

that had not begun ; we look back to a missionary conquest that has been partially accomplished. He could only expect great things from God in the line of missions ; we can look back to great things and let what we have seen behind us be the prophecy of what we shall see before us. Have you studied the history of missions ? It is an encyclopædia in itself. You would better begin soon, or you will scarcely go through the first chapter before you die. I have been studying it for thirty years, and I have not got beyond the middle of the second chapter. Why ! these triumphs of missions are perfectly marvellous when we consider how few people have been engaged, and how little money has been spent. God has done exceeding abundantly above all that the Church has asked or even thought. A hundred years ago there were fifty versions of the Holy Scripture ; now there are between two and three hundred, and in all the great languages of the world. A hundred years ago a little band of Christian laborers essayed to reach a few of the heathen in the South Seas ; now between six and seven thousand men and women, representing the Christian Church ; and, what is far more remarkable, 35,000 to 40,000 native converts raised up by missions, consecrating their time and their talents to the reclamation and evangelization of their own countrymen. So that the very missions that some people called a failure actually have multiplied the laborers on heathen soil, so that they represent six times as many as the whole Church of Christ sends out to evangelize the world !

Have you noticed what missionaries have wrought in different localities ? Look at just a few specimens of what the hundred years have accomplished. Take the ninety-five years of mission history from 1797 to 1892 in the South Seas. Fourteen years without a convert ! Then two natives in Tahiti that had been impressed in a missionary's family, during the absence of all the missionaries from the island, were found praying for the evangelization of their own countrymen. Those two converts of 1811 were leaders of a host now numbering 850,000 converts, and Western Polynesia is evangelized. Take the seventy-five years of the American Baptist Union. When Judson went to Burmah he was the sole representative of the Baptist Union, and Burmah was the sole field of labor ; and he worked for ten years and had but one church of 18 converts to show for all his work. They wrote to him from America : "Well, Judson, how about prospects ?" "Prospects ! all right," said he, "bright as the promises of God." And now, looking back over those seventy-five years, what do you find ? Taking into account those first ten years of comparative failure, there has been established a new Baptist church for every three weeks of the entire time, day and night. And there has been a new convert baptized for every three hours of the entire time, day and night. Who of us would not like to see a little of a similar "failure" here in Great Britain ? Supposing we look at what fifty years have accomplished in various fields. Take the field in Turkey, for instance. The result of those fifty years has been twenty-