

# HOME MISSIONARY EXTRA.

BATTLE CREEK, MICH., JANUARY, 1891.

THE total receipts of the Board of Foreign missions for the third quarter of 1890, were \$8,895.94. Of this amount, \$4,285.95 was contributed by the Sabbath-schools; the first-day offerings were \$3,384.40, and \$1,275.59 was received from other sources. During the corresponding quarter of 1889, the total receipts were \$6,869.65. Of this, \$3,553.15 was from the Sabbath-schools, \$3,004.80 was first-day offerings, and \$311.70 from other sources. These figures show in the total receipts an increase of 30 per cent over last year. This is very encouraging, but we must remember that an increase of 50 per cent is necessary to make up last year's deficiency, and carry forward the work we have begun, while an additional 10 per cent (\$5,000) is needed to send out an increased number of workers.

**A WORD TO LIBRARIANS.**— Now that all our churches have made their annual contribution for the support of foreign missions, our people everywhere, and especially the Foreign Mission Board, are anxious to know the result. It is to be hoped, therefore, that all the librarians have been prompt in forwarding the contribution to the State secretaries, with other remittances for the fourth quarter. If in any church the contribution has been held till absent members shall be heard from, we suggest that all received by January 20 be sent forward, that the State secretaries may make a second remittance to the Board at the close of January.

THERE are several reasons why we are anxious that the missionary contributions from the churches, shall be forwarded promptly to the Board. For lack of funds we have not been able, for about three months, to forward to our missionaries but a part of their monthly allowance. To those in foreign countries this is a much greater hardship than it would be to laborers in the United States; and we desire to forward the money for which they are waiting, and in some cases suffering, as soon as possible. We also desire to have, as soon as possible, a knowledge of what has been contributed, that we may decide how to respond to some of the most urgent appeals for help, from destitute fields.

In past years, some of our friends have not realized the importance of promptness, and the contributions in some cases have not been sent forward till asked for. This throws unnecessary work on the treasurer, and has delayed our report till nearly half the year was passed.

This year, we wish to present a full report of the Christmas contributions and the first-day offerings for the fourth quarter, in the March number of the HOME MISSIONARY.

WE have received several friendly but pointed criticisms, regarding the time of publishing the report of first-day offerings. Our friends say we are too slow, and that the reports would be of double interest if published immediately

after the close of the quarter. And it does seem unfortunate if they must wait till the close of April for a report of the contributions given to the librarians the first of January. We therefore propose the following plan:—

Let each librarian forward the first-day offerings to the secretary of his State Tract Society as soon as possible after the quarterly meeting. If it is desired to wait a few days to collect the offerings from those not present at the quarterly meeting, let two weeks be the limit of the delay, so that all shall be received by the State secretary by the 20th of the month.

Let the State secretary close up the account at the close of the month, and send full reports and the funds to W. H. Edwards, Assistant Secretary of the Board. This will enable us to publish the report in the third month of each quarter.

Hereafter, the report of missionary contributions of our churches will be issued in a four-page Extra, and will be accompanied by short articles and items of news about missionary finance. This Extra, if published the third month of each quarter, will reach all the churches before their next quarterly meeting.

MUCH may be done by our librarians to encourage in our churches liberality in the matter of first-day offerings for foreign missions, 1. By attending the monthly missionary concert, and helping to make it interesting; 2. By planning for an interesting quarterly meeting, and securing the presentation of a few interesting facts relative to the progress and present needs of our missions; 3. By notifying beforehand, by letter or postal-card, all absent members, and those not in attendance at the previous meeting, of the time of the meeting and the character of the program; 4. By immediately after the quarterly meeting inviting in person or by letter all those who have determined to contribute regularly to foreign missions, but who have not yet sent in their offerings, to add their gifts before the contributions of the church are sent away. We believe that a little earnest effort on the part of librarians and those chosen to assist them in this work, would so change our receipts that five or ten more missionaries could be at once sent into the field.

