

MISSION FIELD.

HOW THE HEATHEN GIVE.

The Rev. Dr. Soudder, so long a Missionary in India, wrote, "The offerings made by the heathen to support their idolatry, are far greater than those which are made by Christians to honor their Divine Master." The Rev. J. L. Douglas writes from Burmah: "The people spend thousands of dollars for pagodas, only tens for their own homes."

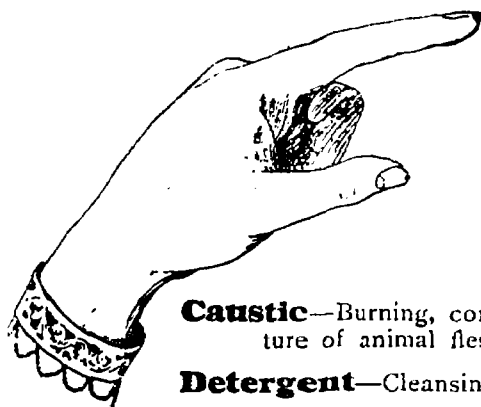
A correspondent in China of the *Mission Field*, the organ of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel, says: "The extent of idolatry is something fearful, and custom has welded it tight together with all the intents and purposes, thoughts and actions of the Chinese. Everywhere we are confronted by this gigantic evil. From the palace down to the beggar's mud hut, over 350,000,000 souls of them are enslaved by idolatry. Every family poorly clad, every family richly fed and richly clad, all have their idols in their homes, which are their chief concern, which must be fed, worshipped and guarded."

"Idolatry is an enormous expense to these people already stricken in poverty. Besides all the money that is spent on temples and shrines, fortunes are wasted by burning make-believe money, miniature paper houses, horses, men and women, trunks, hand-boxes, and furniture, and also by providing provisions for the poor departed souls in the other world. Twenty thousand dollars are spent, in a certain month of the year, on one temple alone in the Canton province. The sum spent for idolatry throughout the empire in a year is estimated to be the magnificent sum of \$300,000,000 at the very lowest. Mark such liberality!"

"Such is the problem the Church has to solve in China. To remove all these false gods, to break loose the 'shackles,' to tear down these strongholds of Satan, to drive away all this black darkness, and here establish the Kingdom of God—here, instead of idol temples on every hill-top and in every valley, build temples of the living God, where this people shall sing the Redeemer's praise."

BISHOP PADDOCK, of Massachusetts, points out the secret of interesting people in missions and winning their support in the following: "When we can persuade the clergy to give regular instructions on missions as part of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, say, at the Ember seasons, or four times a year, they will discover that the motives, obligations, methods, fields, successes, &c., make the most interesting topics which they ever bring before the people, and without taking an offering at every sermon or lecture, the parish will be ready every year, because they understand and love the cause, to give for its advancement. I can never wonder at the difference of good people to what they do not understand and are not prepared to understand by those spe-

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cially ordained to set forward the coming of Christ's Kingdom. Make every clergyman both well instructed and interested and the work is done."

Waiting of our own heathen in the *American Magazine*, Allen Forman mentions the fact, that in New York city alone over 7,000 Chinamen support two temples to Joss, and that there is already a considerable colony of Mohammedans established in and about Greenwich avenue. During the year ending June 1st, 1888, 57,587 of the most degraded Italians—people in the densest ignorance and almost without the vestige of religion—landed on our shores, most of them to remain in the city of New York.

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