

tion some which call for urgent attention, and it would be unwise to belittle the importance of such tendencies; but it is the duty of faith to be on the watch for every token of good, and the courage of faith revives as we mark the widening and deepening influence of the spirit of Service. For the spirit of Service is awake. It inspires fresh activities and increased devotion within the Church of Christ, and it extends to regions and to men who are outside the Church's borders.

It is seen, first, in the striking revival of missionary enterprise and zeal. By clear tokens we are made sure that the grace of God has stirred amongst us a truer sense of our duty towards those who have not heard the Gospel of Christ. The recognition of that duty and the desire to obey its call are shown in many ways: the multiplication of missionary organisations, though it has brought with it some fresh dangers, would not have gone forward had not the discernment of missionary obligation been growing in men's minds; while with unhindered gladness we mark the evidence of that discernment in such new ventures as Medical Missions, and in the increasing number of those who offer themselves for mission work. Nor can we fail to mark in this regard a significant change in the attitude and tone of general society. It can no longer seem necessary to talk apologetically of Missions. Their value in the spreading of true civilisation is attested by every statesman who has studied the subject, and numerous Reports, parliamentary and official, bear record of it. Lastly, we would point to the recent advance of movements such as the Student Volunteer Missionary Union; an advance which would, we believe, have been impossible but for that spirit of Service which under the guidance and blessing of God is now astir.

That spirit is seen again in the recognition of social responsibility. It has given new vitality to the tra-