

doubled; the communicants double in each new decade the number in the last; the adherents increase by leaps and strides—53, 61, and now 86 per cent. Is it China? In 1843 there were not 6 converts in that vast empire. You heard to-day that there are now 20,000 communicants, 300 organized churches, and 600 stations. Is it Syria? Since 1871 the 12 Sunday-schools have grown to 84, the 38 stations to 99, the 10 native pastors to 30. Is it the Societies themselves? I shall take up one. In ten years the American Board of Foreign Missions has increased the towns and cities that it occupies by 200, its churches by 117, its native preachers by 217, its members by 10,000. It has doubled the children in its schools, more than doubled the women who are its missionaries, and multiplied its seminaries tenfold. Is it the devout women that speed like Maries from the Cross? In ten years they have been more than doubled; in India they are already within a hundred of the men; in Calcutta they teach more girls than all the boys under training. Women alone give to missions almost £200,000 a year. Is it fruit among a single people? A few years ago, among the Telugus in Eastern India, so many streamed to Christ that the hands of the missionary were weary baptising. Has the stream lessened? It has increased, till it now rolls in a volume of two hundred baptisms a month. What the Mission may become is illimitable. The only borders of the territory before us are faith and love.

We must bring to this problem the entire consecration of ourselves to Christ. We too may have our splendid successes, but they must rise from that foundation. We are on the eve of trial. God has poured the spirit of consecration upon our students. I believe I am not wrong in saying that three, perhaps four, of our students—men of whom any might be proud—are prepared at this moment to go to India. Will the Church send them? Will the great congregation that meets within these walls undertake the support of one of them? What would others do? People who belong to a Japanese sect are at this moment building a beautiful temple. They wished to have one stately pillar, and they have paid for it twelve hundred pounds. In Cairo there is a missionary university. It is for the propagation of the religion of Mahommed. No student is refused there; no missionary is turned aside for want of funds. I throw out the challenge again. You can answer it. Why not answer it to-night? What shall we do to propagate the religion of Jesus? We are working at what may last for centuries, working for eternity. May I beseech you to work worthily in a large-souled faith, a self-sacrifice like our Lord's. In a German town there is a rose tree. It has blossomed there, they say, since Charlemagne, and I read that, last year,

it had blossomed into a richer bloom than ever. For a thousand years that tree has flung its sweetness out on every wind, as fresh as constant as the spring-time and the summer. The mission is God's rose tree. Plant it, and the years may come and go, but it will only spread and blossom, and when the hands that laid it there have mouldered in the dust, it will be casting forth the fragrance of the name of Jesus, and the branches of some heathen race will be covered with the pure, sweet blossoms of heaven: and thus, as all the Churches plant, the end of the mission will be fulfilled. the desert will blossom as the rose, and the ransomed of the Lord shall come to Him with songs and everlasting joy upon their heads.

THE MARCH OF CHRISTIANITY. Evangelization is fast coming to be *universal*; with a rapidity unexampled in history this golden network of missions is expanding and extending; over the realms of Paganism from where the most refined followers of Brahma and Buddha dwell to where the lowest, coarsest fetish worshippers bow to wood idols; over the lands of Islam, from the gates of the Golden Horn to the pillars of Hercules, and the heights of the Himalayas; and over the dominions of the Pope from the Gulf of Mexico to Cape Horn, and from the Volga to the Vatican! The number of Protestant missionary societies has multiplied tenfold in eighty years, increasing from 7 to 70; the number of male missionaries from 170 to 2,400, besides the thousands of native preachers and teachers; the number of converts from 50,000 to 1,650,000. Within the same eighty years the offerings of the church for Protestant missions have multiplied twenty-five-fold, from \$250,000 to \$6,250,000; the number of Protestant schools from 70 to 12,000, with nearly half a million pupils; the number of translations of the Holy Scriptures from 50 to 226, and the number of copies circulated from 5,000,000 to 148,000,000. And there are reasons to believe that the progress secured within ten years to come will be greater than during fifty years past. The last year was the *Annus Mirabilis* in the history of missions. Less than twenty donors gave nearly \$4,000,000, and more were added to the converts from heathendom than the total number of converts when the century opened.—*Rev. A. T. Pierson, D. D.*

CIVILIZED RED MEN.—Accounts published by the Government of Canada state that there are at the present time 105,000 Indians still living within the Dominion. Quebec contains 11,000, Ontario, 17,000; British Columbia, 35,000; and Manitoba and the Great North-West 37,000. There are living on reserved land 81,633 Indians, peacefully cultivating 67,500 acres of land, and owning a stock of 14,955 horses, 5,768 cows, 1,552 oxen, 2,000 sheep, 6,813 pigs, and other animals.