

But scarce died away had the watchman's cry,
 When crash—plunged the ship to her fate;
 And there was the beacon that would have saved;
 But 'twas seen, alas! too late.
 Oh! fearful cries of the drowning men
 From the seething waves that night;
 And they cursed, as they sank, the merciless man
 Who refused his saving light.
 The men of the ship are the heathen world;
 The beacon, the Book of God;
 The keeper, the Christian who shades his lamp;
 And sends not its light abroad.

8.—HYMN.

"WHAT SHALL THE HARVEST BE?"

Sowing the seed by the daylight fair,
 Sowing the seed by the noontide glare;
 Sowing the seed by the fading light,
 Sowing the seed in the solemn night;
 Oh, what shall the harvest be?
 Oh, what shall the harvest be?
 Sown in the darkness or sown in the light,
 Sown in our weakness or sown in our might,
 Gathered in time or eternity,
 Sure, ah, sure will the harvest be.
 Sowing the seed by the wayside high,
 Sowing the seed on the rocks to die,
 Sowing the seed where the thorns will spoil,
 Sowing the seed in the fertile soil;
 Oh, what shall the harvest be?
 Sowing the seed with an aching heart,
 Sowing the seed while the tear drops start;
 Sowing in hope till the reapers come,
 Gladly to gather the harvest home;
 Oh, what shall the harvest be?

9.—OUR FOREIGN MISSION WORK.

(b) THE FUTURE PROSPECT.

Q—What influence should past successes have upon us?

A—They should intensify our zeal and quicken our energy for larger conquests in the name of Jesus.

Q—When did Wm. Carey go to India?

A—He was appointed missionary Jan. 9th, 1793 (100 years and 20 days ago), sailed from England June 13th and arrived in Calcutta in November.

Q—Were the prospects bright 100 years ago?

A—No; from the human standpoint they were very dark. Few Christian people took any interest in this foreign mission work, and on the field the difficulties were very great.

Q—How long did Carey toil for the first convert?

A—Seven years of great trial and hard work passed before Carey saw Krishnu Pal the first convert baptized.

Q—In looking forward to our work is there anything of inspiration in the progress made during a century?

A—A century ago to-day there were two missionaries under appointment; to-day 8,000 evangelical missionaries and 40,000 native helpers. The one convert of 1800 has increased into a church membership of 726,883 to-day. The small amounts contributed in the early years have grown into \$11,000,000 for foreign missions. Such progress as this ought to quicken our zeal.

Q—Are the obstacles in the way as great as a century ago?

A—No. Then the missionary found it difficult to get entrance even into British India. China and Japan were impossible of access, etc. To-day the whole world practically is open to the missionary, and 11,388 mission stations are occupied.

Q—What other difficulties have been largely removed?

A—In the work of the last century the missionaries had to face the task of translating the Scriptures into the languages of the people, many of which languages they had to reduce to writing. To-day the Scriptures are translated into hundreds of languages and dialects, and the new missionary finds in most fields grammars and dictionaries of the language ready at his hand.

Q—Can you name any other comparative advantages we enjoy in entering on this second century of missions?

A—The facilities of communication and travel are much improved. This makes the money contributed go farther, and conserves personal energy for direct mission work. Then, too, in addition to foundation work in general, schools have been established and the native Christians in large numbers have been trained for Christian work.

Q—Limiting our attention now to our Baptist missions, are we much stronger for work than a century ago when Carey went out?

A—There were then about 100,000 Baptists; to-day there are nearly 4,000,000. Wealth has increased enormously.

Q—What is the Baptist force in the foreign field at the beginning of this second century?

A—It is estimated at 800 missionaries, 2,000 native helpers, and 100,000 church members.

Q—How much is contributed by Baptists for foreign missions?

A—The latest reports at hand indicate about \$1,000,000 a year. But this year the American Baptist Missionary Union alone aims at raising \$1,000,000, and sending out 100 new missionaries.

Q—Confining our attention now to our own field, what is there at home that makes the outlook bright?

A—Our people are more widely and more deeply interested in the work than ever before. Pastors and people are taking this work more warmly into their hearts.

Q—What special help is being rendered by the women in our churches?

A—The women's societies were organized in 1876, and through their meetings and the publication of the *Missionary Link* they are doing much to increase missionary interest. Last year they paid into the general treasury \$8,220. And they are going forward to do greater things every year.

Q—Do you think of anything else at home that lightens up the prospect?

A—Yes, the work is getting a warm place in our hearts in the Sunday schools. By God's grace we are going to be missionary Christians. We shall try and make an advance this year on the \$1,888.55 of last year.

Q—What is there of hope in our home college life?

A—One day a month is given to prayer and conference on home and foreign mission work, in McMaster Hall. There are ten young men in McMaster Hall who have in view work in the foreign field, and eight in Woodstock College.

Q—What of our missionaries in the field?

A—We regard our missionaries as unexcelled in devotion and efficiency by any band of missionaries in the foreign field.

Q—What of native helpers?

A—Their number is being constantly increased by the trained workers sent out from the Seminary in Samulcotta. The other schools also are doing excellent work in the educating of those who in the future will make good workers.

Q—Are the caste women shut up in the Zenanas