

as it goes, and never retrograding for an instant. Its diligence in the cause of female education, and its untiring efforts to improve the *status* of Japanese women, are referred to as evidences of the progress it is making. The article concludes as follows:—"That Christianity will ultimately attain to power by gradual and steady accumulation of merits is a fact of which we are convinced by long observation. If it progresses at its present rate its future is assured." The *Hochi Shimbun* exhorts the Buddhists to bestir themselves on behalf of their faith.

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THE enforcement of Russia's iniquitous decree against the Jews has exiled a million of them from that country. Many of these are finding their way to the United States. There is a district in New York city, south of Houston Street, and east of Broadway, where a recent census revealed a population of over 100,000 Russian and Roumanian Jews, and immigration is swelling the number by 20,000 per annum. Baron Hirsch is giving \$10,000 a month toward the relief of these exiles, and the local committee proposes to use the fund chiefly in educating the people to become self-supporting, by opening the way to trades and occupations new to them, instructing them in English, and giving them such knowledge of American institutions and methods as will enable them to amalgamate quickly with the people among whom they dwell.

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THE Russian edict against the Jews was passed in 1882, but was not enforced until quite recently. Something of the character of this edict may be inferred from one of its provisions, that "no Jew is any longer permitted to own or even farm land." This drives out all Jewish land-owners, farmers, and agricultural laborers. Moreover, all Jews settled outside of sixteen specified counties are expelled. It is difficult to discover the precise reason for this bitter dislike which extends far beyond Russia. Race antagonism seems to be the only explanation. An anti-Semitic Congress is to be held in Germany shortly, which, doubtless, will greatly intensify the feeling already in existence. It is understood, however, that the German Emperor has no sympathy with this anti-Jewish prejudice, and this may neutralize somewhat the effects of the Congress.

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CONSIDERABLE excitement has been caused in the Province of Gerona, and indeed, through the rest of Spain, by the conversion to Protestant Christianity of Father Zafra Mendenez, an ex-Catholic priest. He is a Doctor of Divinity, an eloquent speaker, and having been friar, Jesuit, professor, apostolic mission-

ary, parochial rector, and mission teacher in Spain, France and Africa, has had a wide experience. His conversion is the repetition of an old story. Finding no peace in the ceremonies enjoined by Rome, like Luther, he sought relief in the Holy City; but there he found a revolting mass of worldiness and hollow ceremonial. At last he obtained a copy of the Scriptures. The entrance of the Word gave light, and he found peace and rest. Finding a Protestant pastor, he solemnly renounced the errors of Romanism, and has since been doing faithful service as a preacher of the Gospel that has brought liberty to his own soul.

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THE prospects of evangelical Christianity in France are by no means discouraging. The prevailing irreligion and skepticism resulting from utter loss of faith in the Church of Rome, and therefore, to some extent, in all religion, presents a formidable barrier, but this is being gradually overcome, and the various forms of activity developed by Protestant Christianity are telling with good effect upon thousands of the people. In Paris, as we learn from the *Missionary Review*, there are, in addition to the work of the McAll Mission, societies to work among shop-girls, young washerwomen, coachmen, and priests who have left the Church of Rome. There are temperance societies, with restaurants, where food of good quality, at low prices, is supplied; homes for working men, working girls, and for those out of work; day homes for young children whose parents are at work, and homes for children whose parents are in hospital or prison. There are stores where the poor can buy at wholesale rates, and savings banks in which to deposit their earnings. There are homes at the sea-shore and in the country for invalids; Protestant schools, lectures, Bible readings, charitable associations, and asylums for every age and infirmity. All these belong to the vast work carried on by the Protestants in Paris.

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ONWARD: *A Paper for Young People*.—The first number of this new and most attractive weekly is before us, and if the succeeding numbers bear out the promise of the forerunner, we predict for the publication a very successful career. While its special mission is to serve as a medium of intercommunication between the numerous branches of the Epworth League, it is admirably adapted to young people everywhere, and with its departments of Biblical Illustration, Missions, Temperance, Sunday-school, Editorials, and Literature, will be a welcome guest in thousands of homes. Dr. Withrow, its versatile Editor, brings to the task long experience, ample resources, and a heart in full sympathy with his work. The "get-up" of