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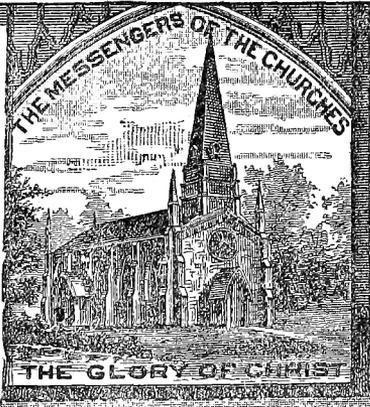


1889.

THE HERALD OF MISSION DEEDS

CONTENTS.

- Our Views of Mission Work
- Items of Missionary Intelligence
- Mission Monographs
- Letters from Christian Workers
- Incidents in Mission Life
- Notes and Reviews



Nos. 1-12.

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NEW YORK

J. W. Pratt & Son, Printers, 73-79 Fulton St., N. Y.

126 W. 45th Street.

Review of Mission News

PUBLISHED WITH THE APPROVAL OF THE BOARD OF FOREIGN MISSIONS,
REFORMED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, U. S. A.

OUR VIEWS OF MISSION WORK.

YOUNG MEN AND MISSIONS.*

Rev. A. Maclaren, D. D., Manchester.

As I understand the object of our meeting this afternoon, it is to try to lay the claims of the missionary cause on the hearts of our younger brethren. I am the more glad to have a humble share in this matter, because, as I construe the object of the meeting, it is neither in support nor in rivalry of any existing missionary society, but for the strengthening of all. The missionary spirit is nothing more than the Christian spirit turned in a definite direction. And therefore to attempt to excite the missionary spirit without the deepening of the Christian disposition is all lost labor. I have the profoundest distrust of all attempts to work up Christian emotion or Christian conduct in any single direction apart from the deepening and increase of that which is the foundation of all—a deeper and a closer communion with Jesus Christ. And so, if I may attempt for a moment the role of a senior, I would urge my brethren to make a definite and continual effort after nearer, deeper, more intimate, prayerful, ennobling, and constant communion with the source of all strength and of all righteousness. It is at Christ's feet that we learn to read our duty. It is there that duty becomes delight, and it is there that obedience becomes possible.

*Spoken at the Metropolitan Tabernacle and reported for *The Christian*, London.

The Christian life is only Christ's life in me; and is only to be mine if I get very near the fountain and source of it all. And if we thus, day by day, and moment by moment, honestly, earnestly, prayerfully, seek to knit ourselves more closely to that dear Lord who is nearer to us than our own hearts, then the life that comes from Him will be kindled within us, as the seed brings forth in the likeness of the plant from which it fell. By the might of living sympathy with Him, and the derivation of His own spirit into us, we shall have no spasmodic, or galvanized, or partial missionary spirit, but we shall see the world with Christ's eyes, looking beyond all the surface accident down to the deep central realities of the case; and like Him weeping over that which to the common eye was but a source of gratulation, and seeing men, whatever else they may be, as sheep that have no shepherd, for they have wandered away from Him.

Oh, dear young friends, be sure of this, that there is nothing that will keep a man's heart sympathetically in touch with the necessities of the world that lies in evil except that communion with Jesus Christ. All attempts to make the missionary spirit predominant or powerful in the Church, which does not begin with an individual drawing nearer to Jesus Christ, are as vain and foolish as it is to move on the hands of a clock with your finger in-

smaller congregations are uniting in the support of one or more missionaries. All this will certainly result in a large increase in our missionary force, and in a deeper and more intelligent interest in our Missions.

The advantages of allowing a congregation to become responsible for the support of one particular missionary are easily apparent. Every member of the congregation is thus brought into direct personal relations to the foreign field through the missionary they send out. There is a personal element in such work that is wanting to all work done through the Board. The congregation choose their missionary, they support him, they all know him. He is *their* missionary. His work is *their* work, and as they are more closely connected with the work they have a greater interest in it. They are led to acquaint themselves with the field, and as they see its needs they give more liberally, and follow their gifts with more earnest prayers. We expect still greater results from it.—*J. R., in New York Observer.*

