

of the truth. Astounding also are the evidences of Divine blessing on more modern missions. India, which a century past was unreached by the light, has to-day a Christian population of upwards of half a million; Japan, closed till 1854, is now rapidly becoming a Christian nation, while China, the very citadel of heathen influence, is speedily being interpenetrated by the heralds of the truth. In the Sandwich and Fiji Islands, in Madagascar, Burmah and Africa living churches have, through the grace of God, been brought into being, where but yesterday there was nothing but the darkness of moral night. No nations have yet been found too fierce to be subdued, no intellects too clouded for this light not to penetrate. All-sufficient has been His grace, and the triumphs of the past are but the precursors of still mightier events in the future.

Thirdly, The state of the world at present still demands the most intense activity of the Church. While the population of the world is estimated at 1,470,000,000, (or about a billion and a-half,) 874,000,000 of men are yet utter heathen, unpenetrated by a single beam of light, and uncheered by any ray of hope. We therefore call upon you for the sake of that glorious Redeemer on whom our hopes are fixed, and whose second advent is contingent upon the fulfilment of His great missionary command, to take your part in the advancement of His kingdom by your prayers, your offerings and your personal service. The true secret of spiritual prosperity at home is missionary activity abroad, and our confidence is that, while listening to these appeals, your hearts may be aroused from the apathy of the past and brought into living sympathy with that glorious work for which the Saviour gave his life.

You will hear with much pleasure and satisfaction that the Board has now taken a step, which, with the blessing of God, will doubtless prove a powerful stimulus to the cause of missions throughout the length and breadth of the Province. Encouraged by the increasing sympathy shown toward all Domestic and Foreign Missions by the various Dioceses within their sphere, and desiring to encourage the laudable desire that our Church should, as soon as possible, commence direct missionary work herself, the Board has now accepted the services of the Rev. J. G. Waller, B.A., of Trinity College, Toronto, as a missionary to Japan. Mr. Waller, while appearing on the list of the clergy of the venerable Society for the Propagation of the Gospel, will be financially supported by the funds of our Board. We have only to add that having sailed some six weeks ago, Mr. Waller must now, with the blessing of God, be on the field of his labours.