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**Co-operation in Foreign Mission Work.**

THE American Section of the committee appointed by the Presbyterian Council at Belfast to consider and report on co-operation in Foreign Mission work, met recently in Elizabeth, N.J., and unanimously agreed to issue a circular to the Churches represented in the Alliance, through their Foreign Mission Boards, with a view of eliciting from them such information in regard to the whole question as may guide the committee in their efforts to reach some practical conclusions.

Co-operation may be of different kinds,—(1) an agreement between different branches of the Churches, such as that which Abraham expressed his willingness to make with Lot:—"Let there be no strife I pray thee, between me and thee: for we be brethren. If thou wilt take the left hand, then I shall go to the right." This kind of co-operation obtains in the New Hebrides, where, by common consent, the Presbyterians confine their labours to the southern islands, and the Episcopalians to the northern islands of the group. Upon the same principle the Congregationalists almost exclusively work among the Armenians in Turkey, and the Methodists in Fiji. (2) There may be an agreement betwixt the missionaries of

churche of the same order to work together in the same field without abandoning their home connexions, or passing from their support, control, and ultimate jurisdiction. This is to be found in Japan, where Presbyterianism is to all practical intents a unit, although the missionaries still hold to their connection with the churches who sent them forth; also in China, in the New Hebrides and in Trinidad. In all these places the experiment has proved successful. (3) There is another and higher type of co-operation which should be regarded as the goal of missionary administration, namely, a corporate union of missionaries in a given field, having for their chief aim and object the formation of native churches each with a view to their assuming the responsibilities of self-support and self-government.

It is bad enough that Presbyterianism is divided in the face of Christendom in the home churches; it is disastrous to the spread of Christianity that these divisions should be perpetuated on heathen ground. Compared with the conversion of a thousand millions of heathen, and the evangelization of the world, the divergencies of Presbyterianism are but as the small dust of the balance, which, on heathen ground, at least, should be at once and forever swept away. The cry from every mission field is for more men and more money. Organic union