In another column will be found the record of several gifts for the sending of the gospel to Spain, in response to the appeal of Brother Jose Gomis. We are truly thankful for these gifts, and hope that many more may be added to the list. These, like all similar donations, will be forwarded to our committee having special charge of that field, who will see that they are used to the best advantage in the special work for which they were given. Let the liberal-hearted, who have an interest for Spain and Algeria, send in their gifts. We cannot make a beginning with promise of success, without a much larger fund.





## General Report of First-day Offerings for Quarter Ending Sept. 30, 1890.

(COLLECTIONS FROM BOXES.)

NAME OF CONFERENCE.	Whole Amount for Quarter.	Mem. of Conference.	Amount per Member per Quarter.
<b>DISTRICT NO. 1. — ATLANTIC.</b>			
Atlantic,	\$ 52.40	249	.21
Maine,	2.27	452	.005
New England,	184.69	773	.239
New York,	53.30	830	.07
N. S., N. B., P. E. I.,		46	
Canada (Quebec),		148	
Pennsylvania,	118.68	1,050	.113
Vermont,	44.29	409	.108
Virginia,	5.81	114	.051
West Virginia,	16.48	117	.141
Totals,	\$482.92	4,188	.115
<b>DISTRICT NO. 2. — SOUTHERN.</b>			
Southern Mission,	\$ 1.00	383	
Tennessee River,	38.31	172	.222
Totals,	\$39.31	555	.071
<b>DISTRICT NO. 3. — LAKE.</b>			
Illinois,	\$339.08	847	.40
Indiana,	90.70	1,179	.076
Michigan,	569.36	4,308	.132
Ohio,	67.77	1,150	.059
Totals,	\$1,066.91	7,484	.142
<b>DISTRICT NO. 4. — NORTHWEST.</b>			
Iowa,	\$254.58	2,052	.124
Minnesota,	1.00	2,005	
Nebraska,	74.09	860	.086
South Dakota,	16.38	836	.015
Wisconsin,	200.23	1,859	.108
Totals,	\$546.28	7,612	.072
<b>DISTRICT NO. 5. — SOUTHWEST.</b>			
Arkansas,	\$ 18.86	273	.069
Colorado,	43.05	361	.119
Kansas,	119.20	1,929	.061
Missouri,	*86.15	815	.106
Texas,	67.36	425	.161
Totals,	\$334.62	3,808	.088
<b>DISTRICT NO. 6. — PACIFIC.</b>			
California,	†\$607.91	2,171	.28
Montana,		25	
North Pacific,	204.95	700	.293
Upper Columbia,	59.60	493	.121
Totals,	\$872.46	3,389	.257
<b>DISTRICT NO. 7. — FOREIGN.</b>			
British Mission,	\$18.76		
South African Mission,	23.14		
Total,	\$41.90		
Grand Totals,	\$3,384.40	27,031	.125

\* Donations for quarter ending June 30.

† Donations for five months.

## THE MISSIONARY CONTRIBUTIONS FOR 1889 AND 1890 COMPARED.

ON another page will be found a tabular report, showing what our people gave for missions in 1889 and 1890. This is the first time we have been able to present so complete a report, and we hope it will be studied with care.

While attending annual Conferences and State meetings, we have shown these figures to the ministers present, many of whom desired a copy for reference. So we publish the report in full, hoping that it will not only interest many, but that it will incite all to a more earnest effort for the support of our foreign missions.

Generally our brethren have been greatly astonished to find that, while prosperity has attended our work at home and abroad, and while the support for the home work is steadily increasing, the total amount raised for foreign work in 1890 was 14 per cent less than in 1889.

As we have laid these facts before our brethren, and asked them to labor for a revival of the missionary spirit in all the churches, many have asked, How much is needed for the present year, and what is our share? Tell us what our Conference ought to do, so we can have something definite to talk about, and to work to; and we will see what can be done.

The request seemed reasonable; so an estimate was made as to how much each Conference could furnish, and would need to furnish, that altogether there might be \$80,000 raised, which is the sum necessary for the work of the present year and to pay up the deficiency of last year.

