

013,418 more males than females.—*India Witness*.

—**The Hangchow Hospital.** We have received from Dr. Duncan Main, of the C. M. S., a copy of his interesting report of the work in this hospital, for 1887. After referring to the arrival of Dr. Hickin, he says they were startled on the 21st of February, by finding that all the instruments had been stolen to the value of \$800, and so far neither the thief nor the instruments have been discovered. It is gratifying to find, however, that through the generosity of friends the stock of instruments is now

better than ever it was. The hospital is open to all, but he says they do not practice indiscriminate giving away of medicines, nor give charity to those who are able to pay. To the out-patient there is an entrance fee of 14 cash, which is not sufficient to cover the cost of the medicine given, but still makes him feel that it possesses a cash value. For the in-patients there is a scale of charges according to their means. The out-patients numbered 10,277 (with 26,811 visits); the in-patients 502; suicides 134; patients seen at their homes 185; in the country 2,234.—*The Messenger*.

VII.—EDITORIAL NOTES ON CURRENT TOPICS.

Bishop William Taylor.

THE editor of the *New York Mail and Express* says:

"The heroic days are not yet over; Bishop Taylor is a proof of it. The story of his life reads more like a tale of medieval days than a history of the immediate past. He has traveled more, been in stranger places, made more remarkable conversions, endured more hardships and seen more adventures, than any other preacher now alive. He has preached the gospel in every continent on the globe, and in many of the islands of the sea. He is one of the most unique personalities of the nineteenth century. In 1862 he went to England, Ireland and Palestine. Then Australia and Tasmania were visited, in an evangelistic tour, lasting nearly three years. In 1865 he first entered Africa, and labored in Cape Colony, Natal Colony and Caffraria, where multitudes of foreigners and natives were converted by his preaching. In 1870 he went to India, and in 1871 he began his self-supporting work there, which has developed into the South India Conference. Since that time he has established a chain of churches and mission stations in South America."

His brief visit to this country last year, and the deep interest he everywhere awakened, are well known. We have elsewhere chronicled his return to Africa with fifteen missionaries as a reinforcement.

We are glad to receive the initial number of *The African News*, edited by Bishop Taylor, with Dr. I. B. Welch, associate editor, whose address is Vineland, N. J., a magazine of fifty pages, with a striking likeness of the Bishop. It will keep us informed about missionary news from Africa, and from Bishop Taylor's work in particular. We bid the new-comer a hearty welcome. Bishop

Taylor's future movements, and the result of his bold experiment to plant and sustain a self-supporting mission in Africa, will be watched with intense interest.—J. M. S.

"WITHIN 1888 nearly one million of converts were added to the Christian churches in heathen lands; and yet there are those who say that foreign missions are a failure."

So says the *Presbyterian Banner*. We do not know whence come these figures, but they are so amazing that we cannot but think them erroneous. There are years in which 100,000 and even more have been added in foreign lands. But as there are less than 40,000 laborers, all told, a million converts would imply an average of over twenty-five converts for every worker in the field, male and female, native and foreign. We think there is a mistake somewhere.—A. T. P.

Women's Christian Temperance Union.

THE recent anniversary of the Union in the city of New York was a notable event. Its sessions were held in the Metropolitan Opera House, which seats about 5,000 persons, and which day and night for nearly a week was filled to its utmost capacity at every session. The audience was chiefly composed of women, and a more intelligent-looking and cultured and dignified audience we have seldom seen. Miss Willard presided with a grace and deliberation, impartiality and patience rarely witnessed in any con-