

At the Great Reformation, begun by Luther in 1517, the Protestants were so engaged with Home affairs that they hardly gave any attention to Foreign Missions till more than a century had passed away.

The Roman Catholics, however, were roused by their losses and dangers, to great Missionary activity, both to recover the Protestants and to convert the Heathens. Their Dominicans, Franciscans, and Jesuits, made vast efforts far and wide through Europe and America, Asia and Africa. Ignatius Loyola ruled from Rome. His friend Francis Xavier did wonders in India and the East. Their disciples made vast impressions on the Japanese, the Chinese, the Hindoos, the Abyssinians, and the Indians of America, South and North, as well as on the nations of Christendom. The *Congregation* and *College* of the PROPAGANDA were founded and endowed under Papal authority (1574, 1627) with immense resources. A somewhat similar establishment was organized at Lyons and Paris more recently; besides a vast variety of voluntary missionary societies. But terrible calamities befel those Catholic Missions. They were expelled from Japan early in the 17th century, and extirpated in Abyssinia and in China generally. In India, too, their works proved largely a failure; the Pope himself condemning their vast "compromise" in Madura (India) as not really Christian. Portugal expelled the Jesuits in 1759; France did so in 1764; Spain followed suit in 1767; and so did the Pope in 1773. After the French Revolution they began to reorganize about 1800; but with fluctuating fortunes, and repeated disasters. So that Romish Missions are still rather precarious. But their services to Science were many and valuable. To these we will refer again in summing up.

PROTESTANT Foreign Missions were scarcely begun till more than 100 years after the Reformation. The first great step was taken by the famous "Long Parliament" of England, during the Sessions of the "Assembly of Divines at Westminster," by an Act in 1647 establishing the "SOCIETY FOR PROPAGATING THE GOSPEL IN FOREIGN PARTS." This Society did good service for the Colonies; and we recall with thankfulness the noble Missionary labors of ELIOT and MAYHEW among the Indians of New England during that (17th) century, and those of BRAINERD in the next (18th). The "SOCIETY FOR PROMOTING CHRISTIAN KNOWLEDGE" was instituted in 1698, with good results at home and abroad. It gave its strong and constant aid to the earliest Protestant Mission in India, undertaken by the Danish King for his Danish Colony on the Coromandel

Coast, about 1700 A. D. Among its noble Missionaries the names of ZEIGENBALG and SWARTZ are specially famous. And this Mission is still the most forward in India, as it is almost a century older than any other of Protestant origin, there. Many other Societies have Missions in that vicinity at present. In 1721 the devoted Norwegian Missionary, HANS EOEDE, went to evangelize Greenland, and, after fifteen years of successful work, returned to train Missionaries at Copenhagen. He and his son Provel (who succeeded him in the Mission) translated the Gospels and prepared a Grammar and Lexicon for Greenland, and became worthy Bishops in the work. Then came the MORAVIANS as the first Protestant Church to enter on Foreign Missions as a Church-corporate. Their first Mission was to the West Indies in 1732, where at St. Thomas they were willing to become slaves, if necessary, to carry on the Mission. Their next was to Greenland, 1733; and since that they have instituted Missions to Labrador and the Cape of Good Hope; all of which have been eminently blessed, and have reacted on the Moravian Church with manifold blessings.

The "BAPTIST MISSIONARY SOCIETY" of England was instituted next, in 1792, of which WILLIAM CAREY, the "consecrated cobbler," was the organizer, and the first Missionary in 1793. His labors were exceedingly successful at Serampore in India, where he issued 200,000 Bibles or portions thereof in forty Oriental languages before his death in 1834. He wrote many Grammars and Dictionaries of various languages connected with India; and his vast Sanscrit Dictionary, written at leisure moments while he was at once Missionary and Professor of Oriental Languages at Calcutta, would win lifelong fame for an ordinary man.

In 1795, the "LONDON MISSIONARY SOCIETY" was instituted by English Congregationalists and Protestants of all denominations. It has done excellent Mission work in the South Sea Islands, in Madagascar, in Africa and elsewhere. It cordially co-operated with the different denominations in Britain and the Colonies, as well as in Foreign lands, in helping on the great cause of Christianization; whether by Episcopalians, Presbyterians, Wesleyans, or others. Many will remember of its kindly associations with Dr. GEDDIE and his brethren of the New Hebrides Mission, 1847; and of its noble Missionaries Dr. MOFFAT and Dr. LIVINGSTONE.

The "EDINBURGH SCOTTISH MISSIONARY ASSOCIATION" followed in 1796, and the Glasgow Society in the same year; the Church