

the Young Men's Prayer Meeting of the church, numbering 125 members. The boys' generous response was over \$60, which will support another native pastor for a year and the education for one year of a boy in the boys' school. The matter was also laid before the congregation. No collection was taken but simply the statement made. The response was over \$50. Cannot some other pastor be the means of blessing his people by asking them to help in this great work of Christ?

—Shanghai Union Conference.—A Conference on Union, composed of representatives of seven Presbyterian churches laboring in China, met at Shanghai, May 15th. On account of the diversity of language and the difficulties of travel the representatives of two of the churches deemed organic union impossible. At a later meeting it was decided to take steps to form an organic union between the five other churches, and any others who may wish to join the union. A plan of union similar to the one used by the churches in India was adopted. A constitution is to be formed for the Presbyterian churches in China based upon those of the churches in Europe and America. Its doctrinal basis is to be "The Apostles' Creed," the "Nicene Creed," and the "Westminster Confession and Catechisms." The Presbyteries are to be composed of the missionaries, the pastors and the churches occupying the same territory. These Presbyteries are to constitute one Synod, meeting once in five years. The uniting bodies are the Presbyterian Church (North), U. S. A.; the Presbyterian Church (South), U. S. A.; the United Presbyterian of Scotland, the Irish Presbyterian, and the Canadian Presbyterian churches. The two declining to unite are the English Presbyterian and the Reformed Dutch churches. The summary of statistics given at the Conference shows, Foreign missionaries, 1,295; native helpers, 1,649; churches, 520; communicants, 37,237; pupils in schools, 16,916; contributions by native Christians, \$36,834.

India.—"Our work in North India continues to prosper. Brother Bare writes that no less than 2,364 persons have been baptized in the Rohilkhand district since the annual statistics were made up at the close of last October. This covers a space of five months. Add to these 400 baptisms in connection with Dr. Parker's evangelistic work, and 300 by Brother Osborne and others in the Rusk district, and we have a total of more than 3,000. This surpasses the sanguine expectations with which we began the year, and our brethren are very naturally filled with joy and hope."—*Bishop Thoburn.*

—Bishop Thoburn on India.—At Northfield, Mass., in Mr. Moody's College Conference on Missions, July 3d, Bishop Thoburn, of the Methodist Episcopal Church, just returned from India spoke. He has been in India 31

years and has come home to raise \$15,000 for a printing plant in Calcutta. After describing the country, with its population of 310,000,000, he took up the culture and religion of the people. Said he: "Calcutta has a student population of 15,000, and its college men are peers of their American brethren. From this cultivated class you can descend until you find whole villages where no person can read a word of any language. To these degraded classes the missionaries go or send native preachers who teach the alphabet by marking in the sand with their fingers. With this beginning they teach them to read the Bible."

Cannibals the Bishop does not regard as the lowest class of men. He has seen men worse than cannibals in New York and London. In speaking of the work of the Young Men's Christian Association in Calcutta, he said that its representatives are undenominational and he wished them to remain so. When he said that \$30 would support one of the lowest class of missions, for which he had met trained, Mr. Moody said that he wanted one of those missions and would contribute \$30 for that purpose. About twenty minutes was given up to receiving similar offers. College after college responded. The Virginia delegation and the University of Virginia each subscribed for a mission. "We think more of Virginia now than we did in '61," said Mr. Moody, and the applause stopped the contributions for a short time. Princeton, the University of Pennsylvania, Harvard, Yale, and Johns-Hopkins were among the twenty or thirty institutions which will share in this new phase of mission work in India.

—A meeting was held in Exeter Hall, on May 2, to establish a London Auxiliary of the Mission to Lepers in India. The secretary reported that there are about 500,000 lepers in India. The society utilizes existing agencies as much as possible. Addresses were given by Mr. T. A. Denny and Rev. F. E. Wigram.

Italy.—The Waldensian Church of Italy, which has recently celebrated its two hundredth anniversary of the return of the exiled Vauds, gives evidence of continued life and vigor. It reports 44 churches, 38 pastors, 27 evangelists, including colporteurs, 6 Bible readers, 4,074 communicants and 469 catechumens.

Japan.—Murder of a Missionary. It was at first feared that the recent assassination of Rev. T. A. Large, of the Canadian Methodist Mission in Tokio, Japan, indicated a reaction in the popular feeling about missionaries, and resulted from hatred to the foreign religious teacher. But the sad event proves to have been the crime of robbers, who entered the missionary's bedroom to find the key of his safe, in which a considerable sum of money had been deposited. Roused suddenly from his sleep, and wholly unarmed, Mr. Large bravely expelled the masked intruders,