

least a third more given this year by the members of the churches, than last year. To the churches to which promises have already been made, there are added new openings in the North-West."

Having made a start, I was interested to enquire further. I thought of our *College*. Living near it as I do, and knowing its needs so well, I wondered what showing the loyalty of our churches would make in figures. The enquiry received the following reply:—"Quebec gave last year, 61 cents per member; and Ontario 20 cents per member. The latter made up of 34 cents per member from the Eastern Association, 15 cents from the Central, and 13 cents from the Western." The warming influence of the sun's rays evidently diminish westward.

Then the enquiry about *Foreign Missions* elicited the information that 41 cents per member was given in Quebec, and 15 cents in Ontario. That surely is not out of proportion to the offerings for Home work. If Ontario gives on an average \$11.15 for local church purposes, from each member, 34 cents for Home Missions, and 20 cents for the College (\$11.69 in all for the churches in Canada), is *fifteen cents* too much for our debt of responsibility to Africa and other needy lands? If Quebec gives \$14.65 per member on an average, for local church purposes, 68 cents for Home Missions, and 61 cents for the College (or \$15.94 for Canadian work), is 41 cents too much to send away to the heathen dying without a knowledge of Christ?

Now it is well known that some churches give more than others; and these figures will not seem to do justice in some directions. But our Societies can only reach the individual givers through the Associations and the ministers. These closing years of the nineteenth century are witnessing more gifts, and more splendid ones, to the aggressive work of the Kingdom of God, than any that have preceded. But some churches are *living last century over again!* Glorious things are opening before the Christian church, but the key with which to unlock them is in the purses of those that love the kingdom.

A part of a Christian minister's responsibility in these days is to gather the offerings of the people, and plan to increase them. The number of Christians who give a tenth of their income is increasing, and those who give more; but the increase is

slow. Many who give fifty cents, feel it more than others; but the feeling is worse *before giving than after it!* We have been shrinking from dissociating conversion with money. But I believe a part of our church covenants of fellowship should call for generous support of missionary enterprises. Christian financiering in our village churches is sadly needed. There is a sphere among our churches for a *Finangelist*. The word is borrowed from the States. In the meantime, I commend the above figures to the consideration of the Churches. Our Treasurers must have more money before the Union Meetings. I speak with the more freedom, because Calvary Church has handed over the increase of a *third* over last year. Have all done so? It is needed in Home Missions, and in College Treasuries.

EDWARD M. HILL.

## Correspondence.

FROM REV. W. T. CURRIE TO SECRETARY OF C. C. F. M. S.

(Concluded from our last.)

When the Bailundus were about to leave Kambambu, a boy from their village, who had never been under the influence of our mission, expressed a desire to remain with me. I spoke to his uncle about the matter, and he called the boy and asked him if he wished to remain behind; the young fellow answered, Yes. "But," said the uncle, "all your neighbors are going away." The boy pointed to a couple of lads from Bailundu, and said, "they were going to remain." The uncle then turned to me and said, "The lad wants to remain; he can do so." In the course of a month, the uncle, who went to trade for rubber, returned for a letter from me, instructing him to collect carriers, and go to the coast for my goods. The boy then sent a present to his parents, and asked permission to remain with me. For the past month, he and my boy Ugulu were all that I had to depend on. Susi, Mr. Arnott's boy, has been with me for a short time, but the temptations at villages were too much for his weak piety, and though I hope to hold on to him, he is far from being a lad on whom I could depend.