

and they want to work. In order to farm they need implements, and they buy these implements from our manufacturing centres. Educate an Indian, and he wants collars and cuffs, pictures and carpets, and he buys these things from our cities. So missions pay in the commercial sense. Then, Christian missions effect the dawn of the higher civilization. What is civilizing India, the Jericho of missions, and China, the great Gibraltar of missions? Not the power military, the British bayonet: but the power moral, the power which the Christian missionary wields. What is civilizing Japan, the land of the sunrise? Christian ideas and Christian activity. Missions add to the stores of science and literature. Remove from the general literature of our times the contributions of Christian missionaries, and you take away the greater part. Missionaries have rendered more real aid to science than all the scientific societies put together.

And Christian missions bring about the moral renovation of man. The heathen listens to the message of mercy, and accepts the gospel of pardon and life. This means that his Creator is a personal God, that he has an immortal soul to save, that there is a Providence over his life, a place for prayer and a hand to help him, a great loving heart in sympathy with him, a Father in heaven. In rank heathenism love is unknown: no love in the heart, no such place as home. But Christ is received and love is awakened, love to God and love to one another. The nature regenerated, the life is changed, and the brute and the savage becomes a saint.

Yes, missions pay. People who say that they do not pay have never been to a missionary meeting, have never read a book on foreign missions, have never attended a lecture on the subject, have never heard a missionary sermon, have never given any money for missions, have never grown in

grace, nor in the knowledge of Jesus Christ.

Yes, missions pay. They pay the gospel-sending nation in the commercial sense. They bring savage nations into our civilization. Missions add to the stores of science and literature; and result in the moral transformation of man.

The gospel has sent its rays of light along the frozen shores of the north; it has illuminated the distant isles of the ocean: it has flashed across the continents. And wherever it has gone and has been accepted, there have followed blessing and peace, and power and life.

Blessings abound where'er He reigns:
The prisoner leaps to lose his chains:
The weary find eternal rest,
And all the sons of want are blest.

Some concluding thoughts. In our personal relation to the missionary work there are two courses open to us: To go abroad: to stay at home, and pay, and pray. And be very careful how we pray. Carey prayed, and it cost him much. Brainerd prayed for the red-skinned Indian, and in two years it cost him his life. If we pray for missions, we must bear the cost.

Here are three examples of heroic consecration. The consecration of Christ: "Wist ye not that I must be about my Father's business?" "I must work the works of Him that sent me while it is day." "I have finished the work which Thou gavest me to do." The consecration of Paul: "Lord, what wilt Thou have me to do?" "I have fought the good fight, I have finished the course, I have kept the faith." The consecration of John Wesley:

Jesus, confirm my heart's desire
To work, and speak, and think for Thee;
Still let me guard the holy fire,
And still stir up Thy gift in me.
Ready for all Thy perfect will,
My acts of faith and love repeat,
Till death Thy endless mercies seal,
And make the sacrifice complete.