

20,000 of these under missionary supervision, and in the 1,000,000 youth study the Bible. To-day the native help number nearly 65,000, of whom one-tenth are ordained and licensed preachers. In 1800 only one-fifth of mankind had the Word of God; now it has been brought within reach of nine tenths of the human race. Practically all closed doors in heathen lands have been opened, and men and women in the lands converted at the rate of over 50 a day.

No honest man can know the facts without being convinced that foreign missions *do* pay. But only He who gave the command to "disciple all nations" has a right to estimate the cost and returns. Statistics can never tell the whole truth even when they do not give a wrong impression. No achievement of the past can justify a relaxation of energetic effort. The need of the world seems as great as ever. Only one-third of the population of the world are even nominal Christians. Missionaries, if evenly distributed, would each have a parish of 10,000 people. The forces at the command of the Church are vastly greater than they were a century ago. One cent and a dollar from Protestant Christians would bring in an income of \$350,000,000. Among the problems which face us are: How to increase the spirituality of home churches; how to increase the efficiency of mission boards and societies; how to bring about more co-operation at home and abroad; how to unite Christians more effectively on foreign fields. Hope in the future lies not in the achievements of the past, nor in the forces of the present, but in the power and faithfulness of God. His promises leave no room for the possibility of failure. The world has yet to see what the Lord can do through a wholly consecrated church.—From "The Progress of Foreign Missions during the 19th Century," by D. L. Pierson, *Record of Christian Work*.

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