

ART. V.—OUR SUPPORT OF FOREIGN MISSIONS
IN 1881.

ENGLAND'S liberality in supporting Foreign Missions was fairly maintained during the year 1881; but no advance was made.

Delayed Reports of several Societies being at length issued, in September, 1882, the financial results of 1881 are now fully marshalled for review. To make such a review, year after year, would have been one of the most useful and most legitimate of the duties of a general Board of Missions, if such a body had been called into existence. As, however, this lack has been supplied during the past eleven years, by the labours of a private individual, there is now less need than ever for creating such a Board.

Upon minute inspection, we find that though the muster-roll of British Contributions is scarcely so large as it was in 1880, it nevertheless shows a grand total of £1,093,569. This sum is less, by £15,381, than the previous year's total (the largest ever raised for Foreign Missions); but it considerably exceeds those of 1878 and 1879.

The statistics of Britain's Missionary efforts during recent years, when examined *en bloc*, bear cheering and incontestable witness to the existence of increasing progress, activity, and life. This progress may be all the more satisfactory from the close resemblance of its method to that of a calmly flowing tide. On the margin of an ocean the wavelets recede for a brief interval before and after each forward movement; the tide's onward power and progress are nevertheless sure and certain. We observe that the crest of the wave of contributions reached onward, and still onward, in 1873, in 1877, and in 1880.¹ Very decided and well marked was the progress made in those years. Though the wavelets recede slightly during intervening periods the tide is nevertheless flowing still; *Laus Deo*.

The broad channels into which the tributary streams of British contribution flowed, during the year 1881, may be cited as five in number:—

¹ Summary of British Contributions to Foreign Missions for eleven years:—

	£			£
1871 . . .	855,742	...	1876 . . .	1,048,472
1872 . . .	882,886	...	1877 . . .	1,100,793
1873 . . .	1,032,176	...	1878 . . .	1,071,944
1874 . . .	1,009,199	...	1879 . . .	1,086,678
1875 . . .	1,048,408	...	1880 . . .	1,108,950
	1881 . . .	...		£1,093,569.

		£
I.	23 Societies of the Church of England	460,395
II.	13 Bible, Tract, Education, and Missionary Societies, supported jointly by Churchmen and Nonconformists	153,320
III.	16 Nonconformist Societies (English and Welsh)	313,177
IV.	23 Presbyterian Societies, Scottish (16), and Irish (7)	155,767
Total Protestant Contributions		1,082,659
V.	2 Roman Catholic Societies	10,910
Total voluntarily contributed in the British Isles during 1881-2		£ 1,093,569

Attention may be drawn, *en passant*, to the last item. The collections of the Roman Propaganda are always quoted in *francs*; and, in that form, its totals have an imposing sound. Thus, in 1881, France figures in the list as contributing 4½ millions—of francs. Stated in a similar way, the British contributions to the Roman Propaganda are written in the imposing figures 218,895*l.* 8*o.*, which mean nothing more than £8,686. The popular adage that “extremes meet,” is remarkably illustrated by the coincidence that three very different religious bodies, in the British Isles, gathered each in the year 1881 their *maximum* income for Foreign Missions. The Reports which proclaim this fact, with becoming jubilation and thanksgiving, are those of the FREE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND, the WELSH CALVINISTIC METHODISTS, and the ROMAN CATHOLIC PROPAGANDA.¹

The fruitful interest in Foreign Mission work, which can sometimes be incited among the lower stratum of the middle classes, is well illustrated in the Missionary Report of the WELSH CALVINISTIC METHODISTS. It states that contributions, far above the average of those usually given by wealthy persons, came from members of that Society who are in very ordinary circumstances; not above the position of working men. One residing in Liverpool contributed £30; another, who

¹ As the statement is in this case of historical importance, it may be useful to many of our readers to have the exact words of the announcement. “The year 1881 has been a truly blessed one for our Association. Owing chiefly to the additional Jubilee offerings, our receipts have risen to the sum total of 6,906,058*l.* 19*s.*, exceeding by 886,018*l.* 53*s.* those of 1880. This is the greatest harvest of alms that we have yet received, and the . . . comparative table will show, that in every part of the globe the Sovereign Pontiff’s voice has been obeyed.”—*Annals of the Propagation of the Faith*, May, 1882, p. 111.

dwells at Dowlais, gave £24. That Society, following the example of the WESLEYAN MISSIONARY SOCIETY, encourages a band of juvenile collectors by giving to them prizes of books. Collecting cards are issued to Sunday Scholars a few weeks before Christmas. Keen competition then ensues among the children of each school to obtain the largest collection of the year. A small prize is given to each collector; but those who obtain the largest sums receive books of value. These are called "Christmas rewards," a term which might puzzle uninitiated readers of the Wesleyan Society's cash account.