### MISSIONARY APPORTIONMENT FOR 1891,

Being a careful estimate of the amount that the churches in each Conference and Mission should contribute, to make up the \$80,000 necessary for the work of the present year.

<b>DISTRICT NO. 1.</b>		<b>DISTRICT NO. 4.</b>	
New England .....	\$ 2,300	Wisconsin .....	\$5,600
Vermont .....	1,225	Minnesota .....	6,000
Maine .....	550	South Dakota .....	1,675
New York .....	2,500	Iowa .....	6,150
Pennsylvania .....	3,150	Nebraska .....	2,150
Atlantic .....	875	<b>DISTRICT NO. 5.</b>	
Virginia .....	250	Missouri .....	2,000
West Virginia .....	250	Kansas .....	3,850
Quebec .....	300	Colorado .....	1,450
N. S., N. B., and P. E. I.	70	Texas .....	1,275
<b>DISTRICT NO. 2.</b>		Arkansas .....	240
Tennessee River .....	340	<b>DISTRICT NO. 6.</b>	
Southern Mission .....	700	Montana .....	100
<b>DISTRICT NO. 3.</b>		Upper Columbia .....	1,500
Michigan .....	14,000	North Pacific .....	2,800
Ohio .....	3,450	California .....	9,200
Indiana .....	3,500	Total .....	\$80,000
Illinois .....	2,550		

### MISCELLANEOUS DONATIONS TO FOREIGN MISSIONS FOR THIRD QUARTER.

James Millroo .....	\$ 1 00
C. M. Kinney .....	6 04
James E. Rankin .....	100 00
N. S. Raymond .....	473 39
E. V. Ward .....	75
Mrs. J. A. Burden .....	8 00
Mrs. E. R. Gillett .....	6 00
Sale of jewelry .....	116 56
Individuals, per Colorado Tract Society .....	62 00
“ Michigan “ .....	1 35
Colorado Conference .....	500 00

Total..... \$1,275 59

# COMPARATIVE SUMMARY OF CONTRIBUTIONS FOR FOREIGN MISSIONS,

FOR THE TWO YEARS ENDING JUNE 30, 1889, AND JUNE 30, 1890.

