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The total sum raised for Foreign Missions during past year was 7,737.25, with a balance from last year, 5,054.39. This was disbursed to our different missions as follows :—

The North-West Indians.....	\$15,554 87
Formosa.....	13,967 94
Honan.....	13,534 79
India.....	22,681 69

There are other smaller disbursements which need not here be referred to.

The Women's Foreign Mission Society paid over to the Foreign Mission Committee \$25,509.35. This was the largest special contribution, with a large number of smaller ones which indicate a high state of liberality in the Church.

All our reports indicate that our Church at home and abroad is every prosperous, and that interest and zeal in missions are increasing with rapid strides.

After having indicated as above the general progress of the mission enterprise of our Church, it will not be considered out of order to devote a few concluding sentences to the rationale or philosophy of missions in general. Here questions of living interest and importance present themselves. We can only briefly touch on a few.

The divine commission must ever form the why and the wherefore of missions. This is their true basis and *raison d'etre*. If we could say nothing else in their favour the divine command would still hold good, and the Church has no choice but to be simply true to duty. Our marching orders are there, and the Church has neither liberty nor right to surrender any portion of her work. There is no alternative. The Gospel *must* be preached to every creature, otherwise we are recreant and disloyal to the great Captain of our salvation.

The first missionary meeting of which we have any record took place in the councils of eternity where in solemn conclave met the Triune God and designated the second person of the glorious Trinity to the work of making atonement for the human race—so Christ was the first missionary—He was sent by the Father. The Father "sent the Son to be the Saviour of the world." So the atmosphere of missions was first breathed by our blessed Lord himself. He is thus our "highest exemplar." The more we catch this spirit and breathe the fragrance of His holy life the more intense will be our longing to propagate the truth, "that He came to seek and to save the lost." Christ's work was perpetuated, and His spirit expanded at Pentecost. What a grand missionary meeting the disciples had when no less than three thousand souls were added to the Church through the preaching of the Word. The future missionary character and career of the Christian Church were thus prefigured and forestalled in a very plain and unmistakable way when the Gospel was to be preached in all languages and to all nations. The events of Pentecost were full of symbolism. If missions were thus "born of the spirit" and evolved in the same way it follows they can only be continued and enlarged from the same life-giving spring.