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REVIEW SECTION.

I.—MISSIONARY MINISTERS.

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WHEN the church had only a few men formally consecrated to the ministry after a three years' course under the great Teacher, they were instructed to go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature. The obligation to prosecute this work did not become weaker, still less expire, when the church had twelve hundred, or twelve thousand, ministers. By God's grace the Master's command is now being heard by a larger number of men who love the gospel than ever before in human history. There have been periods of great missionary zeal long after "primitive piety" had passed away; but, alas! the spirit of a great ambitious corporation, which combined uncongenial elements with gospel work, superseded to a sad degree the spirit of truth and love, and men were applauded, who, by this agency or that, secured the submission of a tribe or a district to the authority of the Papacy. So, to take an example which ought to be studied to-day, poor Ireland was put by an infallible Pope under the sway of England, as a piece of the political trickery of the time to secure the submission of the Irish Church—then holding much evangelical anti-Romanist truth—to his dominion.

Great and laudable efforts are being made by Christian men and women to raise funds, occupy fields, and sustain on them such laborers as we distinguish from pastors by the name of "missionaries." The object contemplated in this brief article is the removal, in part, of the sharp line of distinction between the minister and the missionary. Of course any missionary, when God has given him some success in the conversion of souls, becomes a pastor. He is bound to feed the souls to whom God has by his efforts given spiritual life. Correspondingly, there are ways in which the minister can combine with the work of the pastor the work of a missionary. This work will be in some forms indirect and in some direct. We begin with the former.

The pastor of a church can create, diffuse and strengthen the *spirit of missions*. Reference is not now made to monthly or other missionary meetings, nor to the organization of bands and societies in the congregation. These have their places, and the pastor does