

three others, were converted by the reading of the Prayer Book, and resigned their prominent positions in what was then the State Church, crossed the ocean, received Holy Orders, and returned to fill humble positions in what was then the humblest of religious bodies in the country. Surely if men of such prominence could make such a sacrifice, when we had no Bishops and were but a drop in the American religious ocean, much greater results might be accomplished with our present strength. The old-time prejudice against a liturgical service is fast passing away. *Laudes Domini*, which is modeled after our Prayer Book, and which is being extensively used by our brethren, has done much to overcome this prejudice. Christmas and Easter are being generally observed, Children's Day and other festivals show their want of a Christian year, and now is the time for the Church to begin this work. The Church Periodical Club has done much good in distributing books to the clergy who could not afford to buy them; let them be given a supply of Prayer Books, also, and the missionary who circulates them will find in the course of a few years, that the people will gladly accept his ministrations, and our Bishops will have demands for their services in those counties where we are not represented, and our clergy, instead of waiting for parishes, will find parishes waiting for them; the demand will be greater than the supply. Our growth has been phenomenal in the last decade, it will be even more so in the coming decades, if we are wise enough to circulate that book, which, next to the English Bible, has had the greatest influence in moulding mankind.

Well has the Book of Common Prayer been called "The Silent Missionary." Its free distribution, in a word, would greatly extend our work by creating a demand for many more workers.

THE EXCEEDING VALUE OF MEDICAL MISSIONS.

Dr. Joseph Charles Hoare, the new Bishop of Victoria, Hong Kong, has given the following remarkable testimony to the great blessing attending medical mission work in the diocese with which he has been connected twenty-two years: "I have known," he said, "convert after convert in our hospital at Ningpo, and I can certainly point most distinctly to three churches which have been born in it. The hospital, by the way, was started by one who is not a medical missionary, but by a man who came out to earn his living in Ningpo by working amongst Europeans there. Before he had been there long, God put it into his heart to come over to me and to tell me that if we could find funds for carrying on a hospital he would give up his skill and time, an offer which, of course, we jumped at, and the hospital was started, and for several years that man worked the hospital en-

tirely without any money, and did most splendid work by his medical skill in the place. Well, a few months after the hospital had been started, a man came up to us from a place about 140 miles away. He was an opium smoker, and came to be cured of the habit. He came and sat down in our waiting-room on one of our dispensary days, and he heard there, as he was waiting for his turn to see the doctor, some of our native preachers telling the old, old story of the Cross of Christ. God's Holy Spirit brought the Word home to his heart, and he stood up in the midst of that heathen crowd, and cried out aloud, 'Why, that is exactly what I want!' And, my friends, remember this, that whether we are in Exeter Hall or in the heathen cities in China, it is exactly what we all want—a *Saviour from sin*; or rather—thanks be to God!—we wanted one, but we now have one in Christ. This poor man was afterward baptized, and asked for an evangelist to be sent to his home in the city of Tai-chow. One was sent, and about two years after I went down to the city myself—the first European who had set foot in it—and the result of that convert in the hospital, assisted by this native preacher, was that on the first Sunday I spent there I had the privilege of baptizing thirty-seven converts. Now they have a strong church there, numbering over 700 baptized converts. They have two native pastors, and contribute liberally to their own self-support; the church, mind you, having been born in the waiting-room in that Ningpo hospital.

"That thought has been very much brought home to my mind as I look back upon my twenty-two years in China. For eleven years in China I worked without any hospital in the district where I was. During the second eleven years we have had a hospital. Well, in my younger days I used to move about the country doing evangelistic work, visiting, and so on. Again and again, as I have moved from place to place, I have had mothers coming with their children. 'Look at this child,' some mother would say. And as I looked at the child I could see that it had some complaint or disease which I knew, as a matter of fact, might, in all probability, be healed, if there was a doctor at hand. But there was no one to whom I could tell the mother to bring the child to be healed. And so it is with grown-up people. I have seen them suffering from ghastly wounds and from illnesses, from which I have known again and again that they were almost sure, under God's blessing, to recover, had they had the medical or surgical treatment now to be obtained at the hospital. But, of course, I could do nothing, and I have had to leave them and to go on, knowing that those people would probably lose their lives in terrible suffering, for want of a medical missionary. But, now, as I move about the country, I am able to say, 'Look here, I can do something for you; you need only come to Ningpo, where we have a hospital, and the doctor