

so wickedly taken possession of it. Now, do not you think you would feel a deep interest in all his progress—in the number and condition of his soldiers—in their movements and success—would not every victory be hailed with joy—every advance to the accomplishment of his progress be a new source of congratulation? So should it be in the warfare in which Jesus, our elder brother, is engaged. His father hath given to him, the Heathen for an inheritance, and the uttermost parts of the earth for a possession, and with his missionary army He goes forth conquering and to conquer. This army is divided into many different companies, but they have all one captain, and are all engaged in the same contest. The soldiers of Christ you are now to hear about are called Wesleyan Missionaries, they have been in the heat of the battle, and have gathered many trophies of victory. About seventy-five years ago John Wesley presided at a meeting held in the town of Leeds, England, for the purpose of promoting the coming of Christ's Kingdom. He stood up in the Assembly and asked, "Who will go to help our brethren in America?" Two of his sons in the gospel responded to the call, and offered themselves for this labour of love. These went forth, as the pioneers, to make the first inroads, and for some time laboured unassisted by others. In 1786, (seventeen years after,) Dr. Coke left England with three missionaries, intending to settle in Nova Scotia, but their vessel was driven by a storm among the West Indian islands, they then planted a missionary station in Antigua—thus, God directed their steps by a way that they knew not. This mission was the commencement of a work of grace among the Negro population of these islands, not perhaps surpassed since the first ages of Christianity.

"And now the grain of mustard seed began to put forth goodly boughs." In 1791, missionary operations were commenced on the Continent of Europe; in Africa, in 1811; and in Asia, during the year 1814;