

NORTH CAROLINA Baptist Missionary Worker.

Jesus said: "Go ye into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature."

Motto: "The World for Jesus Christ."

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SOME INTERESTING AND SIGNIFICANT FACTS.

In the year 1855 the State Board of Missions had eighteen missionaries laboring to supply the destitution in the State. Shortly after this, a debt began to accumulate and, in 1857, there were only six missionaries; in 1858, four; in 1860, three; in 1861 *only two*, and in 1863 *none*. Nor was anything more done until this debt was liquidated.

At the close of the war, the work was again begun in earnest and the number of missionaries rapidly increased from *five* in 1866, until there were *twenty-two* in 1868.

Here again a debt began to accumulate, which in 1876 grew to \$1,905.47. This so crippled the operations of the Board as to reduce the number of missionaries, until only *nine* were left to carry the gospel to the destitute.

In 1878 the first duty which lay before the new Board was to pay off the remnant of this heavy drawback, which they did, and started off once more with *no debt* and nine missionaries. The action of the Board seemed to inspire confidence anew, and the next year the number of missionaries was increased to eighteen, with *no debt*. The third year witnessed the commission of *twenty-three*, and instead of having a debt, there was a balance in the treasury in favor of the Board of \$153.46.

The Convention was almost wild with enthusiasm, as many can testify, and when the report was finished in the audience of the body, a hymn of praise was sung. Such a thing had never before been known in the history of the Convention.

From this time forth the number of faithful servants of God sent out as missionaries of the Board has increased, until now we have *seventy-two* and the Board is to pay ten more men than at any time since our Convention was organized.

Last year, for the first time, owing to the stringency of the times and the greatly increased outlays, the present Board had to report a small debt. This was soon provided for, but there was a damper thrown over the whole meeting, on account of it. A prominent pastor said to me, a short time ago, that it was the most painful meeting of the Convention he ever attended.

Now a few thoughts deduced from these facts:

1. We have seen that debt is killing to our work—the State Mission work—which lies at the foundation of all our beneficent enterprises.

2. To carry up a debt to the Convention next November would not only cripple our efforts for next year, but would retard the wonderful progress of the cause of Christ for years to come.

3. There is no need of our having to carry up a debt. If the pastors, churches and Associations

will do their full duty, we shall not only have no debt, but will actually have a surplus. Crops are much better than was for a while feared, and money matters are getting easier.

4. The Associations which have met already have all (with one exception) done a good part by our Board, and there is a good prospect of our being speedily relieved, if the good work continues. I feel it my duty to make special mention of the Pilot Mountain and Flat River Associations. The Pilot gave me, *in cash*, twice as much as she promised, while the Flat River has gone far beyond any in her *magnificent aid*, and has given *nearly four times* as much as she promised (\$881.57) and far more than any other body in the State.

Now, brethren, if all will thus aid us, we shall have no debt, but can go forward to even greater achievements for Christ and his kingdom for next year. What say you? Let all help, and *help all you can*.

FOREIGN MISSIONS.

BY REV. T. WHITFIELD, D. D.

PROGRESS.

From our Southern China Mission comes news of earnest Christian effort by the native converts. Bro. Simmons says:

"About a year ago I told the Shiu Hing church that I thought they ought to buy a chapel and relieve the mission of the expense of renting one for them. One of the members that was converted in Demarara said he would write to the Baptist church there and ask them for a contribution. They sent \$200 for the chapel; and to encourage the church I told them I would give or raise as much money as they would. The church appointed a committee to secure subscriptions and buy a house. The Shiu Hing church numbers forty-one. They subscribed \$219. The members generally agreed to give one month's income. One man gave two and a half month's income. Several gave more than a month's income. Their contributions range from 25 cents to \$10 each. They have this week paid for the chapel that we have had rented for more than ten years, \$555.55, and they have some money on hand for some repairs which are badly needed.

The members have given liberally and with a willing heart until they feel it. I have not seen people give so liberally at home. For many of them have of their living given until they feel it. I have often thought that I had made sacrifices in giving, but I know that I have never made sacrifices such as most of these members are making. And they are doing it so cheerfully as unto the Lord. It is often said, and truthfully, that the Chinese are a money-loving people. But some of

them love their Saviour more than they love money."

NEEDS.

Concerning this field, embracing the Provinces of Kwang Tung and Kwang Si, Bro. Graves writes,

Enough has been done to show that the Chinese can be converted; that they do make substantial, reliable church-members; that they will read Christian literature; and that they may be trained into earnest, intelligent, Christian leaders. But much remains to be done. More preachers must be taught to expound the Bible; the native converts need much training to become active, useful, well-rounded Christians. Thousands have never yet heard of the name of Jesus. What are seven thousand Christians among twenty-seven millions of heathen? Kwang Si is almost untouched by Christian effort; there is no resident missionary, or native preacher there, and not a dozen converts.

Here are new fields for Christian enterprise, new worlds for devoted Christian men to conquer for Christ. Except in Canton scarcely anything has been done for the women and girls, and in this city only a beginning has been made towards reaching them in their homes. Truly the harvest is plenteous and the laborers few. Some of the older missionaries are beginning to feel the effects of a long service and must soon pass off of the scene. We need fresh blood and new life. We must have men to take the places of those who break down and grow old. "There is no discharge in this war,"—it must go on until China is won for Christ.

HOW TO HELP.

1. Give to Foreign Missions regularly, liberally and cheerfully. Phil. iv: 15, 16; 2 Cor. xi: 8, 9; ix: 6, 7.

2. Secure in your Church the appointment of a *Foreign Mission Committee*, to work specially for Foreign Missions, reporting its work to the Church, quarterly. 2 Cor. ix: 5.

3. Take the *Foreign Mission Journal*, and induce others to do so. Get and circulate tracts, papers and books, which encourage Foreign Missions. Ps. xliii: 3. Christians are "children of the light." When they know the condition and numbers of the heathen, the work done, and the work needful to be done, *they will help*.

4. Pray daily that the gospel may speedily be preached to all the nations, and accepted by them. Pray also for the lives and comfort of missionaries, their access to the people, and their Spiritual power. 2 Thess. iii: 1, 2.

5. Encourage the regular observance of the Monthly Concert of Prayer for Missions. Ps. lxxii: 15.