CONFERENCE.	Christmas Offerings.		First-day Offerings.		Sabbath-school Donations.		Pledges and Other Donations.		Totals.		Gain.	Loss.	Mem-ber-ship.	Per Capita.
	1889.	1890.	1889.	1890.	1889.	1890.	1889.	1890.	1889.	1890.	1890.	1890.	1890.	1890.
<b>District No. 1</b>														
Maine	\$ 118.03	\$ 15.41	\$169.03	\$ 82.86	\$ 53.58	\$ 77.97	\$ 9.00		\$ 349.64	\$176.24		\$173.40	452	\$ .389
Vermont	541.33	484.26	273.33	160.40	167.06	201.46	5.00		966.72	891.12		95.60	409	2.178
New England	1,510.54	656.52	764.89	612.88	391.12	484.86		\$ 45.00	2,666.55	1,754.26		912.29	773	2.269
New York	745.89	444.67	358.54	379.43	182.09	221.08	3.30	105.50	1,289.82	1,150.68		139.14	890	1.386
Pennsylvania	702.70	552.19	565.43	478.40	301.36	422.79	3.00	2.00	1,572.49	1,455.38		117.11	1,050	1.386
Atlantic	271.25	257.58	106.52	132.60	33.14	236.54			410.91	636.72	\$215.81		249	2.516
Virginia	49.93	38.02	25.20	42.74	9.78	19.59	18.96		109.87	109.35		3.52	114	.911
West Virginia	39.08	66.00	29.14	55.12	5.76	20.26	1.00	3.00	73.98	144.38	70.40		117	1.234
Quebec	111.80	40.60	34.35	21.80	21.41	41.46		8.85	167.56	112.71		54.85	148	.761
N. S. N. B., & P. E. L.						18.71				18.71	18.71		46	.406
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$4,089.55</b>	<b>\$2,555.25</b>	<b>\$2,326.43</b>	<b>\$1,966.23</b>	<b>\$1,165.30</b>	<b>\$1,744.72</b>	<b>\$40.26</b>	<b>\$164.35</b>	<b>\$7,621.54</b>	<b>\$6,430.55</b>	<b>\$304.92</b>	<b>\$1,495.91</b>	<b>4,188</b>	<b>\$1,535</b>
<b>District No. 2</b>														
Cumberland Mission	\$ 21.38	\$ 20.35	\$31.31	\$19.90	\$ 1.66	\$ 9.57		\$2.70	\$ 54.35	\$ 52.52		\$ 1.83	37	\$1,419
Tennessee River	99.35	82.91	9.26	67.93	27.23	24.43			135.84	175.27	\$39.43		172	1,019
Gulf Mission	28.40	24.05	24.20	27.30		50.85		1.00	50.60	103.20	52.60		119	.867
South Atlantic	178.83	112.52	31.41	79.75	15.15	16.65			225.39	208.92		16.47	170	1,228
North Carolina		6.40	1.14	8.28	6.94	16.13			8.08	30.81	22.73		57	.540
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$325.96</b>	<b>\$246.23</b>	<b>\$97.32</b>	<b>\$203.16</b>	<b>\$50.98</b>	<b>\$117.63</b>		<b>\$3.70</b>	<b>\$474.26</b>	<b>\$570.72</b>	<b>\$114.76</b>	<b>\$18.30</b>	<b>555</b>	<b>\$1,028</b>
<b>District No. 3</b>														
Michigan	\$6,918.89	\$3,920.48	\$2,420.65	\$1,875.36	\$1,520.04	\$2,861.99	\$338.23	\$405.84	\$11,397.81	\$9,063.67		\$2,334.14	4,308	\$2,103
Ohio	885.48	511.26	440.04	514.49	302.48	347.53			1,629.00	1,373.28		255.72	1,150	1,194
Indiana	489.98	510.06	263.04	283.27	153.88	364.96	149.86		1,056.76	1,158.29	\$101.53		1,179	.982
Illinois	359.27	701.30	418.02	318.02	456.35	493.39	25.00	15.00	1,256.64	1,527.71	271.07		847	1,803
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$3,654.62</b>	<b>\$5,643.10</b>	<b>\$3,539.75</b>	<b>\$2,991.14</b>	<b>\$2,432.75</b>	<b>\$4,067.87</b>	<b>\$713.09</b>	<b>\$420.84</b>	<b>\$15,340.21</b>	<b>\$13,122.95</b>	<b>\$372.60</b>	<b>\$2,589.86</b>	<b>7,484</b>	<b>\$1,733</b>
<b>District No. 4</b>														
Wisconsin	\$1,795.69	\$1,031.50	\$ 632.31	\$ 961.77	\$636.91	\$838.50			\$2,304.91	\$2,851.77		\$ 453.14	1,859	\$1,534
Minnesota	1,677.41	1,017.31	891.04	998.38	654.33	905.20	\$303.70		3,526.48	2,946.29		580.19	2,005	1,469
South Dakota	651.39	397.87	789.23	674.69	351.92	436.48		2.00	1,792.59	1,511.04		281.55	836	1,807
Iowa	2,809.55	1,655.16	1,582.28	1,193.88	549.18	829.64	23.95	10.00	4,964.96	3,658.68		1,276.28	2,052	1,797
Nebraska	1,008.41	463.52	577.39	414.87	211.83	319.26	8.00	138.95	1,805.63	1,336.60		469.03	860	1,551
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$7,942.45</b>	<b>\$4,565.26</b>	<b>\$4,662.30</b>	<b>\$4,263.59</b>	<b>\$2,454.17</b>	<b>\$3,329.08</b>	<b>\$335.65</b>	<b>\$176.45</b>	<b>\$15,394.57</b>	<b>\$12,334.38</b>		<b>\$3,060.19</b>	<b>7,612</b>	<b>\$1,620</b>
<b>District No. 5</b>														
Missouri	\$ 507.55	\$285.17	\$231.72	\$119.89	\$136.94	\$245.20		\$10.00	\$ 878.21	\$ 669.26		\$215.95	815	\$ .810
Kansas	1,364.12	838.16	264.66	563.28	500.13	562.11	\$ .40	7.00	2,129.31	1,970.45		158.86	1,929	1,021
Colorado	412.76	319.70	197.38	288.43	186.98	384.10	80.00		877.12	992.23	\$115.11		361	2,748
Texas	261.21	177.43	126.23	144.14	25.45	87.24			412.89	408.81		4.08	425	.961
Arkansas	78.28	44.95	32.40	17.78	19.69	35.79			130.37	98.52		31.85	273	.360
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$2,623.92</b>	<b>\$1,665.41</b>	<b>\$852.39</b>	<b>\$1,133.52</b>	<b>\$869.19</b>	<b>\$1,314.34</b>	<b>\$80.40</b>	<b>\$17.00</b>	<b>\$4,425.90</b>	<b>\$4,130.27</b>	<b>\$115.11</b>	<b>\$410.74</b>	<b>3,803</b>	<b>\$1,086</b>
<b>District No. 6</b>														
Montana		\$ 44.35				\$ 32.21				\$ 76.46		\$76.46	25	\$3,058
Upper Columbia	\$ 576.49	256.10	\$178.49	\$ 143.30	\$ 220.59	340.36	\$45.15	\$ 1.25	\$1,020.72	741.01		\$ 279.71	493	1,503
North Pacific	1,080.46	828.19	500.72	582.30	567.64	809.22			2,148.82	2,219.71	70.89		700	3,171
California	4,822.10	2,444.28	832.63	1,372.74	3,071.00	3,554.09			8,725.73	7,371.11		1,354.62	2,171	3,395
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$6,479.05</b>	<b>\$3,572.82</b>	<b>\$1,511.84</b>	<b>\$2,098.34</b>	<b>\$3,859.23</b>	<b>\$4,735.88</b>	<b>\$45.15</b>	<b>\$ 1.25</b>	<b>\$11,895.27</b>	<b>\$10,408.29</b>	<b>\$147.35</b>	<b>\$1,634.33</b>	<b>3,389</b>	<b>\$3,071</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>\$30,115.55</b>	<b>\$19,284.37</b>	<b>\$12,990.03</b>	<b>\$12,720.28</b>	<b>\$10,980.74</b>	<b>\$15,501.69</b>	<b>\$1,214.55</b>	<b>\$783.59</b>	<b>\$55,300.87</b>	<b>\$48,589.93</b>	<b>\$1,689.23</b>	<b>\$8,400.17</b>	<b>27,031</b>	<b>\$1,797</b>

