

of his progressive ideas, he is a great favourite of the Empress-Dowager. It is interesting to note the light in which a man of his position and attainments views Christianity. In reply to an appreciative letter from our missionaries in Sz-Chuan, he speaks with humility of the work he himself has done, but says :

"Nevertheless I steal some pleasure from the thought that the people and the Church at present are on very friendly terms. The officials of China are gradually acquiring a knowledge of the great principles of the religions of Europe and America, and the Churches are also labouring day and night in order to readjust their methods and to make known to the public their aims in the propagation of religion ; consequently Chinese and foreigners are coming more and more into cordial relations, and the country enjoys a lasting peace. This fills me with joy and hopefulness."

Though the ignorant are so numerous, he adds :

"My hope is that the teachers, male and female of both countries, will widely spread the Gospel more than ever, that hatred may be banished and disputes dispelled, and that the influences of the Gospel may create boundless happiness for my people of China."

Those who doubt the worth of mission work in China would do well to read his words. Ts'en Ch'ên Shuen has also established a Christian college, for the support of which 50,000 taels is apportioned annually from the provincial funds.

THE BIBLE IN UGANDA.

The love for the Bible is one of the most marked traits of the people of Uganda. A missionary writes : "A chief who has gone to build a church in a distant part of the land, where one is much needed, will receive no earthly reward for his labour, but I promised him that when he had finished I would give him a Bible, the better to teach his people, and he was overcome with joy. Friends at home would be surprised to know how much they deny themselves clothes and other things that they may get books. Two of the porters who were with us on a recent itineration, when they received their well-earned wage, returned the whole of it to me, that they might buy a Testament, prayer-book, etc.; and this is no uncommon case."

On the railroads alone of the United States, says Zion's Herald, 38,890 people have been killed and 253,823 injured during the last five years. On an average 21 persons have been killed and 139 injured every day. The casualties are steadily on the increase, and Dr. Strong calculates that unless the tendency to accidents is checked by intelligent foresight and the adoption of heroic measures, no less than 51,382 persons are destined to lose their lives on the railroads during the next five years. If complete statistics exhibiting the loss of life for every industry in the country could be gathered and published, the number of needlessly killed or injured would be seen to be so great that public opinion would be at once mightily aroused to the taking of proper precautions to prevent so wanton a waste of life.

Annie M. Taylor writes from Thibet: "I thank God that He has enabled me to live here in this little corner of Thibet, and has brought to naught all the endeavours of those in Chinese employ to have me turned out. The Thibetans trust me and want me. They do not want Russian rule. Pray that wisdom may be given to our rulers in connection with the Thibetan question. God will do great things for this dark land if we only trust Him, and go right through with Him whatever comes."

It appears that of the net increase of the Methodist Episcopal Church in full members and probationers, amounting to over 50,000, a full fourth, or 12,899, is found in heathen lands. In Bombay Conference, more than 10 Christians were added for every day of 1902 ; in North-West India Conference, nearly 8 ; in Malaysia, including the Philippines, more than 4 ; in Korea, the newest of foreign missions, 3. In all India the net increase was 25 every day.

Large gifts for missions will soon be the order of the day to a far greater extent than obtains at present. It is stated in the English papers that Mr. Robert Davies, of Menai Bridge, who is one of the most generous contributors toward various Calvinistic Methodist causes, last week promised £150,000 toward the foreign missionary society of the Welsh Calvinistic Methodists.