

How to Support the Gospel.

The rule of equality is carried out by giving as God prospers us. The following table shows what a congregation of one hundred persons may do by a proportionate giving every Sabbath. It is calculated for God's poor people. Amounts may be respectively increased and the numbers giving proportioned to the means and numbers of any congregation. A new congregation in a country district was especially in view in preparing this table:

Table showing what a Congregation of 100 Persons can do easily in one year.

- If ten persons give \$0.10 each, amount would be \$1.00 a Sabbath, or \$52 a year.
- If 50 persons give \$0.25 each, amount would be \$12.50 a Sabbath, or \$650 a year.
- If 30 persons give \$0.50 each, amount would be \$15 a Sabbath, or \$789 a year.
- If 10 persons give \$1.00 each, amount would be \$10.00 a Sabbath, or \$520 a year.
- 100 persons give together a total of \$38.50 a Sabbath, or \$2,002 a year.
- \$0.10 each Sabbath, 52 Sabbaths, \$5.20
- \$0.25 each Sabbath, 52 Sabbaths, \$13.00
- \$0.50 each Sabbath, 52 Sabbaths, \$26.00
- \$1.00 each Sabbath 52 Sabbaths, 52.00

One hundred persons can easily, even in a small congregation, raise in this way over two thousand dollars, and thus support their pastor comfortably and assist the various benevolent schemes of the church. The rates are designedly made very small, and are not to be considered in any sense a limit to giving. There are members well-to-do who can, if they are "willing of themselves," give twenty dollars more easily every Sabbath than their servants can give ten cents.

It must be carefully noted that proportionate giving must be regular to be effective. Should any be absent on one or more Sabbaths from their church, the amount must be sacredly laid aside. It is the Lord's money. "It is devoted," and brought when the worshiper appears again in the house of God. We ought to consider it a blessed privilege to be allowed to give to God for his worship and service. We should give cheerfully. "The Lord loveth a cheerful giver;" the Lord will abundantly compensate all who thus give. "There is that giveth and yet increaseth; there is that withholdeth and it tendeth to poverty."

The proportion must also be well settled, so that we shall not mock God by our offerings. What are a few cents offered to God by those who are well able to do more? Consider if this is as God prospers you. Would any of us offer a friend such a paltry sum who asks us to help him, if we are able to assist effectively?—*N. Y. Independent.*

Missionary.

—According to the *Missionary Review's* tables, the Foreign Missionary Societies of the world show a gain of 308,643 communicants in the past year. They spent a little less than eight and a half millions of dollars. The home churches could not show a corresponding increase for their outlay.

—The Baptist Home Missionary Society is fifty years old. It has paid \$1,700,000 for actual missionary services, \$1,000,000 for educational work among colored people and Indians, and over \$300,000 has been loaned to 331 churches for the erection of edifices.

—It is estimated that the number of schools at present connected with the various foreign missions exceeds 12,000. The Bible has been translated into 236 languages and dialects, while its circulation during the past eighty years has reached an aggregate of 148,000,000 copies.

—Within the last year the women of the United States have given the magnificent sum of six hundred thousand dollars for the spread of the gospel in heathen lands. Of this amount the Presbyterians gave nearly \$200,000; the Baptists, \$156,000; the Congregationalists, \$130,000; the Northern Methodist, \$108,000; and the women of the Methodist Church South, \$25,110. An examination of the reports of these denominations show that many of their large amounts are made up of small contributions. It illustrates the value of the small mites when aggregated.

—The Burmans are beginning to show increased interest in Christianity. Though the Baptist missionaries in Burmah began their labors among them, they only number about 1,500 converts, while there are 81,899 church members among the Karens.

—The exploration of Africa goes on apace. The French Chamber of Deputies have voted 1,275,000 francs to defray the expenses of M. de Brazza's mission to Africa. Henri Rochefort's son has been authorized to accompany de Brazza. The report of the committee on M. de Brazza's mission says that he considers it possible to complete the exploration of the Upper Congo in two years. His object is to maintain the position already achieved, by founding eight chief and eleven minor stations, forming a chain to Brazzaville from Gaboon and from the sea. In order to mark the pacific character of the mission, it goes

under the auspices of the ministries of foreign affairs and public instruction.—*Christian Standard.*

American Bible Society.