## LABORERS IN SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST FOREIGN CONFERENCES AND MISSIONS.

NAME OF COUNTRY.	Ministers.		Licensed Preachers and Bible Workers.		Editors and Business Managers.		Lady Bible Workers.		Colporters.		Printers and Binders.	No. of churches.	Membership.	No. of adherents not in churches.	Tithes paid.	Other donations.
	American.	Native.	American.	Native.	American.	Native.	American.	Native.	American.	Native.						
*Australia.....	3	3		9	2		1			24	15	6	445		\$1,175.72	
Central Europe.....	5	3		4	1	3	1	3		19	30	33	785	195	3,647.71	\$1,314.27
Denmark.....	1	2		2	1			3		7		11	333	127	773.80	458.51
Great Britain.....	1			2	1	1	6	2	12	8	5	8	186	40	2,014.88	175.61
New Zealand.....	2			2				2		15		4	210		1,782.05	
Norway.....	2	1		2	3	1				10	19	4	245	109	1,271.34	
*Pacific Islands.....	2		1					3				2	107			
*South Africa.....	2		1	1	1		1		1	6		5	120	30	2,733.85	
Sweden.....		1		5		1		2		23		15	398	110	835.21	26.43
Totals.....	18	10	2	27	9	6	12	12	13	112	69	88	2827	611	\$14,284.06	\$1,974.82

\*Statistics brought up to date of publication.

