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From an Exile.

"O! what shall I send from the land that you love—
Shall I send you a rose
From the wild bush that blows
On the white covered braes sloping down to the sea?"

O! send not a rose, for the roses will die,
And the scent of the wild rose brings sorrow to me.
No, send not a rose, but bring me some heather
From the mountainous land where we've wandered together.

O! send me one thought from the land that I love—
One thought just at dawn when the hills are awaking,
And the note of the throats the silence is breaking,
And the present will seem
Like a horrible dream,
And I'll live o'er the days when I walked through the heather.

O send me a note of the laverock's song,
One note that will tell of the loch and the river,
One sweet, mellow note that will haunt me for ever,
One note from the hills that are covered with heather,
The birks and the braes that are covered with heather,
The white-covered braes sloping down to the river,
The hills we'll remember for aye and for ever.

F. L. MacCORMICK, in Christian Leader.

Foreign Mission Funds.

As the time has come when Presbyteries are submitting to their congregations estimates for the different schemes of the Church, will you allow me to state what are our present obligations as to Foreign Mission work?

In considering our Foreign Mission funds, it is always necessary to remember that there are two departments in it—the work done amongst women and children by lady Missionaries, and supported by the Women's Foreign Missionary Society, and the congregational, educational and evangelistic work done by our male Missionaries, and supported by the congregational funds. Just as the Home Mission work of the Church has its two departments—Home Mission and Augmentation—and as it is never allowed to take the funds contributed for Home Missions and use them for Augmentation, nor to use Augmentation Funds for Home Mission purposes, so is it in Foreign Mission work. The money raised by the Women's Foreign Missionary Society is, by the constitution of that Society, to be applied to work amongst women and children, and cannot be applied to the other department. Each fund is applied to the purposes for which it is raised.

Now, the estimate for Foreign Mission work, for the year, for the Western Section, as adopted by the General Assembly, is \$116,000. Since the meeting of the General Assembly, and in view of appointments and changes that have since taken place, the Women's Foreign Missionary Society will require to raise over \$42,000 to meet their obligations, and about \$75,000 will be required to meet the obligations connected with the other department. That makes a total of \$117,000, or \$2,000 more than the General Assembly's estimate. There is little doubt that the ladies will do their part, but will the congregations furnish the \$75,000, that falls to them? That will depend upon two things: First:—The interest that exists among the members of the Church as to giving the Gospel of Salvation to dying men. That we have the ability to give that and very much more nobody can question. In the Presbyterian Church in Canada there are reported over 173,000 communicants and nobody will say, business depression notwith-

standing, that so great a Church is oppressed by the amounts so far contributed. Have we got so far away from the spirit of the Bible as to refuse to believe that business depressions, etc., come because we are unfaithful to our trust. "He that earneth wages, earneth wages to put into a bag with holes." "Ye looked for much and lo it came to little; and when ye brought it home I did blow upon it. Why? saith the Lord of Hosts. Because of mine house which is waste, and ye run every man unto his own house. Therefore the heaven over you is stayed from dew, and the earth is stayed from her fruit." That, it is well known, is regarded by many as scarcely rational doctrine now a-days, yet the same God rules and by the same laws as in the days of the Prophets of old. The Church can give very much more and would be very much more prosperous and blessed in every way if she did.

The second consideration is, that when the distribution of congregational funds takes place, that the Foreign Mission Fund gets fair play. Let it be remembered that the money raised by the women cannot be applied to this section of the work for which \$75,000 are required. However much the Women's Foreign Mission Society raise, the congregations require to raise \$75,000, or we shall not be able to meet our obligations for this year. Now, will any one say that the Foreign Mission Committee is going too fast? Can any one say that who will look at the situation? A thousand millions of sinning and suffering men and women and children who need to be saved from not simply a future, but a present death.

"Shall not," asks Hudson Taylor, after twenty years in China, "the low wail of helpless, hopeless misery arising from one half of the heathen world, pierce our sluggish ear and rouse us spirit, soul and body to one mighty, continued, unconquerable effort for China's salvation?" This is an earnest and affecting appeal, but we have a stronger appeal from a higher authority than Mr. Taylor. He who himself wept over Jerusalem, and said, "All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. Go ye, therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Ghost," also said, "O Son of man, I have set thee a watchman, therefore, thou shalt hear the word at my mouth and warn them from me. When I say unto the wicked, O wicked man thou shalt die. if thou dost not speak to warn the wicked from his way, that wicked man shall die in his iniquity, but his blood will I require at thine hand." With such words, from Him to whom we expect to render an account, in view, none dare say in our own interests, nor in the interests of suffering, weeping and perishing humanity, that we are going too fast. It will be a long time yet before such a complaint will have any foundation. There is more reason in the complaint of others, that the committee does not go fast enough—that we should send out many more men and women in faith, and that He who has all power will provide their daily bread, according to His promise. Alas! when we are arguing and complaining and hesitating, not knowing what to do, the world is lying in the arms of the Wicked One—dying without hope! Shall we not awake?

R. P. MacKay.