

illustration, it appears that in the *Four Presidencies*, containing a population exceeding one hundred and twelve millions, the number of missionaries is *less than four to every million*. But this is the most favorable aspect of the mournful case. In the several States not included in the Presidencies, yet all under British rule, with a population of more than sixty-four millions, the entire number of missionaries is *only eight*. With facts so appalling, and all but overwhelming, the members of the Conference, addressing the several Societies they represent, thus plead:—

“What, then, dear brethren, is to be done for these perishing souls? We ask for nothing unreasonable, nothing impossible. We well know that it is far beyond your power to supply even India alone with an adequate number of qualified missionaries. We know your sympathy for the heathen world; the numerous claims presented to you from your many missions; and the difficulty, in the present position of the Churches, of raising sufficient funds. But we do press upon you the greatness of the claims of India, and urge that, because of its vast population, and of its entire accessibility to the Gospel, those claims surpass those of all others. . . . . If, out of the twenty Societies engaged in Indian missions, the large send *ten men*, and others less, so as to secure an average addition of *five men each during the next five years*, there will be found no less than five hundred missionaries in India, of whom a hundred will have been entirely added during that brief period. We pray you to regard our appeal for the land in which we labour. We plead for the multitudes we see, whose ignorance we know, whose passage into another world in such vast numbers, unsaved, fills us with mourning and sadness. We ask your efforts. We ask your prayers. May the Lord of the Church Himself prepare the harvest, and send forth more labourers to reap it for His praise!”

The meetings of the Conference closed with a public meeting of Christians of all denominations interested in the cause of missions, which was held in the Calcutta Town Hall on the 7th September. The Venerable Bishop of Calcutta presided, and it was one of the largest meetings ever held in that city.  
—*London Missionary Magazine*.

### THE LIGHT-HOUSE AND THE MISSIONARY-BOX.

ABOUT twenty-four years ago a poor but pious widow, the keeper of a light-house on the Kentish coast, obtained a missionary-box, and resolved to devote to the cause of Christ all