

for such blessing on such service we have contributed this year but twenty-five cents a member; that in a year of the largest receipts ever known, the highest average per member, in any State, for the general work of the Union, is only sixty-five cents, while in the lowest it is but eight cents. Nay, there is one grand exception. California breaks the record with the splendid average of almost \$2.16 per member; but this is due to a noble contribution from one individual. Twenty-five cents apiece and one ordained missionary abroad to 6,356 members at home, or, counting wives and single women, about one missionary to every 2,800 Baptists does not overstate the present practical guage of our obedience to the parting injunction of Jesus. The fact is that for several years we have made no adequate progress. We seem to be nearly at a dead-point. The most of our missions are sorely taxed to hold their own. Speedy reinforcement, requiring large increase of men and money, alone can enable them to maintain efficiency with vigor. . . . Practically, we now struggle simply to hold what our fathers acquired, save the Congo Mission, and this, too, at an hour when we, in every way, in numbers, intelligence, wealth, prosperity, are blessed as never heretofore; at an hour when "to earth's remotest bound" every nation thrown wide open to approach is threatened with the vices and atheism of the West, to add death unto death, instead of receiving the Bread of Life, and while we, with all the equipment of divine grace and modern civilization, fully know the awful need of heathenism and our ability, under God, to minister to it."

He argues that it is not "the fault of the Missionary Union, but rather the inevitable outcome of our denominational growth constricted by an in-

passive, inadequate, outgrown system of administering foreign interests."

An *over-conservative policy* is not restricted to any one society or church. We deeply regret the present tendency to start *independent* missions, but is it not in part the outcome and protest against a too narrow or rigid iron-cast policy not in harmony with the spirit and changed conditions of the times? Secretary Field's views are commanding attention in his own church, and they may do good in other mission circles. J. M. S.

As to the prize offers of premiums for articles on *Prayer in connection with missions*, the editors would further say that they have not thought it necessary to say that they will not consider themselves obligated to award any premiums if there *shall not be a sufficient number of competing and satisfactory articles* to make such award justifiable and practicable. In such case all that we engage to do is to return all such essays as cannot be made of use. And, secondly, the articles should *cover ground not already covered* by articles which have appeared in these columns. One letter which we have received from a proposing competitor asks one of the editors to furnish certain details of fact, which have already been published in the REVIEW. Of course we shall insist that the instances given shall be culled by the writers from material found outside our own pages.

A. T. P.

J. M. S.

VII.—ORGANIZED MISSIONARY WORK AND STATISTICS.

Reformed Presbyterian (Covenant) Church in the United States.

Secretary: REV. R. M. SOMMERVILLE, D.D., 126 West 45th Street, New York.

REPORT FOR YEAR ENDING APRIL 30, 1890.

Receipts.

From congregations.	\$7,858 27
" Sabbath-schools and mission- ary societies.	2,804 07
" Individuals and bequests . . .	4,070 71

From Contributions to missions.	3,400 00
" Synod's trustees.	1,320 84
Total.	\$18,462 99

Expenditures.

Balance from last account.	\$01,014 88
For the missions.	16,012 27
Total.	\$17,037 13
Balance to new account.	1,405 76
Total.	\$18,462 99