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## EDUCATION AND MISSIONS.—II.

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The article under the above title in the August MISSIONARY REVIEW has naturally drawn out not a little comment. For this reason especially we are led to refer to the subject again, and to note how intimately it stands related to some of the broadest questions of missionary polity.

1. Is multitudinism or individualism the true method in missions? The Roman Catholic theory has been: "Bring men into the Church, in order to bring them to Christ;" the Protestant theory has been: "Bring men to Christ, in order to bring them into the Church." It is obvious that, according as the one or the other of these ideals prevails, the order of missionary procedure must radically differ. Education first and foremost, if the masses are to be nurtured into a condition where they shall be fit to be saved by faith in Christ. But is this according to the Divine plan? Is the new birth the graduating degree in the school of Christianity, or is it the matriculation into that school? A volume of sermons lies before us in which this sentence occurs: "From all eternity God has provided for us a place in His Church. *He has brought us into His church in order that we may be saved.* Whether we are saved eventually or not must depend," etc. This the preacher emphasizes as the Catholic theory of salvation over against the Calvinistic. Very well. Then bring the whole multitude into the Church; make the ordinances a drag-net for including entire nations at once within its communion; bring to bear all the forces of civilization for humanizing and elevating the heathen, and so making them ready to receive Christ as their Saviour.

But the primitive practice as well as the primitive precept seems to be against such a conception. The record of the Church's beginnings reads: "And the same day there were added about three thousand souls." Added to whom? Not to the Christian community merely. A parallel statement reads: "And believers were the more *added to the Lord*, multitudes both of men and women"—multitudinism, but through individualism!