

The Missionary Outlook.

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Field Notes.

DURING the past, the MISSIONARY OUTLOOK has had many friends who have faithfully endeavored to further its interests. The time has come when we would ask all who are anxious to spread missionary information to make an earnest effort to increase the circulation for the coming year. No Methodist household can afford to be without it, if they desire to be familiar with the missionary work of the Church.

TERMS: Forty cents per year, in advance; in clubs of eight or more, (addressed separately, if desired,) twenty-five cents.

TIME: Subscriptions should begin with January or July.

SUGGESTIONS: Please give your *exact* address in every letter. When you request a change, give both the *new* and *old* address. Do not omit the Mrs. or Miss.

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REV. T. W. JACKSON, of Beamsville, after spending a Sunday at Merritton, sends us the following words of good cheer:—"Last Sabbath the missionary services were held in Merritton and promised a good advance on last year. Many of that congregation have adopted the tithe system and find it a great success. One envelope came on the plate, marked, 'The price of a five cent cigar till the 1st of May.' If all the Methodists that use the weed would go and do likewise, what a boom our missionary work would get."

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THE Arthur Sunday-school sends us \$10, with the following explanation:—

"I have been instructed by the managers of the Sunday-school to send you, for the McDougal Orphanage, the sum of ten dollars, this being the sum total of the birthday offerings for the year. The plan adopted is as follows:—All those in the school wishing to join in the enterprise, on the Sunday following their birthday, put in a bank, provided for the purpose, one cent for each year of life, and at the end of the year the bank is opened and the money is by vote applied to one of the missionary enterprises of the Church. Most of the scholars have entered into it heartily, and we think it is a very good plan to enlist their sympathies in behalf of our missionary work. I trust the money will reach you safely, and that during this Conference year there may be great prosperity in connection with all the missionary work of the Church."

THE United Presbyterian Church of the United States has prepared a pledge, which has been signed by some of its members, which other denominations would do well to follow. It reads thus:—

"We, the undersigned, hereby agree to give to God, as thank-offerings for His manifold mercies, especially through the Boards of the United Presbyterian Church, or its enterprises, not less than ONE-FIFTH OF OUR RESPECTIVE IN-COMES, as the Lord may prosper us, for the year ending April 1, 1891; each donor to decide for himself the division he will make of his offerings."

This is an improvement on the "one-tenth" principle.

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THE *Missionary Echo* is a monthly publication, "is unconnected with any society, board or special field, and endeavors to present to its readers in a short and popular form, missionary intelligence from every part of the world." To one desiring to get a "bird's-eye view" of missionary work, the *Echo* will be serviceable. Published by M. Swartout, Toronto. Price, fifty cents a year, or in clubs of eight, twenty-five cents.

Editorial and Contributed.

TWO hundred years ago, when it was supposed that Christianity was exterminated in Japan, the following edict was posted up in all conspicuous places:—"So long as the sun shall shine upon the earth, let no Christian be so bold as to come to Japan; and let all know that the king of Spain himself, or the Christian's God, or the great God of all, if he violates this commandment, shall pay for it with his head." Calmly the centuries march on; Providence opens the doorway of Japan; ambassadors, merchants, missionaries enter in; the Gospel is preached; the "Christian's God" is proclaimed the Saviour of men. Gradually the famous edict disappears from all public places, and in less than thirty years from the opening of the ports, religious toleration is proclaimed in Japan, and guaranteed by the Constitution.

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AN influential native paper in Japan—the *Hochi Shimbun*—has some remarks on the progress of Christianity in Japan that are well worth pondering. It says the advance of Christianity is slow but sure. It advances surely and steadily, planting its feet firmly