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THE MISSIONARY SURVEY

CONTINUING

THE MISSIONARY AND THE HOME MISSION HER



JANUARY, 1912

HOME MISSIONS

FOREIGN MISSIONS

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

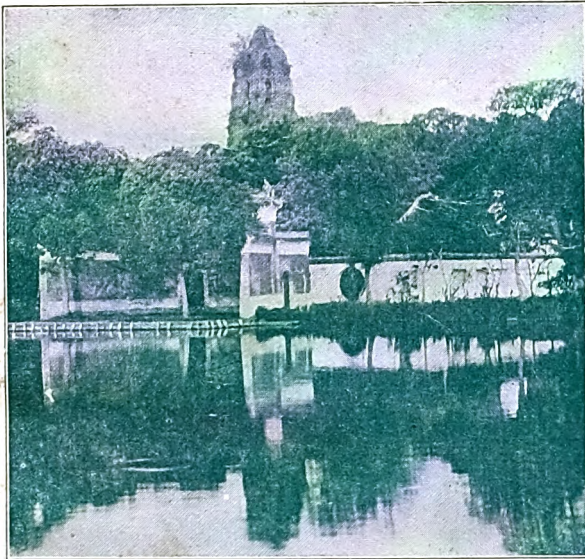
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"Thunder Peak Pagoda," West Lake, Hangchow, China.

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THE MISSIONARY SURVEY

W. C. SMITH, Managing Editor

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Volume I

JANUARY, 1912

Number 3

EDITORIAL

CHATTANOOGA !

FEBRUARY will see in Chattanooga another notable gathering of Presbyterian men, devoted to the consideration of the Church's great Mission to the world.

At Birmingham three years ago, upwards of a thousand men of the Church, from the South, met in convention and for three days devoted themselves to a mighty uplift of missionary purpose and enterprise.

It was an uprising of the men.

It was a meeting of such remarkable spirit and power that it sent a thrill through our own Church and quickened the pulse of missionary activity in every other evangelical denomination of the world. The impetus given to our Foreign Mission work advanced existing forces and extended the battle line.

Now after three years, Chattanooga is selected as the place for the gathering of the forces in a second general convention, for another great rally, beginning Tuesday, 6th of February, and closing on the night of the 8th.

The provisional program for the convention, just issued from the office of Mr. Charles A. Rowland, chairman of the Laymen's Missionary Movement, shows an admirable arrangement of topics to engage the thought of Christian workers abreast with the times. The speakers selected are men who have through wide experience and years of consecrated study gotten a grasp of the situation, and are able to present it in all phases with business-like clearness, as well as with deeply spiritual emphasis.

In this good day the earnest Christian business man deliberately projects a line of work for God, figures the cost and puts

it through. Such men realize the necessity for dependable information, bearing not only upon conditions on the field, but on methods of putting the force in the field and maintaining it there. To meet the demand for this kind of information, the program makers for the Chattanooga convention have not only engaged eminent mission thinkers and speakers of our own Church, but have drawn upon the leaders of world movements in other denominations. The program is distinctly an educational one. It is most practical—dealing with conditions as they exist to-day upon the foreign field and in the home Church. Devotional periods are provided for at stated intervals, and the outlook is for a convention of great thought, great purpose, great plans and great power.

In the Foreign Mission section of this number of THE MISSIONARY SURVEY will be found further details.

Every local congregation is allowed representation upon the floor of the convention by three or more delegates, including the pastor *ex-officio*. Every congregation should make the investment of sending its pastor and a deacon and an elder—adding another layman for each one hundred members or fraction above. Delegates will return from Chattanooga with the inspiration of this great gathering and communicate it to the home Church. It will doubtless be the means of quickening many a church into new life and greater effort to build God's Kingdom along all lines. Special help will be given on the Every Member Canvass Plan, which so many congregations are now studying to make effective.

The churches which receive the greatest uplift and inspiration from the Chattanooga convention will be those who make a full investment of delegates. See to it.

Onward! We need more men; we need more money for the prosecution of the work.

In order to have the men and the money, the Church should pray the Lord of the harvest to send more laborers into the field.

We need a spirit of personal consecration and self-sacrifice.

"Take my life and let it be, consecrated Lord to thee."

