

from the very dawn of its existence, stations in the Highlands and Islands, which are by no means deemed burdensome and to be cut off. Missionary work must be looked at in its specialities—for every field a judicious investigation, and an annual examination of its ways and means, of its hopes and fears, of its disappointments and successes. Even in the same land there may be towns and villages in close proximity or at great distance from each other, presenting aspects totally unlike—in the origin of population—pre-occupation by other denominations—prejudices or favorable impressions operating upon the work. Here, perhaps, members of other bodies may give support to a station in subscriptions liberally and constantly given: youder not one dollar from such sources may visit the treasury. Now, a favorable gale of popular favor may waft the vessel onward; and anon, opposition and adversities may cast it among the breakers. A generous aid, not blindly and indiscriminately given, but steadily and constantly afforded, where there is hope of final success, is, therefore, we conceive, the claim of weaker churches on the strong. Not to take advantage of a pauper's liberality, but to prosecute the same glorious work in the devotion of a due measure of consecrated means, blended with the gifts of those who, through the missionary society, lend a needed and a hearty coöperation.

*The opportunity for the advocacy of the great principles of the missionary enterprise thus afforded is to be highly valued.* It is a hopeful aspect of Canada that every denomination is alive on this point, missionary deputations and missionary meetings abound. Organizations also, of a catholic character, for missionary and benevolent objects, send out agents who perambulate the whole land, and are every where cordially received. Amid all this, we dare not and would not lag behind. The churches with which we homologate possess a missionary history which we must not willingly let die. Names of British and American Congregationalists beam with a glory in the annals of modern missionary work, second to none. The fire that has blazed on the altar must be kept burning. Fresh vigour is imparted by the reiteration of truth, and the education of new generations in the grand aggressive elements of that holy war which subdues the world by love. The great work of spreading the gospel throughout the whole earth, beginning at our own home, and in our own country, is steadily to be pursued. The greatest results will be gathered from appeals to deep heart-felt religious principle. A field of special interest is presented by these missionary meetings, when the deputations aim at the salvation of the unconverted portion of the audience, rather than to amuse and please.

*The past has shown the utility of the missionary deputations in suggesting plans, stimulating efforts, and securing means to carry on the work.* This kind of machinery has a direct tendency, when fairly wrought, to produce pecuniary results of a satisfactory character; and if we have not attained to that amount of liberality which is altogether satisfactory, the pressure of difficult times must be taken into account. Effort has been put forth to foster an independent spirit, and stimulate a liberal one, in these labours of love, when brethren, without personal charge to the society, leave home amid the inclemency of winter to visit the churches. If with all the toil, willingly and cheerfully endured, the gain has not been equal to the desires of some, what would it have been without any attempt to replenish the treasury? We are conscious that it is a mistake to give a secular and inordinate monetary aspect to this kind of missionary work, yet it must appear that giving to the Lord is a means of grace. "The collection" has a place among the charges