

and opportunity enough, to evangelize the world fifty times over." That is what he said, and he was a man who knew.

Is it possible? Is it practicable? Can it be done? We are sometimes wise if we learn a lesson from the children of this world. I notice, and so do you, that when a political idea seizes upon the minds of men as a desirable thing, they consult together as to the question—whether it is a practicable thing; and when those things are settled, that it is desirable and is possible, I find that they rise up and do it. There is a political aim like that, just sent forth through our land—a political aim, and a good one, from my point of view. It would be well, they say, if our representatives in Parliament were men of sound Protestant principles. And because they think it is well that they should be—desirable, therefore—and they think it can be done—possible, therefore—they rise up to do it. And what are they doing? They are calling out, in every constituency of our land, so I read, for what they call a Protestant hundred—pledged to this one thing, that, so far as it lies in their power, a Protestant shall be sent to the House of Commons. That is very simple, and very practicable, and I trust it will be very prosperous. God grant it.

But I have another thing to say. Is there any reason, in heaven or on earth, if men with a few months' notice can carry out a thing like that, why the Church of Christ, with more than eighteen hundred years' notice, cannot gather throughout the land missionary hundreds, pledged to this one thing: that out of their midst, out of every hundred, one shall go forth to the mission-field of the world? And do you know what that would mean? They say to-day that there are forty millions of Protestant communicants in the world. Take off half, if you must, as mere professors; and take another half, if you will, as doubtful adherents; may we not suppose that ten million out of the forty million (communicants, mind you), are whole-hearted enough to desire to spread the Gospel through the World? And if they were gathered into missionary hundreds, and sent forth one from every hundred: what would it mean? A hundred thousand missionaries for the foreign field! And if half of them failed, still fifty thousand missionaries for the foreign field! On this simple principle, that wherever a Church has a hundred communicants, they band themselves together to pray and to labour for this; wherever a Church is too small, then, like Israel of old on the Passover day, let it and the neighbouring Churches next unto it unite, until they have a hundred communicants. Then let them pray to God that He will call one out of their midst to carry His Gospel to the world, so that the world shall be evangelized in this generation. And as for support—why, let each of the remaining ninety-nine give one-hundredth of his annual income to supply the needs of the outgoing one: and thus there will be enough and to spare. It could be done, and done easily. And if God touches His people's hearts it will be done before this generation has run its course.

It would mean a new state of things. It would mean a change for us for Israel in Haggai's story. But remember this. If forty thousand Israelites said they could not build the temple of God we are almost inclined to laugh at their excuses. But they might laugh at ours if we say that forty millions of Protestant communicants cannot carry the Gospel to the whole world. It can be done. By God's grace let us do it. We will not look at the money—that is

settled at once. We will not even consider the organization. If one hundred thousand, or fifty thousand were given us to go out in the next few years, it would mean increased organization. Instead of half of one side of Salisbury Square, we might want all four sides for offices alone. God hasten the day. And if His people rise up throughout all Christian lands to do His will, it can be done; and by God's grace it shall be done.

"Well is it to be so utterly at rest in God, and the one great circumstance of life with which we have to deal, and to be satisfied with whatever he may send or permit—having no will apart from His, which is always wisest, always best."—M. G. Guinness.

"Oh, to have no Christ, no Saviour!  
No rock, no refuge nigh!  
When the dark days round thee gather,  
When the storm sweeps o'er the sky.

Oh, to have no Christ, no Saviour!  
No hand to clasp thy own!  
Through the dark, dark vale of shadows,  
Thou must press thy way alone."

We cannot realize the above, yet it is true in the case of millions of women in heathen hands. Think of it as the New Year dawns—and ask and answer the question—What can I do to give them the Christ, the Saviour?

## Young People's Department.

### MISSION BAND LESSON.

#### RAMACHANDRAPURAM.

This station suffers a little from having a long name. In speaking about our Telugu work one is inclined to dwell upon those places where the name is short and easily pronounced. But we must not let these six syllables awe us, but try and get accustomed to saying Ramachandrapuram. Where is it?

Ans. 1.—It is twenty miles south-west from Cocanada, and can be reached by a road which skirts canals most of the way, and is shaded by beautiful trees. But the pleasantest way to reach it is on one of our Mission boats, which will take eight hours from Cocanada. This field lies in the rich delta of the Godavery River, and the country is covered with a net work of canals. It is thickly settled with people, 650 to every square mile. Ra-ma-chan-dra-pu-ram is only a village, although it has 3,750 people.

Leader.—At first the Missionary at Cocanada had the oversight of this field. In 1892 it was decided to have a resident Missionary in this district. Who was appointed to take charge of it?

Ans. 2.—Mr. McLeod. When he and his wife first went to Ra-ma-chan-dra-pu-ram, they lived for nearly a year in a house, the walls of which were made of mud and the roof of bamboo poles and palm leaves. The floor was made of mud, and both the roof and walls were badly eaten with white ants. They must have been glad when their Bungalow was finished and they had a comfortable house to live in.

Leader.—There is a picture of this house in the "Link," for February, 1898. Did they remain here long?