CHINA.—In Canton, China, with its 1,500,000 inhabitants, are fifteen Christian chapels, where missionaries and native ministers preach the Gospel, not on Sabbath only, but daily, and from two to four hours each day, to audiences varying from fifty to several hundred. After the sermon these evangelists continue the services. Free conversations and discussions follow; rooms are at hand for private conferences, and Christian books and tracts are kept in readiness, and disposed of in large numbers. The preaching halls are thronged during the hottest months—July, August and September—and from noon till three

o'clock—the hottest part of the day. Tens of thousands of visitors to the city have heard the Gospel in these chapels and halls, and have carried it hundreds of miles into the interior. The dialect used by most of the missionaries is the Punti, or pure Cantonese, by which they have access to twenty millions of people.—*Missionary Review.*

AT HOME.

THE NEW INDIAN MISSION.—Our work so far has been that of opening a farm and getting buildings erected in which to work; occasionally on Sabbath we could do a little work among the Indians, but these opportunities were not as frequent as we wished. Whenever we could do so we would meet with them, and talk to them, and they faithfully promised to be present the next Sabbath, but they have never kept such a promise made to us. We have gone to their camps in accordance with such an arrangement, and found no one. When they promised to come to our tents no one came. They did offer to come if we would give them their dinner on Sabbath. And I think we could have filled our tents, and had an overflow meeting, if we had undertaken that.

The school building is rising slowly, and promises to be a substantial and respectable looking building. It will be built throughout of stone, a basement and two stories above. It will accommodate two teachers and their scholars with board and rooms, and also a family with three rooms or the rooms for the family may be used for a third teacher and scholars.

The water here is very good; we put down a well thirty-one feet before we found water, and then it came in on us so

strong we could get little deeper, for the water was in a gravel concrete that was a great deal harder to move than rock. We tried to get a blast in; put powder in a water-tight package, but it merely flashed out through the porous concrete and did no good. I sent to Oklahoma for dynamite, but my messenger never returned. I sent to Kansas City for a pump (there was none on the reservation), and after waiting seven weeks the top of the pump came and all the rest was reported lost by the railroad, and for me to send in a bill. I sent in a bill and to Kansas City for duplicates of the parts lost, and in about three weeks the lost parts and the last order came in together. But before this we had worked at the bottom of the well, with picks, crowbars, and drills, until it was deepened about two feet and one-half under the water, and had walled the well, for there was great danger of it falling in; finally we got the pump in place, and it works like a charm. While slacking the lime for the house we kept the water pump running steadily for about four days with no noticeable difference in the amount of water in the well. This may give a little idea of the trouble it is to get anything when it is one hundred miles from a railroad and twenty from a post office.

We intended putting up a house to live in, during the summer, and in the fall and winter use it for a stable. Early in May I sent for lumber, doors, windows, shingles, etc., and looked and looked in vain. Getting impatient, after about four weeks I wrote again; and have occasionally since sent "stirring" appeals, but all to no effect; the lumber never came. Getting desperate, we went to the woods, and got out boards enough to cover the house; the walls

were made of posts set on end, and we are living in that yet; it has no glass and no doors; it is so much like living in a tent that we did not feel the change to be a violent one when we moved out of a tent. The wind came through the sides so strongly that we had, the first night we were in it, to keep the lamp in a deep bucket, to keep it from blowing out.

We have had a great deal of damp, foggy weather this fall, and, as a consequence, a great deal of chills. Many of the Indians are chilling; our little Mary and I had them. They are broken on me, and we think also on Mary. We have hardly time to be sick, or to wait on the sick. It takes constant supervision and push to make things move.

Your Brother,

W. W. CARITHERS.

Ft. Sill, I. T., Oct. 5, 1889.

OAKLAND, CAL.—The rainy season has begun in California. It has been raining for the last six days. The Chinamen do not like to come to Mission so well on wet nights. The water wets their white stockings. We white brethren are to have a special prayer on behalf of the Chinese Mission. Our text is Matt. xxv. : 40. Could not all the prayer-meetings of the Church take the same text and devote one of their prayer-meetings to the Chinese Mission? There is still considerable emigration from China to California, but not nearly so much as there was last year. By paying a large amount of money they are permitted to land.

JAS. PATTON.

MISSION WORK IN NEW YORK.—On the west side of the city, between the North River and Central Park, a Mission connected with the Reformed Presbyterian