THE MISSIONARY CAMPAIGN ITS PRINCIPLES, METHODS, AND PROBLEMS

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The missionary campaign its principles, methods, and problems by W. S. Hooton

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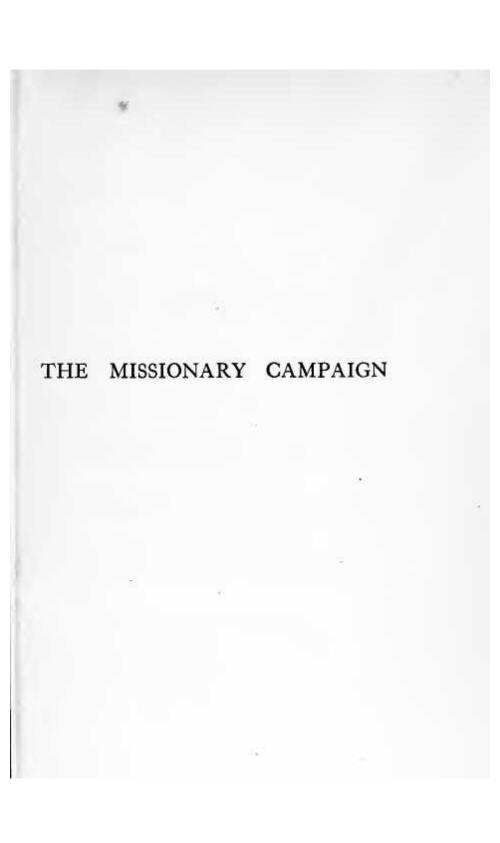
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ITS PRINCIPLES, METHODS, AND PROBLEMS

BY

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Τοις έθνεσιν εὐαγγελίσασθαι τὸ ἀνεξιχνίαστον πλούτος τοῦ Χριστοῦ Ευτι. iii. 8

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PREFACE

A HANDBOOK of this kind must take one of two lines. Either it must aim at surveying Missions historically, or it must be limited to the study of principles, methods, and problems, together with such illustrations as are possible. There is certainly not room for both these objects to be pursued in one such volume. At the present time strong reasons favour the latter alternative. The past history of Missions has been summarised as lately as 1904 by no less an authority than Dr. Eugene Stock (A Short Handbook of Missions, Longmans, Green & Co.), and any further efforts in this difficult direction might well be thought unnecessary and presumptuous. On the other hand, the World Missionary Conference at Edinburgh in 1910, following upon the Pan-Anglican Congress held two years earlier, and leaving behind it a legacy of nine systematic volumes of Report upon different aspects of the science of Missions, has brought the matter of leading principles very much before the public mind.

It is hoped that the present attempt will not seem too ambitious. So large a subject cannot be exhaustively treated within a small compass. The following

chapters will consequently be found to deal only with the actual work carried on in the field, and with those aspects of it which are of special interest and importance for the general reader. For example, the training of missionaries, and the many technical questions of home organization, are very essential parts of the whole work; but they appear to involve matters more suitable for experts, and they would complicate the possibility of presenting, in one short volume, any general view of the requirements and realities of the conflict at the front. Similarly, there is no formal discussion of objections to Foreign Missions: it is assumed that the basis upon which they rest is accepted; though it may be hoped that the course of study which is followed will be fruitful in material for answering such objections. The aim in view, moreover, seems to require not so much a mass of details and statistics as an effort to group together, in broad outline, some leading features of the complex organization of modern missionary work. The subject is approached from the point of view of the Church of England, and illustrations are taken, in the main, from the Missions of that Church, though other bodies are nowhere ignored. Authorities have been quoted as far as is practicable, but it is perhaps impossible to avoid embodying the opinions of experts in some cases without explicit recognition. special care has been taken to give references in matters involving much difference of opinion-e.g. in Chapters IV and V.

Grateful acknowledgment is due to the Secretary of the Continuation Committee of the World Missionary Conference for leave to quote extracts from the Reports and from the Statistical Atlas of Christian Missions, as well as to the Secretary of the S.P.C.K. (in connection with the Reports of the Pan-Anglican Congress), the Editorial authorities of the C.M.S. and the S.P.G., the Editor of The Christian, and all who have kindly given similar permission—also to Dr. Stock for a few kind suggestions, in addition, affecting title and form.

It remains to express the sincere prayer that this effort may be used of God to make the actual conditions in the foreign field more real to the home worker, and to lay the burden of its dangers and its difficulties, its problems and perplexities, more effectually upon every prayerful servant of the King in the matters of His kingdom.

HARROGATE, September 1912.

