

4. We need the divine *Enduement*, The power that converts cannot be described any more than the fragrance or tinting of a rose; but it may be felt. Faith and prayer are the conditions of this enduement. The means will always be inadequate. Our salvation lies in being *in straits*. The work cannot be done on a mathematical basis. We must attempt great things for God, while expecting great things from God; and then the victory will come.

TEXTS AND THEMES.

WHEN Bishop Hannington preached his farewell sermon at Hurst, before departing for Central Africa, his text was 1 Samuel xxx. 24: "As his share is that goeth down to the battle, so shall his share be that tarrieth by the stuff; they shall share alike."

God's plan is:

1. The gospel preached everywhere as a witness.

2. The disciples going into all the world.

3. Particularly into the byways, hedges, etc.

4. Encouraged by the promise, "Lo I am with you alway," etc.

The proof that God is with us:

1. The providential opening of doors.

2. The gracious transformations of individuals and of society by the gospel.

3. The exalted character of the consecrated laborers.

We are debtors!

Thrice, thrice are we the debtors of the heathen world. Debtors—for we possess what they have not.

Debtors—for we have kept back for centuries what should have been given them with generous hand.

Debtors—for instead of a loaf we have given a stone; instead of a fish a serpent.

VI.—PROGRESS AND RESULTS OF MISSIONS: MONTHLY BULLETIN.

Africa.—To-day 34 Missionary Societies are at work in Africa, and all its 200,000,000 souls are practically within the reach of Christian missions. Thirty-three societies have begun work in China, and all its 350,000,000 souls may be visited with the message of the gospel. More than fifty societies have entered India, and the light is dawning upon its 250,000,000. Turkey and Persia and Japan are filling with mission churches and mission schools. Practically, the whole world is open, and the grandest day of opportunity for the kingdom of God that the earth has ever seen has fully dawned.

—The Mission of the American Baptists sends further reports of the revival at Banza Manteke. About 200 have been baptized and enrolled as church members. More are asking for baptism. There is much persecution in some parts, and in December three persons were killed for professing to be Christians. In the towns about Banza Manteke there are people who are anxious to hear the gospel. An interesting incident is given showing the zeal of the converts in transporting timber and iron a dis-

tance of fifty miles for the building of a chapel. Most of the men have made the journey three, and some four times, bringing loads on their heads. To do this requires a walk of three or four hundred miles, and it is well asked, "How many hypocrites would do that?" The women have hired carriers, and thus have done their part. The boys, too, have brought half loads. This disposition to labor for Christ is the best sign that the Christian professions of the people are sincere.

—At a recent meeting of the Presbytery of New York, a committee was appointed to prepare an overture to the General Assembly with regard to the rum traffic in the Free Congo State. The whole business is a shame to our civilization, to say not a word relative to its character, as carried on from seaports whence Christian missionaries go out and come in!

—The Romish Church is pushing for the open regions of the upper Congo. Two Portuguese steamers recently carried from twenty to thirty Jesuit priests and nuns to labor in Africa for the propagation of their faith.