"Take my silver and my gold; not a mite I withhold."

Hazlehurst, Miss.

AMONG THE FOREIGNERS AROUND BIRMINGHAM

REV. J. A. BRYAN

IN JULY, 1909, religious work among the foreigners and their children had its beginning at Ensley, Ala., a large iron and steel manufacturing center of the Birmingham district. The Lord placed

Lord, through friends all over our Church, provided a very comfortable chapel at a cost of \$700. Here a most successful kindergarten has been "kept going" through the liberality of the Presbyterian Union



SOME OF THE CHILDREN.

this work heavily upon the heart of the pastor of the Presbyterian Church at Ensley, Rev. H. C. Kegley, who brought its needs to the attention of the Women's Missionary Union of North Alabama Presbytery, and then placed it before the Home Mission Committee in Atlanta, which provided an excellent building.

A night school, a day school, and a kindergarten, taught by splendid teachers were carried on during the summer months. In the fall of the same year the

and other friends, at an expense of about \$60 per month. To have seen and known the moral condition of some of these children two years ago, and to see them now, you would say the money and effort were well invested. Miss Snedecor, Miss McCord, Miss Stillwell, will be rewarded for doing such faithful foreign work at home. Mrs. M. Hood, a well-trained kindergarten worker, had charge of the work during the past fall.

For two years at this place we have had

also a day school for Italian children where they have been taught of Christ. The Child's Catechism, portions of Scripture, and hymns have been committed to memory. Already some of these people have gone back to Italy, but the seed was sown in their hearts and the harvest is with God.

Miss Agnes Averyt, along with this class, has taught a night school for grown men, the attendance on which has varied. Few of the men stay in any district long. They are in the South a few months, Pittsburgh a while, New York a while, and then back to the "old country" they return. Let us give them Christ.

Rev. C. Barana visits among the people and conducts chapel and open air meetings—sometimes they come; sometimes they do not! This is not a characteristic of Italians alone! Bulgarians, Hungarians, Danes, Poles, etc., the Irish, Scotch, English, Germans, and French, have the same disease!

Some of the families from this part of Ensley have moved in the past six months back of a large steel mill. One mile and in some cases two miles from the old station. We have followed them—they like the missionary! Here the company has well equipped for our use a splendid building and we have a Sunday-school of twenty-five, and a day school of eighteen pu-

pils. Miss McPherson has done a Christ-like work there the last three months. She has visited the homes and prayed with the people, but while the older ones could not understand her words, they know that she loves them. The children like to sing the Gospel, and they listen as she tells them the story of Jesus—they need a Saviour.

Here at Pratt City, God has richly blessed the effort. Eighteen months ago Mrs. W. H. Williams organized a Sabbath-school in a rented store with forty-seven present. It takes a day school influence to keep a Sabbath-school among these people. The children are bright, and like to sing and read. The boys and girls are ambitious to learn.

Some whole families come to Sunday-school. Yesterday there were forty-seven at the day school. The Bible is the principal text-book used, and we give them copies of the New Testament. God has certainly helped this work.

We are very grateful to all our friends for prayers and help given. It is Foreign Mission work at home.

Let us look around us and see here in the Birmingham district 16,000 foreigners—some are Catholics, but three out of four are "nothing." Let us help these wondering children find the Father. Let us look to God and "go forward!"

Birmingham, Ala.

A PIONEER OF THE GOSPEL—REV. GIDEON BLACKBURN, D. D.

BY REV. J. H. McNEILLY, D. D.

THE two forces which were most effective in moulding and developing the higher civilization of our country, were the Church and the school. In the early history of all the States east of the Mississippi River, these two forces were represented by the same man, who was preacher and teacher for each settlement. Among the "mighty men of valor" who took the lead in laying broad and deep the foundations of civil and religious order in Tennessee, "men who had understanding of the times, to know what the

people ought to do," one of the mightiest among the mighty was Gideon Blackburn, the Demosthenes of the pulpit, the Plato of the wilderness academy.

He was born in Augusta county, Va., on the 27th of August, 1772, of that sturdy Scotch-Irish stock which formed the backbone of the American Revolution—the race pre-eminent as commonwealth builders.

The parents of our hero were plain, devout Presbyterians, in narrow circumstances, and the boy was brought up by his