

gest that the Christ-spirit of self-surrender would require of Christians at home a very different style of things from what we see to-day. Are we to ask of our missionaries when they go in our stead to preach Christ to the heathen perfect self-abnegation, while we live in luxury at home? The self-giving-up must be more evenly distributed. I do not know enough of the successes of the Salvation Army to sit in judgment on their methods. I believe, however, that the contingent that left Toronto with great noise, a year or two ago, came back within a year, physically prostrated. If men and women must become bare-footed mendicants, according to Musa Bhai, that they may win souls in India, they should not go from the borders of the frigid zone. And without such austerities, the expediency of sending missionaries from cold climates into the hottest latitudes may be questioned. Our Telugu mission is dear to us for those who have wrought in it; for their successors; for those who are nobly toiling there now, whom we love, who are our very own. But they work continually against an adverse climate, which is almost as hard to cope with as the religious superstitions of the country. Let us hope that some time in the future a harmony of organizations may be brought about by which Southerners will be sent to the hotter climes and Northerners to the colder ones, so saving life and money. But to-day we have our loved mission to tend and keep, pray for and work for, and may we who are welcoming you, and you who are welcomed, resolve, "This day to do our duty" more completely than ever before.

The Duties of the Home to the Foreign Field.

*Extract from an Address by Mr. J. L. Gilmour, B.A.,
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Intercollegiate Missionary Alliance at Cobourg.]*

The obligation in question does not rest upon the willingness or unwillingness of the heathen to receive gladly the Gospel, but it rests rather on the command of God and upon the needs of the people. On Paul's first visit to Philippi he found himself in prison soon after his arrival. Was he to infer from this that he had made a mistake in going thither? Not at all. For his call came to him as ours comes to us, not so much because the people desired the Gospel as because they needed it, and it was the people's need that constituted the Macedonian cry.

The Home Field is the point of vantage for missionary effort. As in a military campaign a base of supplies is needed from which the work may be pushed with energy, so it would seem that such a base of supplies is needed in Mission work. It is scarcely necessary to point out the present need and the consequent call for all the energy that can possibly be made available. With three-quarters of the world yet to evangelize we surely have need to use to the best possible advantage all the agencies at our disposal for the accomplishment of this work.

Let us then take a brief survey of these agencies needed for the accomplishment of the work in hand, not because we expect to be able to point out anything specially new, but rather because we indulge the hope that old truths emphasized may come home with new force.

(a) In the first place we need men. The God whom we serve works through means, whether in the physical, mental or spiritual spheres. When the heathen Cornelius was to be brought to the truth of God, Peter is sent to instruct him. When the Ethiopian eunuch is to be led

into the faith, Philip is used as an agent. And this law appears to obtain in all the work of the Kingdom of Heaven. When, therefore, we pray, "Thy kingdom come," we must bear in mind that if we pray intelligently we are really praying for men to be used in causing the kingdom to come. It would be outside the province of the present paper to detail the qualifications of the proper men for this work, but that they should be men of common sense, of intelligence and of piety, no one would doubt. A practical question, however, suggests itself to the members of the present Convention. How many of us are called personally to this work abroad? And if we are not destined for the Foreign Field, how much can we do when we have settled in a pastorate, to induce and help others to serve as foreign missionaries? It is still true as it was in our Saviour's time, that "the harvest truly is plenteous, but the laborers are few." This text has been repeated almost to satiety, but it may acquire a fresh meaning for all of us if we endeavor to picture to our minds the extent of the harvest as it now appears, and the inadequacy of the present staff of missionary workers. In this connection may be mentioned the very important part which our Colleges play in Foreign work by equipping men for the duties of their position. The ideal College would seem to be a practical Missionary Society, keenly alive to all the needs of the human lives which can by any possibility be reached from it, and it should be a matter of great concern to all students to see that their share of effort be contributed towards awakening and sustaining a deep missionary spirit in the College, lest scholarship should be secured at the expense of practical sympathy with the needs of men. The College Missionary Day becomes, consequently, a very important factor in a student's life.

(b) But so long as men have to be used for evangelizing the world money will always be needed to prosecute the work. We cannot hope that it will ever come to pass that all our missionaries will go out at their own expense; history does not warrant this belief, nor do present indications point in this direction. And further, even if the work could be prosecuted without the aid of the churches, the churches would be losers by being cut off from the blessings that result from liberality. The duty of the churches, therefore, to supply the money to support workers in the Foreign Field remains plain. This leaves room for all to share in the glorious work. It is not every one who can go to the Foreign Field to preach, but none the less does the call come to each. "Go ye, therefore, and make disciples of all nations." And when it comes to men of business ability it lays upon them the obligation to supply the means by which others may be enabled to go. The lack of money is one of the great limitations in missionary work, and it is an important question for everyone in the pastoral office to consider how far he can use his influence to augment the funds at the disposal of Missionary Societies. The pastor has much to do in this as in many other things in moulding the life and character of his church, and it would not be hazardous to predict an overflowing treasury, if all the churches were doing their duty in this respect. We need men to go into business to make money for the Lord's cause; men who, when their prosperity increases, will not be so anxious to drive a handsome carriage and pair as to invest large amounts for God's work. We could not advocate any course that would put a damper on individual enterprise; but what greater satisfaction can a man secure from his money than in giving it liberally to the Lord's cause. It is difficult to draw the line with precision and to specify how much men should deny themselves; for luxury is a relative