Far more satisfactory is a system now utilized on behalf of the CAMBRIDGE DELHI MISSION, the UNIVERSITY CENTRAL AFRICAN MISSION, the MELANESIAN MISSION and others. Children in our Public Schools, and in Church Sunday Schools, are incited by collections made among them to take an interest in Foreign Mission Work. Thus, Eton has for several years largely assisted the work in Melanesia, and other Schools now do likewise. From the chapels, or houses, of Tunbridge School, the Surrey County School, Highgate School, and the Leeds Clergy School, nearly £50 was received for the CAMBRIDGE DELHI MISSION, during 1881. More than thirty African teachers and scholars are supported, in schools of the CENTRAL AFRICAN MISSION, each by a separate Church Sunday School in England. For this purpose, each School must contribute at least £7 per annum. It is cheering to see that as many as thirty Sunday Schools achieve this, on behalf of one Society alone. The custom now happily obtains amongst the supporters of various Missionary Societies, and must have a beneficial effect upon English school children.

Vast improvement has been effected in the method of setting forth the financial affairs of Missionary Societies, in their Reports, since the present writer commenced his annual analysis and summary of their receipts. In England the SOCIETY FOR THE PROPAGATION OF THE GOSPEL has always been pre-eminent for the lucidity and comprehensiveness of its financial statements. In the CHURCH MISSIONARY SOCIETY'S Report for 1881, several changes of method may be noted, and each is an improvement. The addition of an alphabetical index of the names of all parishes from which contributions come, is a decided boon to that SOCIETY'S members.

In the WESLEYAN MISSIONARY SOCIETY'S Report for 1881 there is one novel feature of interest and importance. A summary has been made of all the local expenses of collection, which had been deducted from the British contributions before they reached head-quarters:—the Mission House in London. This summary appears upon the General Statement of Receipts and Expenditure for the year, and is very instructive. It

shows that from a total sum of £108,815, contributed in various districts, expenses amounting to £6,180 were deducted before the money was forwarded to London. That is to say, local expenses of collection consumed $5\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. of the general contributions, before they were subjected to any deduction for the cost of the Society's staff at head-quarters.

This Society seems to maintain mission work at its various foreign stations, without curtailment, even when the needful funds are not contributed at home. Consequently, debt and interest thereon become heavy charges. The deficiencies of three years last past burden the Society with a present deficit of £33,308; and the interest paid last year, for borrowed money, amounted to £2,763, or more than $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. of the total sum collected in Great Britain. Happy is the Society which has good reason to believe that its supporters will ultimately relieve such deficiencies by means of a "Thanksgiving Fund."

It is worthy of notice, that by showing upon its Annual Statement the entire sums collected, together with a summary of the amounts deducted in the local districts, for expenses, the Wesleyan Society enables its supporters to know exactly how much of their contributions will go to real mission work. The majority of Societies¹ bring into account only the amounts actually received at head-quarters; they render no summary account of the local expenses.

Notwithstanding that the Wesleyan Society thus charges itself with all local expenses and with heavy interest on a deficit, its total home expenses are less than 17 per cent. of its receipts. It thus compares well with many other societies which, ignoring altogether the local expenses, nevertheless expend upon home machinery and appliances 16 per cent. of their receipts (like the CHURCH OF ENGLAND ZENANA MISSION); or 18 per cent. (like the GENERAL BAPTIST, the EVANGELICAL CONTINENTAL, and the SPANISH AND PORTUGUESE CHURCH AID SOCIETIES); or 19 per cent. (like the LONDON SOCIETY FOR PROMOTING CHRISTIANITY AMONG THE JEWS); or 21 per cent. (like the COLONIAL AND CONTINENTAL CHURCH SOCIETY); or 24 per cent. (like the FOREIGN AID SOCIETY); or 27 per cent. (like the COLONIAL MISSIONARY SOCIETY); or 28 per cent. (like the BRITISH SOCIETY FOR THE PROPAGATION OF THE GOSPEL AMONG THE JEWS); or 31 per cent. (like the SOUTH AMERICAN MISSIONARY SOCIETY); or even 39

¹ We need not except from this statement the Reports of the PRIMITIVE METHODIST MISSIONARY SOCIETY and the UNITED METHODIST FREE CHURCHES MISSIONS, which specify all the local expenses in tabular district summaries. They do not bring them into the general account of expenditure. The local expenses tabulated by these Societies as being deducted before the collections reach head-quarters amount to 10 per cent. of the sums contributed.

per cent. (like the TURKISH MISSIONS AID SOCIETY). Small societies must always of necessity be, in proportion, more expensive than large ones.