The stated meeting of the Board of Managers was held at the Bible House, on Thursday, January 4, 1883, Frederick H. Wolcott, Esq., Vice President, in the chair.

Religious services were conducted by the Rev. J. M. Pringle, of Astoria, N. Y.

Grant of books were made to the value of about \$9,000, and a grant of \$182.36 in money to the Missionary Society of the Methodist Episcopal Church for Sweden.

During the month of December, 21,865 volumes of the Scriptures, of the value of \$6,722, were consigned to 180 colporteurs of the Society at work in twenty two States.

Two societies in California, four in Iowa and one in New York, were recognized as auxiliary.

Mr. Loomis, the Society's agent in Japan, writes under date of November 14, giving the very impressive intelligence that Japanese Christians had formally expressed an earnest desire to be represented in the work of translating the Old Testament by scholars chosen by themselves.

It was announced that C. T. O. King, of Monrovia, has accepted the position of agent of the Society in Liberia, to which he was recently elected by the Board.

Mr. Hamilton, the Society's agent in Mexico, wrote on December 11 that the sales during the four preceding months had amounted to \$380.

Reference was made to letters recently received from Mr. Prince, of St. Petersburg, from the Rev. Jas. E. Tracy, of the Madura District, India, and from Mr. Wm. Ireland, of the Zulu Mission.

The total receipts for December were \$79,906.45. The issues were 106,038 volumes.

Carlyle on Work.

"Give us, oh, give us the man that sings at his work! Be his occupation what it may, he is equal to any of those who follow the same pursuit in silent sullenness. He will do more in the same time, he will do it better, he will persevere longer. One is scarcely sensible of fatigue whilst he marches to music. The very stars are said to make harmony as they revolve in their spheres. Wondrous is the strength of cheerfulness, altogether past cal-

culatation its powers of endurance. Efforts, to be permanently useful, must be uniformly joyous—a spirit all sunshine—graceful from very gladness, beautiful because bright.

Understand always that the end of man is an action, not a thought. Endeavor incessantly, with all the strength that is in you, to ascertain what—there where you are, there as you are—you can do in this world; and upon that bend your whole faculties, regarding all reveries, feelings, singular thoughts, moods, etc., as worth nothing whatever, except as they bear you on that and will help you on toward that. In a valiant suffering for others, not in a slothful making others suffer for us, did nobleness ever lie. The chief of men is he who stands in the van of men, fronting the peril which frightens back all others, which, if it be not vanquished, will devour the others. Every noble crown is, and on earth will forever be, a crown of thorns.

My friends, all speech and rumor is short-lived, foolish, and untrue. Genuine work alone, what thou workest faithfully, that is eternal as the Almighty Founder and world-builder Himself. Stand thou by that, and let fame and the rest of it go prating. To the better order of minds, any mad joy of denial has long since ceased; the problem is not now to deny, but to ascertain and perform.—*Ex.*

God's greatest blessings often come to us in the way of surprises. When the skies are as brass, when the earth is parched, and the flowers dying, and we bow our heads in despondency, how often does it happen that we are startled from our hopelessness by the pattering of sudden rain, and, looking up, we see the green earth created anew about us. God's mercies in their coming have the freshness of that unexpected rain. When human assistance is impossible, and it seems that even God cannot, or will not, help, there comes a sudden change, and the difficulties disappear, and the heart that scarcely dared to hope is filled with the love that is without fear. "He that believeth in Him shall not be confounded;" when his need is direst, he shall find that God is nighest; when his own hand cannot save him, he shall stand still and see the swift salvation of God.—*S. S. Times.*

Step by step lift bad to good,
Without halting, without rest,
Lifting Better up to Best;
Planting seeds of knowledge pure.
—R. W. Emerson.