

Fund was overflowing, and rather to direct their attention to other funds than to urge the duty of giving to it. We believe, too, that the Church has improved in the soundness of the principles on which she is giving, as much, if not more, than in the amount of her liberality. When Mr. Geddie went out, many who gave, candidly confessed that they did so scarcely from a sense of duty and not from any faith in his success, but from sympathy for himself and his family, and a sort of disposition to humor him in what they regarded as a *crochet irrevocably fixed in his head*. Now, we believe, the Church at large has sounder views on the subject. People have now faith in the work as of God; they look upon missions as the duty of the Church, and they give from principle.

When Mr. Geddie went out, it was argued that many of our ministers at home were very ill-supported, and that instead of giving money to send missionaries to distant lands, we ought to give it to our ministers at home. The wise and learned of the Church said so. But Mr. Geddie had faith to believe and say that if the Church showed liberality for the heathen abroad, her liberality to her ministers would not diminish but increase. How fully this has been realized can only be known by those who can compare the state of things as to congregational arrangements with our ministers now, with what it was then. Certain we are that over the whole Church the improvement in this respect is at least as remarkable as the increase in the number of our ministers.

When Mr. Geddie went out, it was argued that many parts of our own land were destitute, and that we needed to do more for the Home Mission, while some went so far as to say that it was positively wrong to send out missionaries to the South Seas while such places were unprovided for. Then, however, only a trifle was raised for Home Missions, which was doled out to probationers, when we had any. There was no scheme for supplementing the salaries of weak congregations at all. Now, although we do not say that our Home Mission fund is at all in the state it ought

to be, we have provision for aiding ministers settled in weak congregations, if not adequately, yet to a degree to add greatly to their comfort and usefulness; while our mission stations receive supply of preaching and pecuniary aid in a manner which then would have been considered wonderful.

Mr. Geddie, from a life-time study of missions, maintained that if the Church were to engage in a Foreign Mission it would tend to the revival of true, vital godliness through all her borders. How far this has been realized we cannot tell; "The kingdom of God cometh not with observation." But from a close observation of the Church since his departure, we believe that everywhere there has been a silent, but certain improvement going on, which may be seen manifested by the fruits of righteousness, as brought forth in the lives of individuals and in the condition of churches.

When Mr. Geddie went out, prominent men protested against his being sent out, as being "fit neither in body nor mind for the work." Of his present standing we need not speak. Seldom did a man go forth to an undertaking requiring more faith. He went out not knowing whither he went; he went out leaving only a feeble Church, and one at that time but of little faith to sustain him; he went out to commence missionary work among one of the most savage and degraded races of the earth, where no missionaries had yet effected a lodgment; he went out almost single-handed, and for some time was obliged to labor single-handed. The annals of modern missions probably do not exhibit an instance of so small a band being sent to commence such a mission. When he looks back upon what has been accomplished during the time he has been laboring there, well may he see reason for thankfulness to God and for admiration of His power. Well may he and the Church say, "What hath God wrought!" During that time people to the number of 3,500, sunk in the lowest heathenism, have become Christian—have schools and churches—have the New Testament and other parts