

Query.

Is Missionary Coöperation with Western Oregon desirable and good for us? If so, why?

UMATILLA COUNTY.

REMARKS.

Coöperation is always desirable where it is practicable. Whether missionary coöperation between Eastern and Western Oregon is practicable at present or not, is not easily decided. Successful coöperation over a large area of country, must be sustained by Coöperation of churches and individuals in the smaller portions that compose it.

Our missionary work is young both in Western and Eastern Oregon. The two sections are so separated by the time and expense of travel that the propriety of uniting their missionary organizations is very questionable. We believe more good can be done at present by each working separately, but harmoniously, till our work is better organized on both sides of the mountains and there are quicker and cheaper lines of travel connecting the two sections.

The Progress of Missions.

H. W. EVERST.

[Extract from an Address before the Ohio Christian Convention, held in Columbus.]

A brief survey of the history of missions will afford abundant encouragement. The sublime faith and love of the Gospel, when once placed in human hearts, began immediately and powerfully to work for the salvation of men. Every disciple was a missionary, and all the money was missionary money. The first sermon converted three thousand; the second brought the number of the church to five thousand; then multitudes were added, and a great company of Jewish priests became obedient to the faith. The circle widened, and Samaria and all Palestine received Christ. It widened still; Jewish prejudice gave way, and the blessings of the Gospel flowed over to the Gentiles. Still the circle widened, as those scattered abroad at the death of Stephen went everywhere preaching the word, and heralds of the cross were in Cyrene, Phenice, Cyprus and Antioch. And still the circle widened, till Ethiopia, Babylon, Ephesus, Philippi, Athens, Corinth and Rome felt the rising and the surging of the tide that was soon to sweep over the whole empire. By the end of the Neronian

reign (A. D. 68) the church in the Roman capital numbered probably not fewer than fifty thousand, and there were many similar successes. Before the close of the first Christian century, and within 65 years from the crucifixion, the gospel had been preached in all lands; and many a Roman province was in the condition of Bithynia, whose governor testifies that the contagion of Christianity had seized not only the cities and villages, but also the open country; that sacrifices were unbought and heathen temples deserted. Persecution followed persecution; the catacombs of Carthage, Alexandria and Rome were filled with the slain; prayers went up from prison dungeons at the midnight hour, and the blood of martyrs flowed; but the gospel had its course and was glorified. At the close of this first campaign, when the soldiers of the cross had been marching and fighting for nearly three hundred years, to the Roman emperor, Constantinus the Great, the cross had become the sign of victory, and everywhere the Galilean was triumphant.

The church had barely time to settle its faith and accumulate a little reserve force, when the barbarians from Central Asia and the northern wilds began to overrun the Roman Empire. From the fourth to the tenth century it was busy Christianizing these savage hordes. It was a home missionary work for the conversion of the incoming heathens. During these dark centuries, though the church was in unholy alliance with civil powers, and though the great apostasy was fastening itself on the people of Europe, yet it never lost its zeal for the conversion of the world. When this great tidal wave of barbarism ceased to advance, then the church revived its work for distant nations. Between the tenth and thirteenth centuries the missionary fields were Scandinavia, Russia; the far North, Lapland and Finland; the far East, Persia and beyond.

Then followed the great Protestant reformation, the victory over the Roman hierarchy, the exaltation of the Scriptures above all human authority, the rebaptism of the church in the Spirit of Christ, and the renewal of the great commission. The end of Popery, the revival of missions, and the beginning of the millennial glory had come. In 1790 there were only three foreign missionary societies in Europe, and

none in America. There were organized in 1793 the English Baptist Missionary Society; in 1795, the London Society; in 1796, the Scottish and Glasgow Societies; in 1797, the Netherlands Society; in 1799, the Church Missionary Society. Between 1800 and 1830, sixteen foreign societies were organized; between 1830 and 1850, thirty-three more. The Protestant world now numbers seventy foreign missionary societies, with many thousand auxiliary associations.

Since 1868, fifteen foreign missionary societies have been organized among the Christian women of the United States. The home missionary work among all churches, including tract and Bible distribution, Sunday-schools and evangelizing efforts, is vast beyond all computation. The men and money employed in foreign missionary fields, by the Protestants of Europe and America indicate the grandeur of the work—20,000 stations, 45,000 missionaries, and more than 1,000,000 communicants in mission churches; 9,816 mission schools; 447,602 mission scholars. These are sustained by vast sums of money, the British Isles and the United States alone furnishing, in 1880, over eight millions of dollars, and during the nine previous years more than \$67,500,000.

We can hardly realize the extent of Protestant missions. "They are everywhere; on the continent of North America; in Mexico, Central America, Greenland, Labrador, the Hudson Bay region, British America, and California; on the continent of South America; in New Granada, Brazil, Peru, Chili, Uruguay, the Argentine Republic, Guiana and the contiguous islands, Falkland and Terra del Fuego; in nearly every nation of Europe; on the continent of Africa in Egypt, Tunis, Algeria, Abyssinia and Zanzibar; in South Africa, 369 stations and 1,112 sub-stations; in Central and Western Africa, 135 stations and 454 sub-stations; on the continent of Asia; in Turkey, Syria, Persia, India, China, Thibet, Japan, Burmah, and in Siam, there are 464 stations and 1,417 sub-stations. The Indian Archipeligo, the islands of the Atlantic—the Bahamas, the Bermudas, the West Indies; Madagascar, Maritius, Australia, Polynesia, with its 300 islands, and the mighty world of Australasia, have all been conquered by the soldiers of the cross."

But this is not all; the work is

going grandly on before our eyes, and the future is full of promise. When before were all nations of the earth so generally in treaty relations? When before could Christian civilization carry so many blessings of science and art to uncivilized races? The slower and preparatory work is nearly done; all lands have been explored, languages have been learned, and the Bible translated into 250, or into four-fifths of all the tongues spoken by man; long and dangerous experiments have been tried and all things are ready. The century-plant of Christianity is ready to shoot upward to the zenith. The wealth and learning of the world are in possession of the church; and the church is learning that, grand as it may be to develop science and art, it is far grander to use science and art for the elevation and salvation of man; that glorious as are the services of wealth in the subjugation and development of natural forces, yet the ministry of wealth will be far more glorious when the world's capital shall be mainly devoted to the well-being of immortal souls.

Personal.

—Bros. T. F. and P. L. Campbell and Sister Mary Stump all sailed for the East on the *Oregon* last Sunday night.

—Sister A. M. Bedwell started to California on last Saturday to be gone several weeks. She is the agent of the CHRISTIAN HERALD and will canvass in its interest while gone. We bespeak for her a Christian welcome and numerous subscriptions.

—Bro. S. Monroe Hubbard spent the last of last week and the first part of this, in town looking after some business.

—Bro. H. A. Johnson, of Salem, called in on us on Tuesday.

—Bro. R. H. Moss has moved from Goldendale, W. T., to Weston, Or. The brethren of Umatilla county have secured in Bro. M. an able teacher of the word.

—Bro. Bruce Wolverton, our junior editor, has been elected as Principal of the Preparatory department of the State Agricultural College at Corvallis, and has accepted.

Kind looks, kind words, kind acts, and warm hand-shakes—these are secondary means of grace, when men are in trouble and are fighting their unseen battle.—*Dr. John Hill.*