

the flesh"—their greater responsibility from living in a land partially enlightened—and the greater importance of a civilized people over savage tribes, whose tendency to extinction, Christianity may for a time arrest, but is not likely entirely to counteract—these and similar arguments give Home Missions their own importance. But upon them also depends the extension of Foreign Missions. Independent of the fact that the zeal for Foreign Missions cannot be a very healthy one, which manifests no practical sympathy with perishing souls within our own view, it must be evident, that unless the Church enlarges at home, she cannot greatly extend her operations abroad. The congregations already existing may do as they have been doing, and perhaps even more, but in this way no great extension of the foreign mission can take place. By encouraging the Home Mission, however, the number of congregations will be always increasing, weak congregations will, through the fostering care of the church, become able, not only to support ordinances among themselves, but also to aid in sending the gospel abroad, and thus every advance made by the Church at home tells upon the progress of the gospel in heathen lands.

On the other hand, foreign Missions have their own claims. The overwhelming numbers of the heathen, their awful degradation, and their entire destitution of the means of improvement, all plead with Christians to run to their rescue. But Foreign Missions have also a most important reflex influence upon the Church at home. They have every where proved the best means of increasing and strengthening the spirit of Christian benevolence, and in whatever church they have been commenced, so far from injuring the progress of home evangelization, have given an impulse to every institution in existence for that object, and been the means of forming new ones. We had our Home Mission scheme for several years before the Foreign Mission was started, but the contributions to it were small and its operations languid. Since that time its operations have been greatly extended, and

its annual funds quadrupled. We do not assert that this has been owing altogether to the Foreign Mission enterprise, but we believe that in a good measure it has.

It is equally easy to see that Missionary operations and Bible circulation are mutually dependant. Without the Bible among its members, the church can neither be intelligent nor prosperous, and it is God's appointed instrument for saving sinners. But it is not the mere reading of the Word that God has chosen as the principal means of the conversion of the world. His great ordinance for this purpose is the *preaching* of the truth. "Faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the Word of God." Hence the great commission is, "Go ye into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature." The combined use of the Word, as well as of the preacher, in God's plan of saving sinners, is beautifully illustrated in the case of the Ethiopian eunuch. As he travelled he read the Scriptures. This was the instrument of conversion, but something more was needed, and accordingly God sent Philip to explain that word. As he joined himself to the eunuch he said, "Understandest thou what thou readest?" His reply was, "How can I except some man should guide me?" The Bible and the teacher must then go together.

But farther, in the work of circulating the Scriptures, we see the mutual dependence of Bible and Missionary Societies. Bible Societies need Missionary Societies. The former are now printing the scriptures in 200 languages and dialects. But by whom have these versions been made? Is it not well known that it has been through the labors of devoted missionaries, that the versions of the scriptures were made in the last fifty years? But the Missionary Society needs the Bible Society to print the Scriptures when thus translated. And again the Bible Society needs the Missionary to circulate the Scriptures. He is often the only agent by whom this can be done. These views are illustrated in the case of China. The missionaries went first and spent long years in acquiring the language, and then