

It is not less an obvious condition, than it is a precious privilege of discipleship, that we each be found at work in the Master's vineyard, contributing as we best can, to the full accomplishment of the church's mission, the proclamation of the Gospel to every creature, that all may be brought to the possession of like precious faith with ourselves.

But if it be obligatory on us, and who now questions it, to send the Gospel to people of other lands and other tongues to whom we are bound by no ties, other than our common humanity, and the burden of our common woe, how much more imperative must our duty be toward those amongst whom we dwell, our kinsmen according to the flesh, with whom we are not only connected by the ties of a common country and a common language, but among whom we mingle in the daily duties of life, whose sins we witness, and whose sorrows we hear. Even while contemplating with feelings of lively gratitude, sanguine expectation, and enthusiastic delight, the establishment, progress, difficulties, and achievements of distant and foreign missions, we are apt to overlook the home truth, that souls as precious as those of Hindoo, Mahomedan, or Jew, are perishing all around us every day, and that, too, for lack of knowledge. We say these things most assuredly not for the purpose of lessening the zeal, or restraining the liberality of the churches towards foreign missions, but merely with the view of awakening some proper sense of the responsibility under which we lie, to originate and sustain efficient home missions somewhat commensurate with our home wants; and for this we have alike the authority, command, and the example of our Lord, and his immediate followers. Our Lord went unto his own; the Apostles began at Jerusalem; while our Christian zeal, therefore, ought to be diffusive to spread the Gospel widely abroad, let it be also pervading, to disseminate it thoroughly at home.

We cannot close this report without reminding you, that it is to the Ladies of this Association that the community are wholly indebted, for the means of sustaining the present agencies employed; nor can we too highly commend their disinterested and self-denying labours, and unwearied