

warfare are not carnal, but mighty, through God, to the pulling down of strongholds." The issue of the conflict cannot be doubtful. "The Lord of Hosts is on our side," and His work will assuredly prosper. We have yet but barely effected our entrance into the field. It is still the day of small things, but there is every encouragement and every possible motive to stimulate. We may expect difficulties, and our hopes may seem as if doomed to disappointment, and the enemy, roused and enraged at seeing his prey about to be snatched from him, may appear as if able to overwhelm. Our labours may for a time apparently fail in the results we looked for, but, in the face of all these, we need not be discouraged. Success is certain, our gracious Master has pledged His sure word that He will be with us and go with us when we go to tell the poor and perishing the wonders of His love and the rich provisions which that love has made for them. This is sufficient; on this assurance we may calmly rest; even when matters are darkest, and everything doubtful, His presence is sure, and we are fellow-workers with Him. Why, then, speak of difficulties? What cannot the arm of the Lord accomplish? At the utterance of His voice every obstacle is swept out of the way, the mountains become as level plains, and even the raging sea becomes a highway, and a safe and firm path for His people when walking with Him.

To have the prospect of two faithful labourers in the Mission field is a matter of sincere thankfulness to God; but much more than this must be aimed at, if we would as a church prove ourselves faithful to the Lord Jesus. We cannot yet be said to have really made an effort at all; collections this year testify too plainly that we are, at best, but half awake, if quite that, to the duty and the necessity of coming, with hearts truly in earnest, to this great work. We are now pledged to maintain two Missionaries; and, while your Committee feel assured that this pledge will be held sacred, they would earnestly urge the danger of resting satisfied that we are doing so much. Could we do more? Could we enlarge our efforts? If so, we are bound to do it. Our Synod numbers between thirty and forty congregations. If truly in earnest and determined to do what we could for the glory of Christ and for the saving of immortal souls, would we not be able to undertake much more than the support of two labourers? To form a correct idea of this, the surest way is not to judge by what our own narrow and worldly hearts may tell us, but rather by what others, not so favourably circumstanced as we, have already done. The Moravians, in 1741, were a poor persecuted people. In that year, although depressed and suffering, and in many respects destitute, they resolved to begin Foreign mission work, by sending missionaries to Greenland. Their number in all did not then exceed six hundred individuals, and the greater part of these were poor exiles; but so noble were their efforts, and so abundantly did their gracious Master reward and prosper them, that, in ten years, their missionaries were found preaching the Gospel of Christ in Greenland, St Croix, Surinam, Ro de Berbice, to the Indians of North America, the negroes of South Carolina, Lapland, Tartary, Algiers, Guinea, Cape of Good Hope and Ceylon.—Such was the work undertaken by that small and poor, but devoted community. Were they not rash, and in the enthusiasm of their zeal did they not attempt too much? No. There was no rashness in this case. They simply did their duty; in obedience to the command of their Lord, they did what they could. That our resources exceed theirs a hundred fold, need not be stated; and if we remain satisfied with any decision or effort which has not for its object to do what we can, we are guilty of withholding from the Lord Jesus that which, as His professed people, we acknowledge He has a right to claim. Can that be a christian and renewed heart, animated with divine love, which is not only love to God but as surely love to man too, that can rest and feel unmoved while the fact is known, and none able to deny it, that six hundred millions of immortal souls are living in the fearful bondage and under the domination of Satan? Such, we may suppose, was the scene which Jesus beheld, when from the mountain top the tempter meant, that he should see all the kingdoms of the world and be allured by their