

editor with Dr. Pierson, in the current number of *THE MISSIONARY REVIEW OF THE WORLD*. As an organ of the missionary cause, this periodical leaves all others immeasurably in the rear."

2. We quite agree with Dr. Cuyler, that we "need to have more reading," of a missionary character. It is a thousand pities that our "missionary journals" are not read more than they are. There are hundreds of them, and some of them are excellent in their way, as *The Missionary Herald*, *The Gospel in All Lands*, *The Church at Home and Abroad*, *Regions Beyond*, *China's Millions*, etc. But the complaint is and always has been, they are not read; with half a dozen exceptions, their circulation is very limited. They attract no attention outside of their respective, limited corporate or missionary circles. They do not reach and guide public sentiment, or create, enlarge and emphasize the missionary spirit and enthuse the church with it. Our society organs and board journals have had the field all to themselves for a long while, and no doubt they have done their best to rouse the church to do her duty, to interest the world in missions, to meet the stupendous demands and exigencies of this missionary age. But, confessedly, they have failed of this, at least to a large extent. *The people will not read them*—we mean the mass even of professing Christians—and hence their influence is scarcely felt beyond their own immediate narrow circles. They are indispensable, it may be, and certainly useful in their particular spheres. But they fail to meet the increasing and imperative demands of the times. The missionary work has outgrown them in a great measure. God's Spirit and providence have been at work in these latter days in a wonderful, a majestic way. A new era has dawned. All barriers are thrown down. The nations are pleading, and waiting for the gospel. A new and mighty impulse is felt. A thousand questions, innumerable problems, confront us. New conditions, new possibilities, new auxiliaries, have sprung into being. The agencies and appliances that may have sufficed in former days are not adapted to or sufficient for the new order of things. From the nature of the case this class of journals are local in scope and work; they are restricted by corporate or denominational lines; they are limited in space, lay no claim to literary merit, and take no means to enlist the consecrated intellectual talent of the world in the great and rapidly enlarging missionary enterprise of the age. Especially in this day, when secular and literary magazines are multiplied and made as attractive and irresistible as the best literary talent and artistic beauty and business enterprise can make them, it were unreasonable to expect that our comparatively dull, dry, perfunctory society and board organs and missionary journals, edited by secretaries whose hands are full of other pressing work and the staple of which consists largely of the details of missionary life and work among the heathen, can even hold their own, much less have any great attraction for young, ardent, active, minds or even for the mass of reading and intelligent Christian men and women. They are not made mentally or spiritually attractive, and hence are not read; and Dr. Cuyler will have cause to lament this fact as long as he lives! We may all regret the fact never so much, but it will remain a fact nevertheless.

And simply because the mass of the people of God will not read this class of journals, shall no effort be made to produce and sustain a missionary monthly that *will be read*—a missionary magazine that, for literary ability, for masterly discussion of the grand themes and the living questions of the age from the missionary standpoint, shall be the peer of *Harper* and *Scribner*, and shall find its way, side by side with them, into the study of the minister, into the family circle, and on the tables of our "reading rooms," in