

THE

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MISSIONARY RESULTS—IS THE WORK GOING ONWARD OR BACKWARD?

THE following article from the "Foreign Missionary" of February, furnishes a pretty satisfactory answer to the inquiry sometimes sneeringly presented, "What have Missionaries done?" We are rather surprised to find in the specifications of successful missionary work that the New Hebrides Mission has been omitted. The truth is, the details are defective, and from the want of full information, unavoidably so. Still the facts set forth, on the whole, are full of encouragement to those who are laboring and praying for the evangelization of the world.

T. S.

THE results of modern Christian Missions have recently been criticised by different writers. This is well. It shows life and progress. Some are, however, dissatisfied with the issues of the efforts put forth, and can, from their stand point, see scarcely anything accomplished, because the walls of heathenism have not fallen down at the first blast of the trumpet, or because the strongholds of moral evil have not surrendered at the first summons. Others disparage all that has been done, and find fault not only with the results, but with the means. Organizations are defective; the men commissioned are not of the apostolic stamp; and the various agencies employed are not the best for the ends sought. A third class, conscious of the difficulties in the way, the nature of the work to be achieved, and the means used, see but few encouragements for the speedy overthrow of Satan's kingdom, either at home or abroad. They know how feebly the church is seeking the conversion of the world; how little of her material and moral strength is consecrated to this work, and the slight hold it has upon the masses of Christendom; they know something of the capabilities of Zion, and of her duty; the wants and woes of the myriads in Pagan and Mohammedan lands; and the out-look dispirits them, and they are ready to conclude that the Church is not only guilty for non-use of power, but is making, with all her boasted efforts, no relative advance upon the world. In other words, "that there are not to-day any larger number of true Christians on earth

In company with some other members of the Ref. Presb. Church, I am building a sash-door and blind factory, for the purpose of having a place where the members of our church can have permanent employment when they come to this city.

Our church building is nearly finished, and is an ornament to the place, and a credit to the Church; and if the members of our church respond liberally, we can have it finished and have a congregation organized before Synod meets. The following appeared in the editorial column of the *Gazette* of this city:

"COVENANTER CHURCH.—The Covenanters of this city have erected quite a nice frame church on South street, which when completed, will be the neatest frame church in Indianapolis, and an ornament to that part of our rapidly growing city."

As to the health of Indianapolis, it is as good as any city in the West, and living is as cheap. House rent is from fifteen to fifty dollars per month. Wood from five to seven dollars per cord, &c.

We feel authorized to say to those who purpose to visit our city, that we will board free of cost, every competent mechanic or business man until he gets into business, if he will come here.

We now say to those who wish to see the principles of the church promulgated where they will reach, and have an influence on law making powers—all who wish to see "the kingdom of Christ advanced."—"Come over and help us." J. T. BOYD, M. D.

AMENDMENT OF THE CONSTITUTION.

MESSRS EDITORS—It is gratifying to be able to inform your readers that the movement for the amendment of the National Constitution has not entirely subsided, as we had too much reason to fear. Only a part of those to whose direction the work was confided by the National Association at its last meeting were profoundly impressed with its importance, and willing to make sacrifice of time and strength for its promotion. Circumstances purely providential prevented these from putting forth any efficient effort until the present year.

At last the Executive Committee have succeeded in preparing a brief, pertinent and forcible address to the citizens of the United States, presenting and justifying the changes in the Constitution, which are demanded. Whatever exception may be taken to particular forms of expression, it will be admitted to be a very able paper, and very happily conceived, and, on the whole, satisfactory even to those who hold the most advanced views on the subject. This document has been issued in the form of an eight page tract, and has been stereotyped that copies may be multiplied at pleasure. In small numbers, it will be furnished gratuitously, on application. Where it is desired in larger quantities for distribution, it will be furnished, *postage paid*, at \$2.00 per hundred—the mere cost of printing and mailing. The expense already incurred

being thus reimbursed, the Association will be able to follow this with other tracts from other able advocates of the cause, to be distributed in the same way.

It is desired now,

1. To circulate this appeal as widely as possible.
2. To obtain as many signatures to the memorial to Congress, and in as many separate Congressional districts as possible. The petitions should in all cases be circulated in duplicate, the same signatures being obtained to two copies—one for the Senate and the other for the House of Representatives.

3. That these petitions be forwarded to the representatives of the section where they are prepared, at such time as shall be indicated by the National Association, *and not before*, that so the whole country may be heard from at once.

4. That the funds of the National Association be replenished by direct contributions. It is desirable to employ a number of the ablest friends of the cause to visit different parts of the country and plant the movement where it has not yet taken root. This cannot be done, nor can the press be employed, nor can conventions be held, except at considerable expense.

5. That auxiliary associations be formed—one in each congressional district if practicable.

Will not all our congregations enter at once, and vigorously, upon the work of ordering as large a number of the appeal as they can distribute to an advantage, by circulating the memorial in their various localities, and by taking up at an early day collections for the National Association?

Contributions to be sent to Samuel Agnew, Esq., 1126 Arch street, Philadelphia. Orders for the appeal and for printed copies of the memorial, to Jno. Alexander, Esq., 1935 Arch street, Philadelphia.

T. P. STEVENSON.

ORDINATION OF REV. J. O. BAYLIS.

THE commission of the N. Y. Presbytery appointed to attend to the ordination and installation of J. O. Baylis, met in the church at Kortright, January 10, 1866. The members present were Revs. J. Kennedy, D. M'Alister, J. R. Thompson, and Elders George Spence and David M'Donald. After the examination of the candidate and hearing of his pieces of trial, the Rev. D. M'Alister delivered an appropriate and eloquent sermon from 1 Tim. 5 : 22, "Keep thyself pure," in which he discussed the importance of personal godliness in relation to the preparation and delivery of pulpit discourses—urging it on the ground that it secures diligence in study, subordinates all reading and study to a knowledge of Christ and him crucified, imparts self-forgetful self-possession in the pulpit, imparts earnestness and unction, and conduces to faithfulness in preaching the word.