## OUR FIRST-DAY OFFERINGS.

"LAY up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal: for where your treasure is, there will your heart be also."

These words were spoken by the Saviour in his sermon on the mount. The instruction was not given because high Heaven is dependent on mortal man for means; for every beast of the forest is his, and the cattle upon a thousand hills. God has power at any moment to work a miracle, and place an abundance of gold and silver in the treasury, for the carrying forward of his work.

But the Redeemer, when he uttered these words, knew that there was only one true happiness to be found on earth; viz., that which is centered in heaven; and it is because he saw that by having their treasure in heaven, humanity would reap to their souls a joy and peace and comfort that only the riches of heaven can give, that he called upon us to lay up for ourselves treasures in heaven. What matchless love is here betrayed! Fallen man with heart renewed by the grace of God, and elevated by having a conception of the divine plans for the redemption of the race, is given the privilege of sacrificing worldly pleasure, in its stead to be made a sharer of the joy that was set before the Son of God. It is on account of his great love for us, that God calls upon us to support his cause with our means.

Those who make a practice of laying aside a tenth of the means which God has intrusted to their stewardship, soon come to regard that amount as belonging to the Lord, and

not to themselves at all. This is right, and the thought is prompted by the Spirit of God, for if this is not done, the steward is robbing his Master, and is breaking the eighth commandment.

But with offerings many make a difference. The offering is looked upon as an amount donated to the Lord, and which the donor is under no obligations to give. Some feel a special interest in one particular enterprise, and will give liberally to see it carried forward; but if money is required for some other purpose, they feel no burden to give anything to it. Others feel enthusiastic over first one enterprise and then another, but give systematically to none.

But giving in these ways does not draw out the highest and holiest impulses of the soul. God may be robbed by withholding offerings as well as by withholding the tithe. (See Mal. 3:8.) For all the means that man expends on useless or unnecessary things, God will hold him to account. The Father poured out all heaven in the gift of his own dear Son, and he calls upon man to co-operate in the work of redemption, by giving freely of his means, and realizing that nothing which he has is his own, but all is a loan from on high. If the motives that actuate in making offerings are because in so doing we are following in the footsteps of the Redeemer, and are depositing our means in the bank of heaven, confidently believing that the interest will be revealed in souls shining in glory around the throne of God, when the redeemed are gathered home, we will be doubly blessed, and will find that, through the grace of God we are becoming better men and women. In such motives as these there is nothing selfish, and all who work from such principles are looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of

our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross.

There is a tinge of selfishness in being willing to give to some enterprises and not to others, and sometimes this may almost amount to an idol in the heart; but where money is given into a general fund, there can be no such danger.

The system of first-day offerings was one adopted by the apostle Paul, an inspired servant of God. In addressing the church at Corinth he says: "Let every one of you lay by him in store, *as God hath prospered him.*" Brethren and sisters, do we do this? Do we weekly recount the financial prosperity we have been recipients of from the hand of God, and accordingly give of his own to him? First-day offerings, like the tithe, fall heavily on none; for poor and rich alike are only asked to lay by them in store, "as God hath prospered" them.

Those who are receiving a regular salary can give a fixed amount, and lay it aside every week. Those who depend upon the produce of their farms may not be able to be so systematic; but both can please God by giving according to their prosperity.

In some cases it may be well for the children to make their donations at the Sabbath-school, as many of them have little but what their parents give them. But we believe that all those who have a means of livelihood will be blessed by giving according to the apostolic plan. Some families may prefer to have only one of the first-day offering boxes among them. To this we can see no objection. There are families who are already working on this plan.

