

Bishop Vilkinson; Pastor Tafel, from Geneva; Pastor Bach, of the French Reformed Church; and the well-known writer, Pastor Funcke, from Bremen. It is interesting to notice the spread of the Young Men's Christian Association. Founded by George Williams, June 6, 1844, with a membership of twelve persons, the Associations to-day number thirty-five hundred, with a membership of over two millions, spread through Europe, America, India, Japan, China, Africa, West India Islands, and Madagascar. In America alone there are a thousand Associations, and over one hundred and fifty thousand members.

*The Gospel in all Lands.* We take pleasure in recommending this magazine to all those who are desirous of obtaining reliable missionary information. Especially would we recommend it to the auxiliaries and mission bands of the Woman's Missionary Society. It enters fully into the geography of foreign lands, the peoples, their habits and customs, with interesting papers relating to all departments of mission work, thus making it an invaluable aid to those who are endeavoring to interest and instruct others in mission work. A lady, whom we advised to subscribe for this magazine, writes, "It is just what I wanted." Published at the Mission Rooms, 805 Broadway, New York. Price, \$2.

## Editorial and Contributed.

### THE POWER OF NEWS.

GOD is preparing the world for the final missionary church. Commerce is no longer an affair of a coast-line. The ships "go to and fro," the railways have narrowed the continents, the oceans are becoming rivulets, all nations are neighbors. The shelves and cellars of every grocery bear testimony to the fact that unto us the ends of the world have come. Almost every dinner reminds us that the world is our kitchen garden. We live on the fruit of all lands. But few years have passed since Vail and Morse gave the world the electric telegraph. Now its wires network the world and have become the mystic nerves of our modern civilization. A sleepless vigilance of the press, keenly set upon the affairs of a thousand peoples, renews our world-wide acquaintance every morning. Modern postal facilities reinforce the effect. We open letters brought to us by one mail from Japan, England, Cape Colony and Palestine. Distant shores are consecrated by our thoughts of loving interest for those who live upon them, and the personal touch we have with them through our ink and note paper. Every country under heaven is made dearer to us because of the Christian souls they shelter. A thousand young cir-

cumstances are making us feel as never before that "nothing human is foreign to us." Divine Providence even lashes us into feeling and attention. Are we careless concerning China? The Chinese problem is brought to our doors. We *must* think; we are forced to feel. A world-wide sympathy is growing. We apply our commercial maxims to the whole world. We say of the Japanese, Australian, Russian and African, "He may be made our customer." We touch him with our yard stick, and entice him with our merchandise. The masses of Christian people are beginning as never before to give world-wide application to the Christian truth that "we are members one of another," and in this growth there is the promise of a unification of all nationalities in sympathy and aspiration. One heart-throb will yet pulsate through all the world.

How many and impressive are the examples of enlargement of our lives through this expansion of the range of our sympathy. When Livingstone went to Africa for the last time, the eyes of the world were on him. When news of his danger, false reports of death, then the fatal blow to all hope came, how we were tortured with anxiety and softened by sorrow! We prayed for the lonely hero when he was in danger, we mourned him dead, and with the whole Christian world we followed him to the Abbey. It is safe to say that one hundred millions watched around the death bed of Garfield, and listened with intense sympathy while he moaned his life away. Gordon died alone, yet not alone. His soul ascended to God through an atmosphere made fragrant by the incense of a million Christian prayers. The royal sufferer's heroic fight with death at Charlottenburg has made this world a grander Coliseum, and a great cloud of witnesses has cheered him every morning. We are all made better by such experiences; never before in the history of the world were they possible. What has created this state of affairs? *News! News! News!* There is a new thing under the sun—a gossip of the world. Heretofore lack of heart has grown out of lack of information.

The missionary argument takes a greater hold upon the masses now than ever before. Argument to influence the actions powerfully must touch the imagination. The merchant when he has opened business relations with merchants in Japan, will be more vulnerable to a missionary appeal in reference to that country than previously, simply from the fact that Japan to him is no longer an abstraction, and the Japanese are men of flesh and blood doing business. The very habits of thought induced by our daily reading of the newspapers and the other agencies by which our thoughts are carried to the four corners of the globe, effect a like result in us. Our fellows all over the earth are made to be *real* to us. We grow into a