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THE SCALE OF OUR MISSIONARY CONTRIBUTIONS.

It appears that the income of the Methodist Missionary Society in Canada has increased within a few years from \$70,000 to \$160,000, and that they are looking forward to its being \$200,000 before long. At the same time the body has expended a very large amount of money on new church buildings, and they are raising an endowment fund for college purposes.

A very intelligent and competent friend, who received the above information, from an absolutely reliable source, procured at once a copy of their annual report, and proceeded to compare it with our own. And what is the result? He says, "From my knowledge of many of the persons respectively contributing to both, I soon became convinced that *the scale of contributions is fixed at a far higher level in their case than in ours.*" And, as he very justly remarks, *everything in such matters depends on the scale.* It is very obvious that a list of subscriptions in which the general scale is \$5, must exhibit a very different result from one in which the scale is \$1. I have personally been much impressed with the deplorable lowness of the scale exhibited in our lists. But my friend goes on, "after a thorough study of their report place by place, I went through our own in the same manner, noting as I went, what the contributions from our churches would be, *if the scale were the same with us as with them.* The result was that while in some places there would not be much difference, in others the amount would be double, in some quadruple, while there are cases in which even this proportion would be far exceeded." The examination was limited to Ontario and Quebec, wherein my friend has special means of knowing of what he writes, but he has no personal knowledge of individuals, or churches beyond their bounds.

He says, "the net result of the examination was that our missionary income, on the same scale as that of our friends, would be raised from \$3,350, to nearly \$9,000. To make a fair comparison, however, we ought to add the amount subscribed by our churches to the Indian mission. This, last year, was \$1,438 (about \$300 of the mission funds being raised beyond our own border)." There might be added something for the Labrador Mission, but not more from our churches than the above \$300. Add this \$1,438 and we have \$4,788 to compare with \$9000!

"Struck by those results I procured a copy of the report of the Primitive Methodist Missionary Society, and examining it find that they raise for Home Missions exclusively—in Ontario and Quebec—From 62 places, \$8,416. We raise from 61 places, \$3,350, or, say if you will, \$4,788!

"My mode of calculation puts on one side entirely any of those questionable methods of raising money which we object to, such as Sunday scholars running round with collecting cards, &c. It is based entirely on comparisons of contributions and collections such as we ourselves rely upon."