

be given to Mammon, even by disciples, where pence are given to God. Whiskey is the standpipe in our comparative expenditures, towering far above all others; would that, like a standpipe, it might determine the level to which our gifts to God should rise. Think of it—that two hundred and fifty times as much should be spent for liquor and tobacco as for missions; that for every dollar given to evangelize the world, one hundred and seventy-five should go to bread, meat, sugar, and molasses; or taking these articles of food and indulgence together, six hundred and seventy-five dollars for every dollar put into the foreign mission treasury!

What can we ministers or church members do toward securing immediate and enthusiastic co-operation with this great cause?

First and most imperative is the need of

INCREASED INFORMATION.

True zeal is awakened by, inspired by, and therefore, according to, knowledge. Fire may be fanned with a bellows but it must be fed with fuel, and the fuel of the flame of missionary enthusiasm is a knowledge of facts. No true child of God can remain indifferent when he knows the need and extremity of the thousand millions who have no Christ; when he learns what modern missions have done and are doing; when he sees the unmistakable moving of God in the mission field, and the signal triumphs of grace in heathen communities. Let our pastors give to apathetic people the story of the Sandwich Islands, Madagascar, Fiji; tell them of Duncan's work in Columbia, Geddie in the New Hebrides, Johnson in Sierra Leone, Wheeler on the Euphrates, Powell at Nanumaga, Clough at Ongole, Wolfe in Foochow, McKay at Formosa, Bushnell at the Gaboon, Hogg in Egypt, McCall in Paris, and the host of others who have been the pioneers and apostles of missions; and no real child of God can remain cold and irresponsible.

Our monthly concerts may be a thousand-fold more useful. We may make them monthly bulletin boards to mark the progress of Christ's campaign for a world's conquest, to show where His hosts are stationed, what new strongholds are taken, what new advances are projected, where reinforcements are needed, and where our present advantage is imperilled by the concentrated attack of the enemy. Such a monthly concert—like Nehemiah at Jer-

usalem—will turn disciples into warriors and workers, and when the trumpet sounds at any point of peril, the whole church will rally to its defence.

There is a *melancholy uniformity* in our annual appropriations to the missionary work. With all the appeals from pulpit and press; all the help from Women's Boards and Sunday Schools; all the inspiration from Divine Providence and grace; the tides of our annual contributions do not rise to a much higher flood mark; the greatest work ever attempted by the Church—with the grandest opportunity ever afforded the Church in any age; with every possible or conceivable incentive and inspiration to zeal and enterprise—cannot pass this dead line, this fatal limit of about ten millions. The work remains stationary, while everything else moves; God moves before us, the heathen nations move away from their old moorings; Satan moves into the newly-opened fields and plants the tares in advance of the wheat; time moves on toward eternity and the world moves forward toward the final crisis; and the church, with her growing membership, growing intelligence, growing wealth, *stands still*; and, since all else moves, falls behind!

At the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in Minneapolis, in May last, after the report of the Standing Committee on Foreign Missions was presented, the following additional resolution was presented by the writer of this article, and adopted unanimously by a rising vote, after which the Assembly, still standing, was led in prayer by the Moderator:

Resolved, That, in the presence of the universal opening of doors, the inspiring leadership of God's Providence, and the glorious sealing of the missionary work by the grace of God, in the rapid removal of gigantic obstacles and the gradual transformation of heathen souls and even communities by the Gospel, this Assembly explicitly declares its solemn conviction that it will not do to retrench or even to stand still. In the face of foes ever active and aggressive, not to go forward is practically to go backward. We therefore declare that at least \$750,000 should be raised this year, exclusive of the payment of the debt now resting on the Board; and this in humble dependence on the Spirit of God, who is the Spirit of Missions, we, the ministers and elders, representing the Churches, pray: fully undertake to accomplish.