

# The Mission Crisis.

## MISSIONARY NEWS.

DR. HULBERT writing in *The Home Mission Monthly* shows the marvellous increase in area of the possessions of the United States, increasing in ninety years from 813,000 to 3,000,000 square miles. "With this wonderful increase of area, the spread of Christianity has corresponded. The institutions of religion have kept pace with the institutions of Government. Into every new settlement the Church has gone as early as the State. The colporteur was on the ground before the constable; the minister not later than the magistrate.

Over these three million square miles not more visible are the signs of civil supremacy than of home mission occupancy.

In 1873, there were 1,400 evangelical ministers in all the land: to-day there are about 94,000. Since the present century began there has been an increase in evangelical communicants exceeding thirteen millions. Within ninety years the orthodox denominations have enrolled in their American churches nearly as many converts as were enrolled in the first five hundred years of the Christian era, nearly three times as many as in the first three hundred years, and nearly thirty times as many as in the first one hundred years.

In the United States to-day, of people in sympathetic relations with the evangelical churches, there are not less than forty million. Our forty millions are certainly as good as the thirty millions under Charles the Great.

To do the work that has been done evangelizing, activities have been methodized and organized as never before. That Christianity has saved the American nation thus far there can be no doubt. But for the saving health of our religion the commonwealth would long ago have met its fate. So far the nation's institutions owe their preservation to the devotion and activity of the patriotic saints for the sake of whom our God has been propitious. Such facts regarding the work in the home field are most encouraging."

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The church has been doing a good work for the Chinese in this country as well as in the home land. In the United States and Canada there are 261 schools for their instruction, besides 8 associations and 7 churches. The whole number of Chinese in America, young and old, who are known to be reached, either regularly or occasionally by Christian instruction is 8,061. Of these 6,295 are adults who are regular attendants in schools which have been established for more than a year.

The sincerity and devotion of the Christian converts in China are sometimes questioned, but let all doubters consider a fact reported in *The North China Daily News* of August last, that during a riot in the province of Sz' Chuen, when one of the missionaries, Mr. Turner, was seized with his wife and child-