

Baptist Union had scarcely a name. To-day it includes 1000 churches, 900 ministers, and 330,000 members. The Bible Society then in its 47th year, issued the Bible in whole or in part, in 148 versions. To-day the number has grown to 292, and the circulation has sprung from 1,137,617 copies to 3,926,535; the foreign agents have increased from 7 to 27, and the receipts from £128,023 to £285,437.

—The English Baptist Handbook for 1892 shows the following summary of statistics for the United Kingdom: 2812 churches, 3798 chapels, 1,225,097 sittings, 334,163 members, 47,784 teachers, 483,921 scholars, 4155 local preachers, and 1841 pastors in charge; representing an increase of churches, 10; chapels, 17; sittings, 1571; members, 4000; scholars, 1029, and local preachers, 155. New chapels with 15,668 sittings have been built at a cost of \$269,580, mostly, however, taking the place of old buildings. Debts have been paid off or diminished by the sum of over \$313,000. The admissions to the ministry have been 52, of whom 32 received collegiate training, somewhat of a falling off from last year, which showed 83 new ministers.

—The National Bible Society of Scotland has its headquarters at 5 St. Andrew Square, Edinburgh, and 224 West George Street, Glasgow. The Secretary in Edinburgh is W. H. Goold, D.D., and in Glasgow, William J. Sloman, Esq. The income for 1890 was £34,912. Of this £15,877 came from sales of Scriptures. During 1890 the circulation of Bibles, Testaments, and portions amounted to 673,017 copies. Of these 214,572 were circulated at home, 30,776 in the colonies, and 427,669 in foreign lands. The foreign lands in which the Society has agents are Africa, Austria, Belgium, Brazil, China, France, Germany, Holland, India, Italy, Japan, Norway, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, Turkey and Syria, Tanna.

—It is said that the 35,000 native Christians of China gave \$41,000 last

year for the spread of the Gospel in their own land. And there is a church in San Francisco with 350 members, of whom 125 are Chinese. The total benevolent contributions of the church for last year amounted to \$3000, of which the Chinese paid \$2000. From all the Chinese missions in the State come \$6000, of which a part goes to help support their laborers in China.

—The Baptist missionaries of Japan, at their recent Conference, voted to reiterate their appeal for the twenty-three men for Japan. They note especially the facts that there are more than 63,000 Shintu preachers, and 92,000 Buddhist preachers and priests; there are more than 65,000 heads of temples, not counting the females, who alone out-number the Protestant missionaries by over 100; the increase of Shintu preachers from 1894-99 was greater than the present membership of all the Protestant churches. There is also a specific appeal for Northern Japan, where there is only one Baptist worker to 500,000 people, and where they wish especially to occupy the city of Hakodate.

—Out of the 300 members of the House of Representatives in Japan 13 are baptized Christians. Of these 7 are classed as radical, and 2 as independent. If this average were preserved throughout Japan it would signify that Christianity had gained over 1,500,000 converts. But aside from any such computation the figures are interesting as showing the success that Christian preaching has met with among the upper orders of the Japanese as well as among the lower, notwithstanding the contrary claim of some persons. Assuming the total number of Christians of all denominations in Japan to be 100,000, or 27 in every 10,000, the percentage in the class from which members of the House of Representatives are drawn is 433.

—At the beginning of this century attempts were made by English Baptists to Christianize the Batta people in the island of Sumatra. When England re-