

ings in this country, it may not be unimportant to ask whether such meetings are calculated to be of advantage to the Society which you advocate, and in the prosperity of which all our churches ought to feel deeply interested? I am not afraid of being called an enthusiast, if I give it as my decided opinion, that protracted meetings, wherever they are introduced, have a tendency in more respects than one to benefit the institution. First, they are likely to improve your funds! This I am sure will be considered an advantage. Revival meetings bear upon the world and upon the church; upon the world in bringing sinners to the knowledge of the truth, and upon the church in promoting correct views and principles and feelings. A revived church consists of members who feel acutely for their unconverted friends and neighbors, and who, as far as they can, will give to the Lord of their substance, that the ignorant may be blessed with the word of life. I am fully aware that there are in many churches those who devise liberal things, and who never attended revival meetings; but this is not the case with all our members, nor with all our churches. One great object sought in these meetings is the entire dedication of the Christian to the cause of the Redeemer; and, in proportion to the accomplishment of this object, will be the destruction of that spirit of selfishness, so justly condemned by the talented author of 'Mammon,' as the antagonist of the gospel. If this point were gained, your coffers would be speedily replenished, there would be no longer a necessity for urgent appeals; plain and simple statements would be sufficient; and the fact being known that there are portions of this country unenlightened, men and money would immediately be found, and the inhabitants of those parts blessed with the Gospel of Christ. Secondly, Revival meetings will promote a spirit of active co-operation with Home Missionary Societies. If the churches enter fully into the spirit of a revival, they will not be satisfied without an accurate acquaintance with the moral and religious state of their respective towns and neighborhoods; as far as they have the ability they will cultivate the whole of the district, and either by means of assistant preachers raised up amongst themselves, or by missionaries wholly devoted to the work, they will endeavour to send the word of life into the destitute parts of the towns, and into those villages by which they are surrounded. In this way I think they may prove valuable auxiliaries to your institution, and on this ground I would recommend their adoption in those places where they have not been held. Thirdly, Revival meetings may be made of advantage to the stations connected with the society. None but those who have attended a series of

meetings, which have continued a week or ten days, and during which time the Holy Spirit has been poured out in the plenitude of his influence, can form a just idea of them. To see a people hanging on the lips of the speakers—to hear of parents and children becoming the subjects of impressions, and every day adding to the number—to witness the conversion of some of the most unlikely characters—to behold the glowing zeal of the members of the churches in the fervor of their prayers, and in their anxiety to endeavor to discover whether in every service they are affected under the word. All this is truly delightful; and more than this has been seen in protracted meetings again and again. It may not be practicable to hold them at all stations, but where it is practicable the attempt should be made. Let a few zealous and devoted servants of God be invited to assist the missionary; let the church in the place hold special prayer-meetings during the previous week, and when the ministers assemble, finding themselves amongst a praying people, who have been wrestling with God for that one object, and whose prayer has been the prayer of faith, cheered and animated, they will engage in their work, and preach with new vigor; the people will hear as they never heard on former occasions—an impression will be made on the mass itself, and out of it, many will be brought to seek the Lord, and to declare what he has done for their souls. This is not the time for Christians to sleep—all should be at their posts—the enemy has too long lulled us into carnal security; and if the adoption of the meetings which I have recommended would second your efforts, and be the means of making a successful attack on the powers of darkness, why should they not be held at all your stations? Go forward in the name of the Lord your God, and in the strength of his might; put your trust in Him, and you may confidently expect his blessing."—*Baptist Home Missionary Magazine*.

* * * Some remarks suggested by the Extracts from the *Gospel Witness*, we are obliged to defer. Meantime, we request the attention of our Correspondents to the subject.

MONTREAL:

Printed by CAMPBELL & BECKET, Min's Buildings, Place d'Armes, and Published for the Committee of the Canadian Baptist Missionary Society, by WM. GREIG, 197, St. Paul Street. Price Sixpence each Number, or One Dollar per annum, in advance.