

The Canadian Missionary Link

VOL. XVI.

TORONTO, MAY, 1894.

No. 9

"JESUS HAS CONQUERED INDIA."

My Dear Readers of the LINK:

"Jesus has conquered India" are the words of Keshub Chunder Sen, the great leader of the Brahmo Somaj movement in India, and 'Jesus has conquered the world,' or 'Jesus is conquering the world' might be the words of anyone who attended the Student Volunteer Convention for Foreign Missions lately held in Detroit, surely one of the greatest convocations of modern times. For, there were gathered together students and professors from Nova Scotia to California, and from Texas to Manitoba, from the whole of this fair continent of America, representing the learning and culture of over two hundred colleges, schools and seminaries, and with them, missionaries from India, from China, from Japan, from Africa, from the wide world round, missionaries of twelve, twenty and forty years' experience and gathered wisdom, and secretaries representing societies whose united work takes in the whole world, all met to discuss together for four days and more, the theme than which the mind of mortal man can find no greater, no grander—that glorious theme of bringing a lost world to Jesus, of proclaiming a risen Saviour to lost and fallen man. Foreign Missions, this was the theme, and how our hearts glowed within us as we heard of what Jesus had done in all countries, of His work among the savages of the seas, of his work among the cultured, polite Japanese or the cultured Hindus. We heard and we rejoiced until we felt like saying prophetically the words quoted above, "Jesus has conquered India," "Jesus has conquered the world."

But what is it that is going to be the fulfilling of that prophecy? Are there not hundreds of millions yet in darkness? Are those in heathen nations not increasing at the rate of 40,000,000 a year or there about? Even so. "I am the Light of the World" are words spoken by our Captain years ago. "Ye are the light of the world" were the words spoken to the disciples who afterwards assembled in that upper room, and, receiving the power of the Holy Ghost, spread that name Jesus through the then known world. A small company, only one hundred and twenty, but to-day what do we His disciples number? Many thousands of thousands. And why is Christ not known and what wait we for? For Holy Ghost power. As Dr. Pierson says, the power of electricity was a power little known and almost altogether unutilized until within the last few years, and now what can electricity not do in the physical world? So with the Holy Ghost. Jesus came and did

His work, and ascended up on high, but his Spirit, the third person of the Trinity, is now doing His work. O, that we might discover His power! O, that it might be utilized in us for bringing back a whole lost world to Jesus! Not by ones and twos, but by hundreds and thousands!

Spirit of Power, descend upon us all, that through us even in this present generation the words may be fulfilled, "Jesus has conquered India, Jesus has conquered the world." Spirit of Holiness, descend upon us that our desires may be all purified, that this may be our one desire, to bring Jesus to a lost world and a lost world to Jesus.

Spirit of Truth, descend upon us, and, making us free, make us heralds of that truth which shall set all peoples free.

My dear friends, how I wish you could all have been at that farewell meeting of the convention, especially those of you who meet in groups of five or six in circles where the church membership is perhaps a hundred, or where you meet in groups of ten or twenty only, where the church membership is perhaps three or four hundred. You would then have realized that you were not after all but a small company, but that you were part of a great concern, of a magnificent enterprise, of the successful outcome of which there can be no doubt. You might then have felt sorry for those whose eyes were not yet opened to this glorious privilege, but your own hearts would have been full of joy that you were enabled to do and to endure even if it be ever so little for His name's sake. To that meeting about 2,000 were gathered together, and one after another spoke for about three hours' time; all seemed intent to hear and to enjoy this feast of good things.

The President, a very able man, though so young, gave the key-note for the evening, "As thou hast sent me into the world, even so have I also sent them into the world." They were representative speakers. A Y. M. C. A. representative told of their work in foreign lands. One, representing those who would go out this year, spoke of how they must be ready for the gospel of hard work; another, representing those who would stay at home, said they must begin at once their foreign mission work, and seek the conversion of souls to God, and the conversions of Christians to God's work. A Y. P. S. C. E. secretary said that if the Student Volunteer Bands were going to provide the men, their societies must see to providing the means; another told how like Jonah he had tried to run away from the divine call, but he had escaped the troubles he had fallen into, and was now ready to do his duty; the representative for the universities of Great Britain urged that all these