

Mission Field.

AFRICA.

A REMARKABLE LETTER FROM BISHOP TUCKER.—A late letter from Bishop Tucker presents a graphic account of what God has wrought in Uganda, in the heart of the dark continent. He says, "Truly the half was not told me, Exaggeration about the eagerness of the people here to be taught there has been none. No words can describe the emotion which filled my heart as, on Sunday, the 28th, December, I stood up to speak to fully 1,000 men and women, who crowded the Church of of Baganda. It was a wonderful sight. There close beside me was the katikiro, the second man in the kingdom. There, on every hand, were chiefs of various degrees, all Christian men, and all in their demeanor devout and earnest to a degree. The responses, in their heartiness, beyond anything I have heard even in Africa. There was a second service in the afternoon at which there must have been fully 800 present. The same earnest attention was apparent, and the same spirit of devotion. I can never be sufficiently thankful to God for the glorious privilege of being permitted to preach to these dear members of Christ's flock."

The Bishop administered Confirmation to seventy persons, and publicly set apart six earnest native Christians for the work of lay evangelists, with the ultimate object, if the Lord directs, of the fittest being ordained to the work of the Ministry. So excellent is the spirit of the native Christians and such an aptitude have they for teaching, that the Bishop writes: "I shall be greatly disappointed if, within a few years, we do not have, not only a large number of lay evangelists scattered over the land, but also the foundation of a zealous native Ministry." Concerning the self-support of the native Church the following remarkable testimony is borne: "I should say that in no other part of the world is there to be found a native Church which is so disposed to support itself and its Ministry as the Church of Buganda. The land occupied by the missionaries is a gift from the people, the houses occupied by Messrs. Gordon and Walker were built for them by the Christians without any expectation of payment, and to crown all a large house of three rooms has been built for myself, and two smaller houses for the other members of my party. I have said this crowns all, but it does not. Every day the Christians bring us food in such quantities that we have more than enough for sustenance. I do not expect that it will be necessary for me to buy any food during my stay here. The people are only too anxious to keep one here."

Bishop Tucker also writes that, "the openings for workers are simply marvellous. I should say that such another open door does not exist in any other part of the world." He concludes his very remarkable letter by saying that he was about to return to England to obtain, if possible, at least seven additional missionaries.

The Secret of Missionary Power.

"The life of our Society does not consist in crowded meetings, interesting and eloquent speeches, powerful patrons, zealous collectors numerous subscriptions, an overflowing treasury. It lives by all these, but not by these alone. Its life consists in the presence of Christ, in the hearts of Christian men. Not the great meeting nor the great speech, but the Spirit of the Lord that fills the meeting and the speaker: not the great patron, but the love of Christ in heart that makes him willing to cast his honors at the feet of Christ: not the large gift, but the loving self-denial that accompanies it: the are the thing in which its true life consists. Let us never forget this. Let us who necessarily resort so much to the use of all the means, beware of the idolatry of means let us beware of supposing that these are indispensable to our success, or that they are to be preferred in the very least degree, to the Word of the Lord. Let us remember that here too we need the martyr spirit: that here, too, we must be ready to sacrifice life for duty: here, too, we must remember we "no not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God."—(Archbishop Magee).

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