

The Presbyterian Review.

Vcl. XI.—No. 36.

TORONTO, MARCH 14, 1895.

\$1.50 per Annum

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Issued EVERY THURSDAY, from the office of the Publishers, Rooms N. 14, 15, 16, 25 Aberdeen Block, South-East corner Adelaide and Victoria Streets.

TERMS, \$1.50 per annum.

All communications for either Business or Editorial Departments should be addressed PRESBYTERIAN REVIEW, Drawer 2164, Toronto, Ont.

ADVERTISING RATES.—Under 3 months, 15 cents per line per insertion; 3 months, \$1.00 per line; 6 months, \$1.75 per line; 1 year, \$3.00. No advertisement charged at less than five lines. None others than unobjectionable advertisements taken.

Toronto, March 14, 1895.

The International Alliance and Other Missions.

WE publish this week a communication from one of our respected ministers who signs himself Presbyterian, drawing attention to a Handbill circulated amongst our people, giving reasons why the International Alliance should receive their contributions. Amongst other reasons it is stated that "Whilst in ordinary missionary work it takes \$2,000 to support each missionary in the field, including wives of missionaries and female missionaries, under the Alliance \$500 will support each missionary, besides meeting the cost of outfit and transportation of new missionaries each year, the erection and rental of buildings and all other expenses in the field."

We thought it well before giving this communication to the public and seeming to encourage feelings of hostility between different organizations, all of whom are seeking the same end, to submit it to the Secretary of Foreign Missions that we might be assured as to facts. The Secretary has favored us with a statement, which we give, in answer to the Handbill, and at the same time, with him express our sincere regret that it should be found necessary to write anything that may be regarded as unfriendly towards any other enterprise intended to publish the Gospel to dying men.

To the Presbyterian Review.

I have read the communication signed 'Presbyter,' upon which you ask my opinion. I have also in my possession a copy of the Handbill to which Presbyter refers, and which he has correctly, although not fully set forth in this article. There are twelve reasons given why the Alliance should be supported, but none of them especially concerns other societies, save the one relating to salaries and other expenses of mission work. I thought it well to write to Dr. Simpson, asking him whether he was responsible for so remarkable a document. I did so on the 25th Jan., but have received no reply, so that I assume that no reply will be given. Of course the Handbill professes to emanate from the Board room of the International Alliance N. Y., setting forth

fully the names of officers, managers, fields, and missionaries, and is no doubt what it professes to be. I have before me a list of all the principal missionary societies on this continent with the salaries paid by each to missionaries—single and married—the allowances made for outfit, and furlough and also children's allowances. Some societies have a sliding scale of salaries, according to length of service. They do not see why missionaries should be on a dead level as to salary, any more than ministers at home. But it seems that in America and Great Britain after an experience of nearly a century, there is a general consensus, that the salary of a married missionary should be somewhere about \$1,100 or \$1,200, a year. Some are considerably higher and some considerably lower, but that is about the average—single men average about \$750 and single women between \$500 and \$600,—the differences in salaries often arising from differences in other allowances, and there are of course differences arising from the cost of living in different countries. The same general remarks may be made as to outfit and other allowances and as to transportation. Railway and steamship companies, I imagine, charge the same rates, whether it be a Methodist or Presbyterian, or missionary of the Alliance that is travelling. There is also difference of policy as to the amount of money that should be expended upon rent or upon new buildings in the mission. Some are considered extravagant and others penurious in that respect. But after all things are considered one is still at a loss to discover how Dr. Simpson calculates \$2,000 for each missionary, including female missionaries and wives of missionaries. The fact is that when to salary is added outfit allowance,—which must be distributed over the life service for it is given but once—transportation, rent, and children's allowance, it is in the neighborhood of \$1,000 each. It is generally less, often much less than \$1,000, and can in no way justify such a statement as this, which is not only untrue as to fact but, as every one will feel, indelicate and ungenerous in spirit. One wonders how any one can think he is going to help on the world's conversion, and to hasten the Lord's Advent by such means. As to Presbyter's reference to the supposed higher type of spirituality which is said to pervade the Alliance College, I do not care to speak. We all need more of it. But if it were proper to institute comparisons I would simply say that I would not be afraid to place our own and the missionaries of other societies along side of them, either as to character or as to results of their labors. Of course the short and easy course of preparation, to which Presbyter alludes, must be considered in estimating the salary question, as well as in regard to general efficiency. I doubt not men with very little preparation are used in this work, the Lord uses all kinds of instruments, but does it not still remain true in