

sters and missionaries are utterly unable to occupy all. For example, how many more labourers could find ample work in connection with the Presbyterian Churches in this Dominion? We do not hesitate to say that our mission stations could profitably be doubled, and that in some of the Provinces at least the number of our congregations could also be doubled. The fields are before us; but we have not yet the means to enable us to occupy them. Were our Church financially strong enough she might with great advantage multiply her labourers throughout the Dominion, so that the Gospel might be within reach of many who now never hear the joyful sound.

But it is when we look to heathen and half-heathen lands that we are startled with the increasing opportunities presented to the Church of Christ. There is no doubt that the stations in India and China, in Africa, and in the islands of the Pacific could be doubled in a single year if money and men were available. That is to say: there are spheres of labour invitingly open in vast numbers. From every mission that we read about there come appeals for more labourers. Witness our own Trinidad Mission, our New Hebrides Mission, and our fields in India and China.

The tidings from the mission fields show that past labours are bringing forth fruit, and that God is preparing the way for a rapid extension of Christianity. The Buddhist nunneries are being closed in China. At least sixty thousand people in Southern India have placed themselves under christian instruction during the past year. Ten thousand Telogoos have been baptized. The King of Siam is "almost persuaded" to be a Christian. He affords the missionaries the amplest freedom for their work. Asiatic Turkey is increasingly accessible; and the demand for Christian teachers comes from unwonted quarters. Bitter enemies and persecutors are becoming trusted friends of the missionaries.

Thus it appears that the prayers of the Church for great success in mission work have been remarkably answered. It has been well asked, what will the Church do should the Lord continue to answer our prayers? Must we call home our missionaries? Must we retrench in

men and money at home and abroad? Are we really prepared for the responsibilities which success involves? Is the present era of activity and success to end in wretched collapse,—or to serve as a step towards vastly greater victories? The answer depends, under God, upon the benevolence of the Christian people.

For Others.

WE are called upon to follow the footsteps of our beloved Redeemer in self-sacrifice for the sake of others. Your neighbour is a reckless and wicked man. He brings himself and his family to want and distress. He is a centre of moral contagion and of ruin. You, as a Christian, must confront this evil and manfully undo it. You must relieve distress even when it arises from wickedness and folly. And as the contagion of sin spreads it must be followed by the unfailing remedy of Divine grace and power. A world lying in the wicked one has the same claims on you as it has on the Lord Jesus. He died for the world,—even for His enemies: we are called upon to give money, thought, time, life itself if need be, for those who sit in the shadow of death. When God asks us to contribute of our means for Church purposes, or to give ourselves, or our sons and daughters, He only asks us to follow His own example.

You are a member of a struggling congregation. If all would do their share of work, there would be no difficulty in maintaining the means of grace and meeting all reasonable demands. But some are doing and giving beyond their ability, while others lag lazily behind, doing just as little as they possibly can. This is very trying to faith and patience. But after all, be very grateful to God that He has given you grace to be alive to your duty. Those who neglect their duty bring leanness upon their own souls; they degrade and weaken themselves, and forget to lay up treasure where moth and rust do not corrupt, and where thieves break not through nor steal. You may feel the burden now, but how blessed that weight in contrast with the dull and dreadful weight of selfishness and neglect which drags the miserly soul down to perdition! If you have grace to