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J. Vahl, President
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in the *Missionary*

municants" are an inner circle, within the circle of the adult baptized members; while in many of the non-episcopal communions all baptized adults are entitled to attend the Lord's Supper, unless excommunicated. If the "results" of a Mission, therefore, are deduced from the number of "communicants," a Church of England Mission suffers in a comparison with others. On the other hand, if the "results" are deduced from the whole number of the baptized, a Baptist Mission suffers in a comparison with others, as it counts no children. A comparison of income, also, is very misleading. Thus, contributions raised in the Missions, whether from European friends or from Native Christians, and expended on the spot, are not included in C.M.S. figures, but are included in the figures of several of the large non-episcopal societies. Canon Scott Robertson's annual return of British contributions, indeed, carefully allows for this difference; but the difficulty is met when Continental and American Societies are added. It is evident, therefore, that all general statistics of Protestant Missions are rough and imperfect. Still, the results obtainable from them may be accepted, provided that they are always regarded as barely approximate.

THE CHURCH MISSIONARY SOCIETY.

The Church Missionary Society was one of the fruits of the Evangelical Revival of the latter half of the 18th century. It originated in proposals from three Christian men in India, Mr. Charles Grant and Mr. George Udney, civil officers of the East India Company, and the Rev. David Brown, chaplain of the "Old Church" at Calcutta, for a Mission in India. These were sent home in 1787 to a young M.P., William Wilberforce, and a young clergyman at Cambridge, Charles Simeon. The proposals were for Government action, and in the issue nothing came of them; but they set Simeon and others thinking of the subject. In 1792 the Baptist Missionary Society was formed under Carey's inspiration; and in 1795 the London Missionary Society, which was intended to combine Evangelical Christians of various denominations. The leading Evangelical clergy, however, Simeon, Scott, John Venn, Basil Woodd, and others,—though some of them joined the L.M.S., felt that a Church of England Society was desirable; and they discussed possible plans at meetings of the Eclectic Society, an association for monthly discussions to which they belonged. Some of them were also members of the S.P.C.K. and S.P.G., but at that time no men of their school would have had a chance of influencing the counsels of those Societies, which also were then not so vigorously worked as they had been, or as they were subsequently. Ultimately on March 18th, 1799, it was resolved to form a new society, and on April 12th, at a public meeting attended by twenty-five persons, the "Society for Missions to Africa and the East" was formally constituted. The name "Church Missionary Society" came gradually into colloquial use, but was not officially adopted till 1812.

The promoters of the new Society never formulated their doctrinal views or distinctive principles; and the Society's Laws have never required any qualification for membership except membership in the Church of England (or, since 1870, the Church of Ireland)—which has latterly been interpreted by custom as including daughter Churches of the Church of England. But association with such men as Simeon and Scott and Venn a century ago implied decided Evangelical views, and with these views the Society has always been identified. As applied to Missions, they may be thus expressed:—(a) Mankind are a fallen and lost race (1 John v. 19). (b) God commandeth all men everywhere to repent (Acts xvii. 30). (c) There is salvation through Christ for every one that believeth (John iii. 16). (d) Faith is given, and Christ revealed to the soul, by the Holy Ghost alone (Eph. ii. 8; 1 Cor. xii. 3). (e) This Gospel must be proclaimed by those who have received it themselves: "Spiritual men for spiritual work."

can.	Total.
41	4028
55	1477
80	3682
70	2578
56	11,765
56	4295
11	995,793
37	63,081
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