

churches. And some one has taken to figuring on the subject, and has found that several of them cost the denomination nearly £3 per annum per member, and that, even at that outlay, the membership is rather decreasing than otherwise. In fact, he has ascertained just how much it costs "per head" to save souls in Aberfeldy and Laurencekirk, and thinks they are paying too dearly for them! We suppose that is the "business" way of looking at missions, but we confess it grates sadly on unbusiness ears. Is it the way of Him who asked, "What shall it profit a man if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul?" Can we improve upon that?

Looked at, however, even from that point of view, we believe that the success of our Missionary Society, in the great ends of its organization, has been quite equal in our country charges to what it has achieved in our cities and towns. The habits and character of the people of the rural districts are, for the most part, more simple and more favourable to the reception of the Gospel than those of the town. And although, for a variety of reasons, they may be longer than some of the town churches in arriving at the point of self-support, and longer often than they should be, it must not be hastily concluded that they "don't pay." Wait till God makes up the account!

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The withdrawal of Drs. Storrs and Budington from the New York Association of Congregational ministers is very generally regarded as a mistake. To say the least, it has the appearance of

rashness and ill-temper. The Association wished to avail itself of the proposal of the Brooklyn council, and appointed a committee of three for that purpose. The seceding members, on the other hand, thought that the Association itself should institute a new and independent investigation into the scandal, the council not having been properly constituted, in their judgment. Is not this more a wrangle about forms than anything else? Both parties desire a fair and thorough sifting of the whole matter, so as to settle it, if possible, for ever, and we confess that, waiving the form of procedure, we can see no reason why the gentlemen named should not submit the case, with the utmost confidence, to the tribunal proposed. The committee of three announces to-day (April 24th), that in compliance with a request to them from the Examining Committee of Plymouth Church, they will constitute a Commission according to the plan and under the provisions named in the result of the council. The names have not yet been made public.

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It is proverbial that "extremes meet," here is an instance: The high-church parson of Stratford has just "christened" an infant child that had already been baptised by the pastor of the Congregational church in that town. About the same time, the high-baptist minister, of the Immersionist persuasion, in the village of Tiverton, rebaptised, according to his favourite method, a young convert who had not many days before been baptised, on profession of her faith, by the Rev. Robert Mackay,