In 136. That figure is actually doubled, for now they are circulated in 280. Fifty years ago 14 fresh languages of Europe had been honored by Bible publication. Now the Bible has been published in 12 fresh languages in Central Asia and Siberia, 12 in India, 14 in China and Mongolia, 19 in the Pacific, 30 in Africa and 30 in America. That surely is a most marvelous record.

A Judeo-Christian movement has begun in Siberia, analogous to that which for two or three years has been proceeding at Kischnieff, in Southern Russia, under Joseph Rabinowitch. It owes its institution to a Polish Jew, one Jacob-Zebi Scheinmann, who, on the ground of utterly false accusations, was banished to Siberia in 1874. He settled at Irkutsk, where he set up in business, and at the end of five years found himself in possession of a certain competency. In his native land he had heard about Jesus Christ from one of his friends, the late David Levinsohn, and the indirect occasion of his banishment was his having roused the wrath of his co-religionists by declaring on a public occasion his belief that the Messiah came in the time of the second temple. This conviction doubtless became rooted in his heart, but does not seem to have become a living power within, until one day at Tomsk, where he had gone to meet his family, he found a tract containing Rabinowitch's confession of faith. He at once entered into correspondence with the writer, and procured more of his writings. These were read by some thirty of the Jews at Tomsk, and Scheinmann expounded to them what the Talmud and other Jewish books say

about the Messiah. "The scales," he says, "fell at once from their eyes." In the letter in which this passage occurs, Scheinmann asks Rabinowitch for a New Testament, only one copy of which he had ever seen, and which no one in Tomsk knew what it was about! All the books and tracts which were sent to him, except the New Testament, he distributed among his brethren in Siberia and Poland. And there is reason to think they are being read to good purpose. Scheinmann seems to be devoting his energies to the propagation of his new ideas. He has published several letters, in one of which he calls upon the Jews to "take up the New Testament, the true *hora*, which Jesus, the Son of God, and our Master, has taught us, and give yourselves to the study of it day and night." The New Testament is being read by the Jews as it never was before.—*Miss. Review of the World.*

The Time For Action

BY JACOB CHAMBERLIN, M.D., D.D., MADANAPALLE, INDIA.

There is a "tide in the affairs of men" in matters spiritual as well as temporal. The tide in India is now at its flood. If it recedes, the advantages that we now have will never again be offered. There is not a province where Hinduism stands firm on its ancient basis. There is not a caste or a creed whose ranks do not show gaps made by those who have deserted them and enlisted under the banner of King Immanuel. The thirty-five missionary societies now in India are coming together for the conflict. The strategic points have been gained. Plans for the final attack are matured. The enemy are weakening and are dispirited. Already do we see them on their citadels prepared to let down the flag and surrender if a vigorous assault be made. But, alas! our forces on the field are still too weak to make that assault.

But can the men and the sinews of war for this stupendous battle be obtained? When Lincoln, in the early days of the war, issued his call for 75,000 volunteers, the cable told us that the roll of 75,000 was filled; that word had to be sent out to stop the enrollment, as so many more offered. Then the men and women of the North said, "Send them into the field. We will raise the needed funds." And right royally was the promise fulfilled.

We must have an army of 75,000 to conquer India for Christ! The privates for the army we will enlist there. We must have 5,000 "West Point officers" within five years to lead that army. They must be men from America and Europe, trained for the conflict in the older Christian lands. There has been no greater inspiration in this century than the springing forward within the past twelve months of 2,500 young men and women in America enrolling themselves thus as volunteers to go to the front if God shall open the way. "Is it possible for the church to send out and support such a great number of new recruits?" That question is born not of faith, but of fear. Behold God's triangle! He has created the opening by His marvelous providences. By His Spirit He has called for these volunteers, and they have responded. The apex of the triangle only needs the funds. The silver and the gold are the Lord's. God's triangle is never incomplete. *In the name of our Immanuel, I ring out the call for 5,000 volunteers for this glorious warfare!*

There are in India 60,000 young converts to be trained for the work. They have not the life, the energy, the spiritual earnestness for the work of saving other souls that we have longed to see in them. Their piety, their endurance under persecution, their devotedness to Christ,