The actual head-quarter expenses of the WESLEYAN MISSIONARY SOCIETY bear about the same percentage to the total receipts as do those of the SOCIETY FOR THE PROPAGATION OF THE GOSPEL, the CHURCH MISSIONARY SOCIETY, and other large Societies—*i.e.*, between 10 and 11 per cent.

W. A. SCOTT ROBERTSON.

ANALYSIS OF THE RECEIPTS OF SOCIETIES FOR 1881-2.

I. Societies of the Church of England.

	From abroad and other sources.	From Invest- ments.	British Contribu- tions.
	£	£	£
1. Church Missionary Society	8,977	9,618	202,541
2. Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts (in addition to £14,328 received through Societies mentioned below)	2,193	11,827	106,631
3. London Society for Promoting Chris- tianity among the Jews	298	2,910	34,741
4. Colonial and Continental Church Society	22,140	173	19,529
5. Church of England Zenana Missionary Society	164	49	18,041
6. Society for Promoting Christian Know- ledge, sum paid in aid of Foreign Missions, about . . . . .	...	...	12,000
7. Central African Mission of the Universities	361	282	11,311
8. South American Missionary Society	2,729	157	8,667
9. Moosonee Diocesan Funds . . . . .	...	...	6,300
10. Spanish, Portuguese, and Mexican Churches Aid Society	71	...	5,853
11. British Syrian Schools	110	134	4,936
12. Missionary Leaves Association, aiding native clergy of the Church Missionary Society . . . . .	...	4	4,077
13. "The Net's" collections, for Mackenzie Memorial, £995, and other missions . . . . .	...	...	2,278
14. Melanesian Mission . . . . .	...	...	2,181
15. St. Augustine's Missionary College, Canterbury (in addition to its perma- nent endowment) . . . . .	...	731	2,155
16. Capetown Bishop's Aid Association . . . . .	...	...	1,963
17. St. Boniface Mission House, Warminster . . . . .	...	...	1,400
18. Foreign Aid Society for France, Belgium, Italy, and Spain . . . . .	...	3	1,355
19. Columbia Mission	30	...	1,299
20. Coral Fund to Aid Schools and Churches of the Church Missionary Society . . . . .	...	21	1,099
21. Colonial Bishopricks Fund	2,093	10,490	936

	From abroad and other sources. £	From Invest- ments. £	British Contribu- tions. £
22. Cambridge Mission to Delhi	47	693
23. Delhi Female Medical Mission	409
24. Christian Faith Society for the West Indies <i>Estimated Value of other Contributions</i> unreported, and of Gifts sent to Mission } Stations }	...	2,176	...
	10,000
<i>Total of Donations, Legacies, and Annual Subscriptions</i> <i>from the British Isles.</i> }			<u>£460,395</u>

II. Joint Societies of Churchmen and Nonconformists.

25. British and Foreign Bible Society, devoted } to Foreign Mission Work, about . . . . . }	...	...	73,000
26. Religious Tract Society . . . . .	...	564	18,163
27. China Inland Mission . . . . .	...	...	9,550
28. Indian Female Normal School Society	3	...	6,939
29. Moravian (Episcopal) Missions of the } United Brethren }	12,923	758	6,115
30. Society for Promoting Female Education } in the East }	1,012	560	6,080
31. Livingstone Inland Congo Mission . . . . .	...	...	4,969
32. East London Institute for Training } Missionaries, proportion for Foreign } Missions, about . . . . . }	...	...	4,408
33. Christian Vernacular Education Society } for India }	6,085	139	4,363
34. Waldensian Missions Aid Fund . . . . .	...	...	3,663
35. Turkish Missions (American) Aid Society . . . . .	...	...	2,181
36. Trinitarian Bible Society . . . . .	...	...	1,889
<i>Estimated Value of other Gifts and Con-</i> tributions unreported . . . . . }	...	...	12,000
<i>Total of Donations, Legacies, and Annual Subscriptions</i> <i>from the British Isles</i> }			<u>£153,320</u>

III. Nonconformist Societies (English and Welsh).

37. Wesleyan Missionary Society (including } £6,260 spent on Missions in Ireland) }	147,113	4,505	121,635
38. London Missionary Society	26,339	4,849	81,299
39. Baptist Missionary Society	10,049	2,062	46,624
40. English Presbyterian Foreign Missions	189	117	12,607
41. British Society for the Propagation of the } Gospel among the Jews . . . . . }	...	...	6,839
42. United Methodist Free Churches Foreign } and Colonial Missions }	7,584	...	5,839
43. "Friends" Foreign Mission Association	89	373	5,163
44. Welsh Calvinistic Methodist Missions	116	473	5,077
45. General Baptist Missionary Society	3,389	...	4,727
46. Primitive Methodist Colonial Missions . . . . .	...	...	3,691
47. Methodist New Connexion Missionary } Society }	980	...	3,111

