

missionaries (11 being physicians); 314 women, seven of them being physicians; native pastors, 174; native preachers and catechists, 510; native school-teachers, 1,372; the whole number of labourers being 2,891. There are 358 churches, 33,099 communicants, of whom 4,529 were added during the year, and 43,313 young people received instruction.

The address of Dr. Storrs, President of the Board, maintained his reputation as the prince of platform speakers—dignified, conciliatory, inspiring. He concluded by saying,—“All forces are marching on to a grand result—the Word of God universal in the world—a result as sure as the life of God, as the solidity of the globe itself on which we stand. We have this power working with us and for us, giving portents and predictions already in the flushing orient sky of the Sun of Righteousness, which is to irradiate and illuminate the world. Much has been done for mankind during the last one hundred years, but no single force has done so much as that of the Christian Missions of the various communions uniting in this sublimest enterprise, and going forth with the New Testament in their hands and the love of God in their hearts, and the hope of glory shining in their faces to illuminate the nations. None of us may see it, but I believe that the child is now born who will see the time when commerce and Christianity, advancing in majestic harmony, shall possess the whole earth; when the ships of Tarshish shall be foremost in bringing their sons from afar to the city of the Lord our God; when “Holiness to the Lord” shall be upon all the bells of those swift horses of modern commerce whose race-course is the ocean; when the revolving wheels on every railway and every steamship shall have the loving spirit of truth and of grace within them; when the trumpets of commerce which are awakening the world on every barbaric shore to new ideas, shall carry to all those tribes the message of the angel over Bethlehem, the mighty story of the Son of God in the world, the great argument of the Pauline epistles, and the final prophecy of the New Jerusalem descending out of Heaven from God, and becoming on the earth a tabernacle in which God shall dwell with men.”

Household Words.

THE LORD'S GRANARY.

Whose fan is in his hand and he will thoroughly purge his floor, and gather his wheat into the garner.—Matt. 3: 12.

“GATHER the wheat.” The saints will be found in all ranks of society. The angels will bring in a few ears from palaces, and great armfuls from cottages! Many will be collected from the lowly cottages of our villages and hamlets, and others will be upraised

from the back slums of our great cities to to the metropolis of God. From the darkest places angels will bring those children of sweetness and light whoseldom beheld the sun, and yet were pure in heart and saw their God. The hidden and obscure shall be brought into the light; for the Lord knoweth them that are His, and His harvestmen will not miss them.

To me it is a charming thought that they will come from all the ages. What a joy to see the apostles, martyrs, and reformers! I long to see Luther, and Calvin, and Bunyan, and Whitfield. I like the rhyme of good old father Ryland—

“They all shall be there, the great and the small,
Poor I shall shake hands with the blessed St. Paul.”

I do not know how that will be, but I have not much doubt that we shall have fellowship with all the saints of every age in the general assembly and Church of the first-born, whose names are written in heaven.

No matter when or where the wheat grew, it shall be gathered into the one barn; gathered never to be divided again. They grew in different fields. Some flourished on the hill-side where Episcopalians grow in all their glory, and others in the lowlier soil, where Baptists multiply, and Methodists flourish; but once the wheat is in the barn none can tell in which field the ears grew. Then, indeed, shall the Master's prayer have a glorious answer—“That they all may be one.” All our errors removed and our mistakes corrected and forgiven, the one Lord, the one faith, and the one baptism will be known to us all, and there will be no more vexings and envyings. What a blessed gathering it will be! What a meeting! The elect of God, the *élite* of all the centuries, of whom the world was not worthy. I should not like to be away. If there were no hell, it would be hell enough to me to be shut out of such heavenly society. If there were no weeping and wailing and gnashing of teeth, it would be dreadful enough to miss the presence of the Lord, and the joy of praising Him for ever, and the bliss of meeting with all the noblest beings that ever lived. Amid the needful controversies of the age, I, who have been doomed to seem a man of strife, sigh for the blessed rest wherein all spiritual minds shall blend in eternal accord before the throne of God and of the Lamb. Oh that we were all right, that we might be all happily united in one spirit!—*Spurgeon*.

THE GREAT FOUNTAIN.

An aged gentleman was on a visit to one of the noted American watering-places. Whilst taking a draught of water one morning at the spring, a lady came up to take her usual glass at the same time. The gentleman, turning towards her in a pleasant yet thoughtful manner, asked: “Have you ever drunk at that Great Fountain?”

The lady coloured and looked surprised, but turned away without a word of reply.