It grieves us that the first-day offering returns for the past year show a smaller amount received than during the year previous. We believe that this loss is in a great measure attributable to forgetfulness on the part of the brethren to place regularly the offering in the box provided for that purpose. The following plan for making this a regular and systematic service, has been proposed: That the family box or boxes be laid on the table on the morning or evening of the first day, at the time of worship, and that after the family have knelt in prayer, and God has been praised for his sustaining care through the week that is past, and prayed to for bounties through the one that is just commencing, those who have an offering can deposit it in the box. Then at the end of the quarter the boxes can be brought to the librarian, and the amount delivered.

Some have told us that if they only knew how much they ought to give, they could work more understandingly, and ministers have been asked, "How much do you think would be a fair amount for me to give?" Dear brethren and sisters, this is a matter which you alone can decide; it is between yourself and your God, and we believe that it is too sacred a trust for us to lay our hands on, and dictate in regard to. We are to give *as God hath prospered us.* God has left it thus indefinite that there may be a chance for man to exercise all the liberality of soul that he will toward the cause he professes to love, or to expend on himself a part of what he might have invested in the work of redemption. By leaving it in this way, God has afforded an opportunity for men and women to reap a greater blessing than if the amount had been fixed.

When we kneel in prayer on the morning of the first day, and make the placing of the offering in the boxes a part of our worship before God, it will associate in our minds the sacred connection between offerings and the worship of the Most High. And after all, when we have done the best we can, and feel that God accepts our sacrifice, who are we that we should be able to offer so willingly after this sort? for all things come of God, and of his own do we give him.

It is sweet to work for Jesus, whether it be with our hands or by our means. Those things that cost the most are prized the highest, and God desires that we prize the true riches. None are obliged to work for, or to give to, God; but by so doing all can experience something of the love by which God *commended his love* to us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. P. T. M.

### MISSIONARY ADDRESSES.

A WRITER in the *Gospel in all Lands*, giving counsel to those visiting the churches to arouse an interest in missions, says:—

"If we can have but one chance in a place, let us get at the boys and girls; talk to the children, and the largest, deepest impressions will be made. Get into the monthly missionary concert. If you work up those thirty that are present, you work up the whole church. The monthly concert may be the best meeting of the whole month, if we take pains with it. Be careful to speak loud enough so as to be easily heard. Do not try to cover everything in the whole field. Take a point, and develop it. One thought, if it be carried home, is better than a thousand thoughts left in the midst. Nearly all speakers fail to measure the time that it takes to tell a story. Keep a memorandum of the questions that people ask you, and then just answer them in a somewhat systematic manner. Say in public exactly the things you have said in private, without varying a particle, no matter what the size of the audience. Spread missionary literature. Make the people read and think about missions; then they will feel, and pray, and give."

### FAITH AND WORKS.

We all believe most heartily in the importance of foreign missions; but our knowledge of missions is very limited, and it is seldom that missionary effort exceeds missionary knowledge. How shall we become better acquainted with mission fields, with the peoples sitting in darkness, and with methods of missionary work?

We believe in home missionary work, and that every one taking the name of Christ, should labor personally for the salvation of others. But there is a lack of that consecration and zeal which is necessary to the work. How shall we get a renewal of power and wisdom?

We are a temperance people, and believe it a duty to live healthfully. We see a world of unnecessary sickness all about us,—sickness which is the result of ignorance and the grossest neglect of nature's plainest laws. We believe it would be a noble work to labor kindly for the relief of the suffering, and to disseminate information regarding the principles of health, that would check this increasing tide of woe. This would be following the example of our Lord and Master, Jesus Christ, who "went about doing

good," and "healed all that were sick." But for some reason, we do not get at this work in earnest.

We believe with all our hearts that the third angel's message is being proclaimed, that it is the last message of warning for the world, to prepare a people to meet the Lord. And we know that upon the faithfulness of those who first hear the warning, in giving it to others, depends the decision of many, which may fix their destiny. And yet how little is being done to warn those nearest us!

