

These young men should all have a trade or occupation on which they are to depend mainly for support. The church cannot by any possibility give salaries to all or to one fourth the number of laborers she would send forth. The disciples sent out by Christ had no salaries—the apostolic missionaries had, as a general rule, no salaries;—the Culdee missionaries had no salaries; and I will assert that no true missionary goes forth for the sake of his salary, and if he can subsist creditably without salary among those to whom he is dispensing the bread of life he will not draw it. We must have men to teach the way of salvation from love to Christ and the souls of men, and if the locality affords any opening for the exercise of their trade they will be no burden to the church which sends them forth. The plan suggested is substantially that adopted by our missionaries in the South Seas, and in the heathen field generally, with the exception of the trade or occupation as a means of support. Our missionaries form a class of converts of suitable age and abilities, and train them as native teachers and exhorters. These native helpers do a work, at a very small expense, not less important than that performed by foreign ordained missionaries at a heavy outlay. Our plan is to bring all the men into the field who are willing to work and support themselves, while they reveal to perishing sinners the knowledge of the true God and his son Jesus Christ, and to induce every settled charge at home to become, in the very letter and spirit of its commission, as having heard the gospel and entrusted with its diffusion, a recruiting depot for this foreign army. If even fifty of our congregations would adopt this plan and form small classes with from four to ten candidates, *two* might be sent out from each a year or two hence, and thus place at once 100 laborers in the foreign field. When the class became a permanent institution no year would pass without at least 100 young men going out from our church as teachers and exhorters to the heathen. Two should always go together and be stationed together. Four stations at least could be regularly occupied by these two

every Sabbath-day, and thus from two hundred different points light would be diffused upon those now wandering in the dark way which leads to hell. Suppose that India or China is selected, how great an advance would be made in even ten years by planting annually so many teachers in the field. Our preaching places would be numbered by thousands, and doubtless God would reward our devoted labors with the conversion of many precious souls. I would have these young men go out unmarried, and remain for some years at least unmarried. Anti-Christ is taking hold of India and China especially by her *bands*, not her *units*, of active, enthusiastic unencumbered young men. We would do the same. I speak of the present necessity. On the general principle I differ in nothing from the common opinion. I would have our men free from anxiety and care till the churches are established. Young men are going out annually from all our congregations to seek a livelihood in the world. Why may not at least *two* young hopeful hearts be found ready to serve Christ abroad. Let the attempt be made—let volunteers be called for. The congregation that will give her best sons to Christ will be blessed by the spirit of God; her interest in missions will largely increase; her liberality in their support will grow abundantly; her members will enjoy the comforts of religion; and conversions will not be rare.

The churches in Scotland represented by our united church would send each two teachers or exhorters annually. 1000 young men would leave the shores of Britain every year to recruit the army of our heavenly king. Would that be a great number to recruit the army of our earthly sovereign if engaged in actual warfare? We know that ten times that number would be called for if the necessities were great. Let us then arise to our work. One half the earth still bows down to idols. Shall it continue? There is room in heaven for them all. Why should not their voices join with others in the anthems of eternal praise in our celestial paradise? Shall they weep for ever because we would not go and tell them of the only Saviour?