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The American Board of Missions.

THE Seventy-fifth Annual Meeting of the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions was held in Boston, commencing on the 13th of October. The meetings of this Board have always been largely attended, but special importance attached to this anniversary, as it commemorated the completion of three-quarters of a century in the life of the first purely foreign missionary society in America—a society that has earned for itself a first rank in the missionary societies of the world, and whose success in carrying the Gospel to the ends of the earth has been wonderful. The American Board was organized at Bradford, Massachusetts, June 29th, 1810, upon an undenominational basis, and for a number of years it received the hearty co-operation of nearly all the Protestant Churches. The first annual meeting was held on the 5th of September, 1810, when five Commissioners were present with an audience of one person. The growth of the missionary spirit throughout the country is seen from the fact that some of the sessions this year filled four churches to overflowing. More than 3,000 strangers came to attend these meetings, in addition to the throngs from the city itself. The venerable Mark Hopkins, who was elected president for the

twenty-eighth time, gave it as his opinion that "there had not been such a gathering as this since the world began." Rev. Dr. Burns of Halifax, N.S., who was an eye-witness of what transpired, has given a graphic and admirable account of the proceedings in the *Presbyterian Witness*, which only want of space prevents us transferring bodily to our columns. He speaks of it with the greatest enthusiasm:

"The *Boston Journal*," he says, "had over *twenty long columns* crammed with the names of the strangers attending, with the places of residence attached. Boston hospitality was taxed to the utmost, but the 'Hub of the Universe' proved equal to the occasion. I never found the streets of London at their fullest more crowded than were Tremont and Washington, and the side streets leading off them, during these meetings.

"I had a seat on the platform (which holds over a hundred) on Thursday, and had a capital opportunity for seeing and hearing everything. Around us are four governors of states, seven presidents of universities, six financial magnates, leaders on 'change, professors of colleges, heads of ladies' educational institutions, editors of papers, pastors of churches—moulders of the intellectual and spiritual life of America. Then, remember that simultaneously that Thursday, the women had a meeting of their own—one church full of them, overflowing into the chapel; then another overflow of 800 into Park-street Lecture-room; and even that insufficient. Two thousand women pondering and praying at the same time over the conversion of the world!"