Brethren and sisters, there needs to be a reformation, a revival in every church, a turning to God in every family, a new consecration of every individual. There is earnest work to do, and God has promised abundant power and wisdom to his faithful children.

Our plans for work are excellent. They are simple and effective, but of what account are the best of plans, if an earnestness to labor is lacking? Zeal without knowledge is almost as useless.

We plead with all our brethren and sisters to improve the present opportunities to labor. The winter is the best season of the year, and it is now far spent.

Much will be gained by meeting together frequently for prayer and consultation. James says, "If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upraideth not," and Jesus said, "Where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them." And it is with these promises in mind that we plead with all our local tract societies, great and small, to meet together once a week, during the winter, at least, for concerted prayer, and to study and plan about the several lines of tract society work.

w. c. w.

### THE MISSIONARY MEETINGS FOR 1891.

As we look at the work assigned to our tract societies, we see that it requires consecration, wisdom, and energy. As we study the field, we find every encouragement to labor, and that day by day, new opportunities for usefulness are brought within our reach. To keep pace with the work in its progress, we have found that a weekly meeting usually doubles the usefulness of a local tract society.

#### THE BEST TIME

For the missionary meeting is an evening in the middle of the week. In the winter time, it can be held early, not occupying more than an hour and a quarter, and should be conducted with vigor.

The question has been asked, What time on the Sabbath is best for the missionary meeting, if the society is so widely scattered that it cannot hold an evening meeting? We should not be easily persuaded that it is impossible to hold an evening meeting. As the importance of the work grows in our estimation, the difficulties diminish. All our societies in cities and villages, can hold an evening meeting, if they will. And in many cases where the society is widely scattered, it would be better to hold two or three neighborhood meetings, than to hold none, or to crowd it into the Sabbath. The time on the Sabbath is usually fully occupied with the Sabbath-school and the prayer and social meeting,

and the missionary meeting, if appointed before or after these, has a poor chance. Then, while a large part of the program for the missionary meeting may be perfectly in harmony with the spirit of the Sabbath, there are naturally connected with some of the topics, matters of business, which it is greatly to the advantage of the society to consider week by week, but which cannot be considered on the Sabbath.

In those few cases where it is impossible to hold a weekly meeting in the evening, it would no doubt be profitable for the leader of the social meeting to introduce at the opening of the social meeting on the Sabbath, such themes from the missionary lesson as he thinks will be appropriate and helpful to the meeting and beneficial to the church.

#### HOW TO CONDUCT

the weekly meeting so that it shall be cheerful, interesting, and instructive, is perhaps the most important point for consideration.

1. Begin with the understanding that it only requires a few to make an interesting meeting, and that no one is to scold if some members of the society are absent. Flies are not caught with vinegar. We have learned that four can conduct the meetings profitably on the general plan suggested. Here is the proof: When Elder Lane was in northern New York, a sister spoke of her missionary meeting. Elder Lane inquired, "What missionary meeting?" She answered, "Our weekly meeting where we consider the subjects presented in the HOME MISSIONARY." "How many attend your meetings?" "Just four. I am leader of the foreign missionary meetings, and do all I can to make them the most interesting of the four. Another sister leads the health and temperance meetings, another the religious liberty meetings, and the fourth takes the lead when home missions are considered. Each one tries to make her meeting excel, and we have the best little meetings you ever saw."

2. In making up a program for the meetings, always remember that it is wisdom and power from above that we need, and give much time in each meeting to prayer, even though it shortens the time for other things.

3. Select a chairman to preside at all the meetings, who will labor to encourage all branches of the work.

4. Let the librarian act as secretary of all the meetings.

5. For each of the four topics presented for the consideration of the society, choose a leader quarterly. In small societies, the chairman or the librarian may be chosen to lead the study of one of the topics, in addition to his other duties. Select as far as possible those who will work cheerfully, and who will speak distinctly.

6. Let all members of the society give to the chairman and to the leaders, their hearty support.

w. c. w.

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