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# Canadian Missionary Link.

CANADA.

In the Interests of the Baptist Foreign Mission Societies of Canada.

INDIA.

Vol. III., No. 10.] "The Gentiles shall come to thy light, and I long to the brightness of thy rising." — *Is. lx. 2.* [JUNE, 1881.]

## I Dare not Idle Stand.

I dare not idle stand,  
When upon every hand  
The whitening fluids proclaim the harvest near,  
A gleaner I would be,  
Gathering, dear Lord, for Thee,  
Lest I with empty hands at last appear.

I dare not idle stand,  
While on the shifting sand  
The ocean casts bright treasures at my feet,  
Beneath some shell's rough side  
The tinted pearl may hide,  
And I with precious gift my Lord may meet.

I dare not idle stand,  
While over all the land,  
Poor wandering souls need help like mine,  
Brighter than brightest gem  
In monarch's diadem,  
Each soul a star in Jesus' crown may shine.

I dare not idle stand,  
But at my Lord's command  
Labour for Him throughout my life's short day,  
Evening will come at last,  
Day's labour all be passed,  
And rest eternal my brief toil repay.

## Parting Wishes and Last Words of Christ

When the Lord Jesus Christ was about to leave this earth for a long absence of 1800 years, what were his final injunctions to His disciples? What was to be their special work all through the ages, and up to the hour of His return? Did He plainly express His wishes, or did He leave room to doubt what His desires were? If His commands during the days of His life and ministry had not made His wishes clear, certainly the words He spoke during the forty days of His mysterious *tarryance* among His people, after His resurrection and before His ascension, left no room to doubt.

On His *first* appearance to His disciples — on the evening of His resurrection day — He commanded them to go forth and "preach repentance and remission of sins *among all nations*," or as Mark gives it, He said, "Go ye into all the world and preach the Gospel to every creature."

When afterwards He met His people on the mountain in Galilee (probably the occasion on which He was seen of five hundred brethren at once, for there was evidently a special summoning to this gathering), and told them that all power was committed to Him in heaven and on earth, He solemnly repeated this command, delivered to His disciples first in the upper chamber in Jerusalem (Matt. xxviii. 16), "Go ye therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father,

and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost; teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you, and lo! I am with you always, even to the end of the age." All power is *Mine*; therefore *go ye and evangelize the world for I am with you*. The command in the centre had been vain without the assurance which goes before and the promise which follows after: The task enjoined was tremendous, but the assistance pledged was sufficient.

The first Gospel closes by recording the giving of this great commission for world-wide and never-ceasing Missionary work; but the Acts of the Apostles prove that yet a *third* time before he finally ascended up where he was before, the Son of God, our Saviour, uttered His deep desire as to the future work of His Church.

It was when He was on the very point of finally leaving them, on "the day on which He was taken up, after that He, through the Holy Ghost, had given commandments unto the apostles whom He had chosen." And what were these His *last* words to His people, His *last* expressed wishes about His disciples? "Ye shall be witnesses unto Me, both in Jerusalem, Judea, and Samaria, and unto the *utmost parts of the earth*."

The very last thought that passed through the mind of Christ before the clouds received Him out of sight, was thus a *thought for the distant heathen*. The final words that fell from His most gracious lips were, "the uttermost parts of the earth." Touching proof of the place held in the heart of Christ by Missionary enterprise! How should it be otherwise? The Son of Man—did He not come to seek and save the lost? Who so lost as heathen idolaters? Who so far from God?

What was the *teaching* of the one great miracle performed by our Lord after His resurrection? That glorious results should follow the toils of Christian fishers of men: "they were not able to draw the net for the multitude of fishes."

Indeed, it would seem that on *every* occasion when the Lord after His resurrection met His assembled disciples, He laid on them this one injunction, to declare to the utmost bounds of earth and time, that "God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto Himself, not imputing their trespasses unto them."

Nay! the fulfilment of this injunction is made a condition of His coming again. "This Gospel of the Kingdom