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A Century of Missions. This year is the centenary of Modern Christian Missions. One hundred years ago was formed the first missionary organization, the Baptist Missionary Society, and on this wise.

William Carey, poor, uneducated, was absorbed from early life with this one idea, that God wished the heathen to know the gospel, and that it was the duty of the Christian Church to give them that gospel, and to that idea he devoted his life. His thinking, his reading, his talking, his praying, and, later on, his preaching and writing, were all on that one theme, until he compelled others to think of it too.

At first he earned his bread by mending shoes, He never attained the rank of shoemaker. When at his bench he had ever near him his Bible and a map of the world, and at times learned as he could a little of other languages. At length he became a schoolmaster, and after a time was called to be minister of a small Baptist congregation, each step giving him better opportunities of ventilating his all absorbing theme.

By letters, pamphlets, sermons, addresses, he agitated his scheme. At length he succeeded in getting together a few good men who were in some measure in sympathy with his views, and asked them if any of them was ready to go and carry the glad news to the perishing heathen. None were willing. Then he said, "If I go down into the pit will you hold the rope?" "Yes." They there and then subscribed £13 2s 6d, and in this way was formed in the autumn of 1792, in the village of Kittering, England, the Baptist Missionary Society, the first of the more than one hundred organizations, that are now at work evangelizing the world.

He went to India, but was not allowed to work on British soil. At Serampore, where Denmark ruled, he landed and began the work of translating the Scriptures, and within twenty years, he and his co-workers had given the word of God in twenty-one of the languages of India.

International Missionary Union.

The multitudinous societies of the day are for the most part known by their initial letters, and it requires no little watchfulness to keep abreast of the times in this regard, and to decipher all the cabalistic titles that meet the eye. Among them are the letters I. M. U.

Nine years ago, several, who were, or had been, Foreign Missionaries, met at Niagara Falls, and spent a few days in conference on missionary matters. They felt that such a gathering annually would be helpful, and thus arose the I. M. U. The one qualification for membership is that one is, or has been, a foreign missionary. All, of every creed or name, are eligible. For several years the meetings were held at Thousand Island Park, for the last three years they have been at Clifton Springs, New York. At this delightful sanitarium many of the American and Canadian Missionaries who are on furlough, recruit at once their physical and spiritual strength as they exchange experiences with kindred spirits, and the knowledge of each becomes the property of all. The Union itself is a most impressive thought. Here are no theorists, but men and women from all parts of the world, who have toiled and suffered for the heathen and for Christ, some of them for half a century or more, and those of them who are able, ready to return to their loved work.

This year the meetings continued for a week. There were one hundred and three members present. Meeting at nine, a.m., an hour was spent in devotional exercises, then the rest of the day was devoted to papers and discussions on themes affecting their work. The evening meetings were of a more popular kind, with tidings, in the shape of short addresses, from all parts of the world. It must be of great value to the missionaries themselves, and if the Church of Christ could only sit and listen to that week of theme and story what a forward movement there would be in the evangelization of the world.