

exalt God's eternal Word. The majority of missionaries to-day, with few exceptions, go to teach the heathen morality, expediency, humanitarianism and civilization, with just a little of the old Gospel thrown in, by way of an apology for their being sent out as missionaries.

"If we want to see missions a success, both at home and abroad, then we must overhaul all our seminaries, and cast out of every one of them all text-books which breed unbelief, the great sin of sins, and dismiss all covert heretics and unbelieving professors, and turn all seminaries into veritable 'Schools of the Prophets,' where they will be taught to believe in, reverence, love, obey and exalt 'the Word of God' as literally and absolutely and eternally true from lid to lid of the whole Holy Bible. Amen."

These are burning words, and, it seems to us, true ones. Let us add one other: Let every believer in Jesus be sure that the individual missionary to whom his money goes, and for whom his prayers ascend, is a man or woman who does so regard the Scriptures. Refuse to countenance any other, and—Sound the alarm.

### Lack of Money, Knowledge or Love— Which?

IT could hardly be contended that actual lack of money, real lack of ability, is the cause of decreased missionary revenues. Money is found for expensive church buildings, for public libraries, for comfortable and perhaps luxurious homes, for many home enterprises not so vitally connected with the progress of the kingdom of God as the missionary cause. Mr. Rice, of Chicago, has been making some investigations which are striking and important. The offerings of the people whose givings were considered, showed an average to each church member of more than \$17.00 for local church expenses, nearly \$5.00 for home charities and \$1.00 for foreign missions. We come a long way short of overdoing foreign missionary work. Lack of missionary information, and lack of missionary enthusiasm, and lack of New Testament liberality—these are prominent causes of decreasing missionary revenue. Great things are in the hands of our pastors in this matter. More and more our great undertakings should rest on the weekly work; yea, daily toil of our pastors, and not on any periodic visits of specialists. An increase of missionary zeal in the pastors will soon affect the churches. Let the pastors never fear that larger gifts to missions will cripple any local enterprises. Spiritual revival in the churches will be the result of missionary enthusiasm. There is no general and genuine spiritual revival that is not within the lines of the mind of the Spirit, and the Holy Spirit means that Christ shall be Lord of all. Where are our young people's societies in this matter? Dear young people of Methodism, let us hasten to crown Christ Lord of all.—*Christian Guardian*.

A foreign missionary week which had eighteen meetings, addressed by thirteen different missionaries, representing China, India, Ceylon, Morocco, Lovedale, and the Congo, was held lately at the Wynd Church, Glasgow. The closing meeting was a missionary consecration service, at which thirty-one persons publicly yielded themselves for foreign service. Over three hundred others pledged themselves to be helpers to foreign mission work, are formed into a missionary parliament, and are to circulate among themselves a dozen of the leading missionary monthlies.

### The Cursed "Do-Nothing."

IN the book of Judges we find: "Curse ye Meroz, said the angel of the Lord, curse ye bitterly the inhabitants thereof: because they came not to the help of the Lord . . . to the help of the Lord against the mighty." In an old book we find the following questions and answers upon this verse:

"Who has commanded to curse Meroz? Answer: The angel of the Lord."

"What has Meroz done? Nothing."

"How? Why, then, is Meroz cursed? Because she has done nothing."

"What should Meroz have done? Come to the help of the Lord."

"Could not the Lord, then, have succeeded without Meroz? The Lord did succeed without Meroz."

"Then has the Lord met with a loss thereby? No, but Meroz."

"Is Meroz, then, to be cursed thereof? Yes, and that bitterly."

"Is it right that a man should be cursed for having done nothing? Yes, when he *should* have done something."

"Who says that? The angel of the Lord; and the Lord himself says: 'He that knew his Lord's will and did it not, shall be beaten with many stripes.'—*Missionary Review*.

### Topic for March.

JAPAN, COREA AND THE ISLES OF THE SEA.

"The Isles shall wait for me."—Isaiah. (R.V.)

IN the Islands of the Sea some of the most remarkable of the conquests of the Cross have been made. We mention with honor the Society and Hawaiian Islands; Fiji, once inhabited by devils incarnate, creatures given to cannibalism; New Zealand and the New Hebrides as bad, but now so gloriously transformed as to send of their own number to tell other brutal islanders of the divine love which brought salvation to their own souls. Ceylon is well advanced on the road to evangelization. The Dutch East Indies have received the truth from various Netherlands and German societies to such a degree that a large district of Celebes is no longer heathen or Moslem. The head-taking Dyaks of Borneo have learned to esteem human life sacred. Still, in the entire Archipelago (Malaysia) there are only 300,000 nominal Christians, and in Java, which holds 24,000,000 of the 31,000,000, not much of anything has been accomplished.

The island of Formosa lies in the Pacific Ocean, about ninety miles from the mainland of China. Its inhabitants number 1,500,000. Missionary work amongst these peculiar people is most discouraging, and seemingly but slowly productive of good results. The work, however, goes bravely on, and much good is being accomplished by the opening of hospitals, whose good influences are felt in almost every part of the island. The Presbyterian Church of Canada opened mission work in northern Formosa in 1872, under the leadership of the Rev. George Leslie Mackay, a native of Oxford County, Ontario. He was afterwards joined, in 1875, by the Rev. J. B. Frazer, M.D., and later by the Rev. Kenneth F. Junor, of St. Mary's, Ont., now of New York. The Rev. John Jamieson, of Ontario, is at present associated with Dr. Mackay, and greatly assists him in his work.

There are eleven Japanese preachers and evangelists on the Sandwich Islands. These are mostly employed among