

are *omissionary preachers*. Religious newspapers that have no hot message concerning the Lord's last command are *omissionary papers*. Let the word stick—ring the changes on it until some of the *omissionaries* shall become *missionaries*.

THE KIND OF MEN NEEDED FOR MISSIONARIES.—Judson said: "In encouraging young men to come out as missionaries, do use the greatest caution. One wrong-headed, conscientiously obstinate man would ruin us. Humble, quiet, persevering men; men of sound, sterling talents, of decent accomplishments, and some natural aptitude to acquire a language; men of an amiable, yielding temper, willing to take the lowest place, to be least of all, and the servant of all; men who enjoy much closet religion, who live near to God, and are willing to suffer all for Christ's sake, without being proud of it:—those are the men we need." When Dr. Milne applied for an appointment, his rough exterior and unpromising manners made the Committee doubt his qualifications. One of the members suggested that the best plan would be to recommend him as a servant to a mission, if he were willing to go out in that capacity. When asked if he would consent to the proposal, he replied without hesitation, and with the most significant and animated expression of countenance, "Yes, sir; most certainly; I am willing to be anything, so that I am in the work—to be a hewer of wood and a drawer of water is too great an honor for me, when *the Lord's house is building*." Milne was sent to China, where he lived a life of the greatest usefulness.

MISSIONS IN INDIA. One of the surprises of the last India census was the rapid increase of the Christian population—that is, the native Christians. That increase, during the previous nineteen years, has been fourfold the increase of the general population in British India. Between 1872 and 1881 the Christians increased by over thirty per cent., the general population of British India by under seven per cent. Between 1881 and 1891 the Christians in British India again increased by nearly twenty-eight per cent., the general population by under ten per cent. However people may wrangle about actual conversions, the missionaries have succeeded in creating a Christian population under conditions which assure to it an extraordinary rate of increase. Christianity in India is not merely a religion or a belief; it is a communal tie which binds its followers into strongly knit associations, each with common interests, a system of mutual aid, and an organized machinery of protection against the mischances of life. Its native communities are now practically administered in an ever increasing strength by men of their own race. The direction and control are exercised by a comparatively small body of imported missionaries, but the ordained native pastors (Protestants) have increased from 21 in 1851 to 797 in 1890, and the native lay preachers from 493 to 3,491. It is a marvellous development for barely forty years. *The London Times*.

THE IDEAL IS THE REAL.

ANSE PRESTON.

"God never permitted us to form a theory too beautiful for His power to make practical."

Men take the pure ideals of their souls,
And lock them fast away,
Nor ever dream that things so beautiful
Are fit for every day;
So, counterfeit pass current in their lives,
And stones they give for bread;
And starv'ingly and fearfully they walk
Through life, among the dead;
Though never yet was pure ideal
Too fair for them to make the real.

The thoughts of beauty dawning on the soul
Are glorious Heaven-gleams,
And God's eternal truth lies folded deep
In all man's lofty dreams:
'Twas first in Thought's clear world that Kepler saw
What ties the planets bind,
And through long years he searched the spheres
The answering law to find:
Men said he sought a wild ideal;
The stars made answer, "It is real!"

Paul, Luther, Howard, all the crowned ones,
Who star-like gleam thro' time,
Lived out before the clear eyed sun,
Their inmost thought sublime.
Those truths more beautiful than day,
They knew would quicken men,
And deeds at which the gazers sneered,
They dared to practice then;
Till those who mocked their young ideal,
In meekness owned it was the real.

Thine early dreams, which came in "shapes of light,"
Came, bearing prophecy,
Commissioned sweetly to unfold
Thy possible to thee
Fear not to build thine eyrie in the heights,
Bright with celestial day;
And trust thyself unto thine inmost soul
In simple faith away,
And God shall make divinely real
The highest forms of thy ideal.

Selected.

OUR EDUCATIONAL WORK IN INDIA.

BY MISS E. BRADEN, BROOKLIN, ONT.

In this fair Canada of ours, where every child learns at least to read and write, and where there are such grand opportunities for intellectual development, it is almost impossible for us to realize the condition of the masses among the Telugus. Not only are they at the present time unlettered, ignorant and superstitious, but for generations they have been so neglected that in many cases their minds seem quite incapable of receiving the truth, to say nothing of retaining it. It is as though they had been in darkness for so long that the light coming upon them now dazzled and blinded. Full grown men and women are more hopeless cases than children and young people. With them the missionary feels that he may accomplish something. It is thus evident that the need of education among the Telugus requires no emphasis. If we are to have Christian men and women among the heathen the surest way is to enlighten and train them from childhood. The truth takes deeper hold upon their minds and they are more likely to remain steadfast.

The educational work undertaken by the Foreign Missionary Society of Ontario and Québec has grown to fairly large proportions. For my own part I was very much surprised to find out how many schools we had.

There are, of course, Government schools and universities in India, but these come far short of meeting all the need, especially are they unable to meet the spiritual need of the people. They tend to strengthen atheism rather than Chris-