

so effective for the spread of Christianity in the hands of the missionaries.

Japan.—The Christian converts increased 50 per cent. last year, till they number over 7,000, with more young people seeking instruction than ever before. Contributions of Japanese Christians the past year for educational and religious objects amount to over \$41,000; and not only professed Christians give, but others who see the work in progress, especially parents, for the sake of the moral culture obtained in our schools. Mr. Neesima reports \$31,000 subscribed by a few Japanese gentlemen, including two of the highest officials of the government, toward the enlargement of the Doshisha school into a Christian university. Count Okuma, minister of foreign affairs, Count Inouye, late minister of foreign affairs, but who has recently returned to the cabinet, as a minister of agriculture and commerce have subscribed 1,000 yen each. Viscount Aoki, vice-minister of state, gives 500 yen, while six other prominent officials and bankers have given together 23,500 yen.

—The number of converts in the Japan Mission of the American Board has increased in fifteen months from 4,226 to 7,003, a gain of 2,801. This is the most remarkable record in any mission of the Board, except the Sandwich Islands.

—**Awakening.** The Rev. A. B. Hutchinson, C.M.S., Nagasaki, says: "In this remote corner of distant Japan there is an awakening and inquiry after the truth which have already resulted in the baptism of over 200 converts, principally adults, in the northern part of Kiushiu, which is the portion allotted to me as my special sphere of work. Others are being prepared for admission into the fold of Christ. My fellow-worker on the eastern side of Kiushiu, Rev. J. B. Brandram, and our brethren of the Presbyterian and American Episcopal Methodist missions, are rejoicing over similar proofs that the gospel is still the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth. I would ask earnest prayer for the workers in this land."

—According to *The Chinese Recorder* the need of Japan at the present moment is 1,000 preaching missionaries. Out of 100 ordained missionaries, only thirty are engaged in preaching. Some Buddhist priests have taken such titles as bishop and reverend, and a Professor of the Old Testament has been engaged by the Kioto Buddhist college. There is a crying demand for lady teachers for women of rank, and also for Christian teachers for private and government schools. This is as true of India as of Japan.

Madagascar.—The London Missionary Society continues to push its work here with increasing success, notwithstanding the political changes and the aggressive attitude of the Church of Rome. With its 30

English missionaries, it reports the astounding number of 838 native ordained ministers, and 4,395 native preachers, 61,000 church members and 230,000 adherents. But as yet scarcely one-half of the population has been reached by the gospel.

Mexico.—Mexico is a Christian country, yet Bishop Hurst of the Methodist Episcopal Church says that in Mexico 8,000,000 have never seen a copy of the Holy Scriptures.

New Mexico.—The South American Missionary Society has started a new mission in Paraguay under encouraging circumstances.

New Guinea is one of the most interesting points in the world's missionary work at present. A few years ago the whole people were the worst lot of cannibals known. Now many of them are receiving the gospel, and a change is rapidly coming over the island.

New Zealand.—New Zealand, as a matter of fact, is evangelized. Christianity has not failed of success in a single island. In India and elsewhere they had to gather the converts one by one, but in New Zealand a movement set in, and great numbers came forward. Its advance was almost like a bush fire. The number of native clergy at present laboring there is quite three times what they had previously been. These are not supported by money from home, but by the contributions and endowments of their own people.—*Bishop Stuart, D.D., of Waiapu.*

Scotland.—A recent number of *The Scottish Geographical Magazine* has papers dealing with subjects specially engaging the attention of the friends of missions. Not to speak of Mr. H. O. Forbes's paper on "Attempts to Reach the Owen Stanley Peak," which goes over ground occupied by the New Guinea Mission of the London Missionary Society, we have notes on "Recent Explorations in the Territories of the African Lakes Company," by E. G. Ravenstein, F.R.G.S., with a map of the territory, at this moment of more than usual interest, between Lakes Tanganyika and Nyassa, far in advance of anything that has yet been given of that region of Africa. There is also a very graphic account of "Lukoma," an island in Lake Nyassa, by Archdeacon Maples, F.R.G.S., the headquarters of a hopeful branch of the Universities Mission in Central Africa. The Archdeacon, like his chief, Bishop Smythies, warmly commends the work of the Scottish Missions on the Lake, referring to the members of the Established Church of Scotland at Blantyre as competent translators of the Scriptures, and to the Buchanan brothers as the enterprising missionary-colonists at Zomba. His account of the work of his own mission at Lukoma is most instructive, showing how the missionaries in their mission ship, *Charles Janson*, reach the coast villages to