

APPEAL
OF THE
MISSIONARY SOCIETY
OF THE
WESLEYAN METHODIST CHURCH IN CANADA, FOR 1854.

The Reader is respectfully solicited to aid the funds of this Society, in sustaining and extending its Christian and Protestant Missions among the Indians and destitute settlers of Western and Eastern Canada, and the Hudson's Bay Territory, and for sending the everlasting Gospel to other parts of the world; and the authorised Collector, presenting this Appeal, will be happy to receive a subscription or donation for the promotion of objects so important.

The Society in whose behalf this application is earnestly made is Auxiliary to the Wesleyan Missionary Society in Great Britain; and that you, before giving, may form an intelligent opinion of its *state, prospects, and claims*, a brief extract is here made from its last Annual Report—as it may not have reached you—under the honest conviction, that the Society's requirements only need to be known, to be promptly and liberally met by the public; as, we gratefully acknowledge, they have been for many years:—

“The PARENT SOCIETY has 367 Central or Principal Stations in different parts of the globe, on a large number of which there are many salaried Agents employed in various departments; showing how the expenditure is great. It has 3,116 Chapels and other Preaching Places; and how gratifying, that in many a wilderness, and on many a far off shore and island stands the house of God! It has 507 Ministers and Assistant Missionaries; the pioneers and directors of the wide-spread work. It has 703 other paid Agents, as Catechists, Interpreters, and Day School Teachers. It has 110,228 Church Members, and 4,873 on Trial for Membership. In the Day Schools 78,811 Scholars. Printing Establishments on Missions 8, some of which are very extensive. Then there is a Missionary Ship, “The John Wesley,” in the South Seas, which affords not a few facilities in carrying on the work with regularity and success. These men and means are sustained vigorously; besides the heavy cost of printing annually by hundreds of thousands various thrilling Missionary publications, which are sent uncharged to every Wesleyan Methodist Circuit and Mission in the world.

“The sum yearly required by the Parent Society for the preservation of the work already done is immense. What a ceaseless outlay for the support of Ministers, Agents of every class, their Families, Building, Public Worship, Day Schools, Superior Native Institutions, Translations, Printing, Means of Civilization, the expense of the Home department of Management, Removal to Stations, Afflictions and Return of Missionaries, Outfits, and in sending God's servants to the ends of the earth! And the recent consolidation of the work in France, Australia, and Canada, likewise adds for the time being to the outlay. But the certain issue of these movements will be a large amount saved for expenditure on new fields of enterprise in Pagan lands. Thus a great Society, which raised more than £114,000 last year, will, with God's smile, cease not to extend the Redeemer's dominions. May He who “hath on his vesture and on his thigh a name written, King of Kings, and Lord of Lords,” defend and bless the Parent Society!

“The Committee have great pleasure in stating that the AUXILIARY SOCIETY IN CANADA last year supported 15 Indian Missions, 62 Domestic Missions, 21 Missionaries to Indians, 79 Ministers on the Domestic Missions, 16 Day School Teachers, 6 Interpreters, 15 Day Schools, two of which are large Industrial Institutions; and that there are on the different Missions 10,624 Members of the Church, 1,142 of that number Indians; and that the increase during the year is 1,330 Members. Such are the results, under the blessing of the Divine Spirit, of the application of

the truths the Society's agents inculcate, and of the uniformity on all the Missions of their instructions. An unlettered Namacqua forcibly said on a Wesleyan Missionary occasion in Africa, "All our Teachers preach the same Gospel: yes, though there are many Teachers, the word is the same, the prayer is the same, the school is the same."

The necessary compression of so many particulars into a mere summary, has its disadvantages; and, therefore, we invite the closest scrutiny of the candid reader, that the number, nature, bearing, and importance of all the facts this extract contains, may be felt in their full force. The Society has nothing to conceal, and much to expect from a frank exhibition of its position, proceedings, and projects.

Are you, attentive reader, a disciple of Christ? here, it is believed, is a Society approved of by Christ, and his favour manifested in the bestowal of innumerable temporal and spiritual blessings on tens of thousands of the human family through the agency of this Society. Canada cannot estimate the good it has done to CANADA: and other Societies have greatly augmented the good done. Are you an admirer of the sublime career of the chief Protestant Missionary Societies of Christendom? Does the name of a Heber, a Carey, a Williams, or of a Gobat, or a Duff allure you? The *same* Gospel which those Societies promulgate, is preached by the Missionaries of this Society; and the heroic and apostolic acts of those men of God are reproduced in the Canadas and Hudson's Bay, and by Wesleyan Missionaries throughout the earth. Are you a philanthropist, ardently imploring of God the speedy enlightenment of the human race? or, occupying a towering vantage-ground of observation, do you, breathlessly, wonder at the religious and secular, ecclesiastical and national momentous events of the nineteenth century, and feeling the upheavings of the moral and the civil world, say, Let God be honoured in all his dispensations? This Society exists *only* to save men, and to assist in accumulating honors for man's adorable and supreme Mediator.

It is *the will of God* that the Christian religion should become universal: we appeal to your reverence for his authority. The expansiveness of that religion has brought blessings to your own heart: we appeal to the love you have for the Saviour. The power of that religious expansiveness has created in you wishes for the welfare of others: we appeal to your patriotism. That religion has made you a possessor of financial means, and of charitable emotions: we appeal to your benevolence. But the appeal is not ours: it comes from Calvary: "LOVEST THOU ME?"

Respond to your Redeemer. "The liberal *deviseth* liberal things." What is achieved by a haphazard sympathy? Can a puny, a penurious, a precarious spirit of liberality fill the world with the Redeemer's trophies? Impossible! Art thou a parent, a son, a daughter—a master, or a servant? give—give generously—give with promptitude! Whatever thy religious profession, this Society has its claims on your resources; for its Missionaries bear to remote settlements and countries the Divine Word and Sacraments without respect of persons, and, it is very likely, to many destitute members of your own Church. The Wesleyan Missionary Society has recently greatly increased its Missions, Missionaries, and liabilities. The means you possess have been given that you might bless others. A meagre minority only of the human family is christianized. *Myriads are perishing while you delay!* The period for Christian action is a moment. The duty of every man is to make all men happy forever. The judgment comes. Meet the day with CHRISTIAN BENEVOLENCE. "Prepare ye the way of the Lord, make straight in the desert a highway for our God."