	From abroad and other sources.	From Invest- ments.	British Contribu- tions.
	£	£	£
48. Evangelical Continental Society . . . . .	...	...	2,848
49. Wesleyan Ladies Auxiliary for Female Education . . . . .	...	45	2,547
50. Colonial Missionary Society	140	76	2,143
51. "Friends" Mission in Syria and Palestine	730	44	2,143
52. Primitive Methodist African Missions . . . . .	...	...	1,884
<i>Estimated Value of work sent to Mission Stations and other Contributions un- reported . . . . .</i>	...	...	5,000
Total British Contributions through English and Welsh Nonconformist Societies			<u>£313,177</u>

IV. Scotch and Irish Presbyterian Societies.

Free Church of Scotland Missions.

53. Foreign Missions	27,989	2,975	31,764
54. Jews Conversion Fund . . . . .	...	335	7,428
55. Colonial Mission . . . . .	...	63	4,259
56. Ladies Society for Female Education . . . . .	...	...	3,825
57. Continental Fund . . . . .	...	95	3,763
58. United Presbyterian Missions (Foreign, Colonial and Continental)	724	185	35,529

Church of Scotland Mission Boards.

59. Foreign Missions	8,888	342	13,623
60. Colonial and Continental Missions . . . . .	...	...	6,019
61. Jewish Mission . . . . .	...	...	4,508
62. Ladies Association for Female Missions . . . . .	...	...	3,343
63. Ladies Association for Educating Jew- ish Females . . . . .	...	...	407
64. National Bible Society of Scotland . . . . .	...	1,103	15,587
65. Edinburgh Medical Missionary Society	937	76	4,742
66. Waldensian Missions Aid Fund, about . . . . .	...	...	2,587
67. Lebanon Schools . . . . .	...	...	864
68. Original Secession Church Indian Mission. <i>Estimated Value of other Scottish Con- tributions . . . . .</i>	...	...	786 2,500

Total, through Scotch Presbyterian Societies £141,534

Irish Presbyterian Missions.

69. Foreign Mission	1,848	286	4,566
70. Jewish Mission . . . . .	...	...	4,369
71. Colonial Mission	100	...	1,890
72. Ladies Female Missionary Society . . . . .	...	...	1,557
73. Continental Mission . . . . .	...	17	523
74. Gujarat Orphanage Fund	119	...	328
75. Mrs. Magee's Indian Education Fund . . . . .	...	1,281	...
<i>Estimated Value of other Irish Contribu- tions . . . . .</i>	...	...	1,000

Total Scotch and Irish Presbyterian Contributions £155,767

V. *Missions of British Roman Catholics.*

	From abroad and other sources.	From Invest- ments.	British Contribu- tions.
	£	£	£
76. Society for the Propagation of the Faith	8,686
77. St. Joseph's Missionary Society and Col- lege of the Sacred Heart (Mill Hill, Hendon)	2,224
Total Roman Catholic Contributions			£10,910



ART. VI.—MR. GARDINER'S CHARLES THE FIRST.¹

MR. GARDINER is well known to all historical students as the writer who has made the period of the first two Stuarts upon the English throne his special province. As the reader refers to Freeman for all that appertains to the Norman Conquest, to Stubbs for a knowledge of our early constitutional charters, to Froude for the period of the Reformation, to Macaulay for the incidents in the lives of James the Second and William the Deliverer, or to Stanhope for the deeds of the House of Hanover; so does he who desires to make himself familiar with the latest revelations as to James the First, as to Charles the First and Buckingham, and as to the personal government of the "martyr monarch," study the volumes of Professor Gardiner. Our author is a believer in original research, and does not content himself with second-hand references. Busying himself amid the mine of wealth contained in our national archives, he has consulted the State Papers to no little purpose, and has produced historical works which are models for accuracy and sound judgment. Mr. Gardiner lacks the picturesque style of several of his contemporaries, but we feel as we peruse his volumes that we are in the hands of an earnest, a painstaking, and in the main an unprejudiced historian, and these gifts are sufficient to cover any defects as to style that may be apparent in his narrative. The work before us is a continuation of the volumes dealing with the personal government of Charles the First. Here we quit Prerogative for Parliament.

The causes which led to the fall of the monarchy of our first Charles are not difficult to discover. In the summer of the year

¹ "The Fall of the Monarchy of Charles I." By S. Rawson Gardiner L.L.D. Two Volumes. Longmans. 1882.