

at Rome in May—and at Rheims in August—the Pen-Anglican Synod—the Nottingham Congress—the Evangelical Alliance meeting at Amsterdam—the Christian Association meetings at Paris and at Montreal. Nor must we overlook the very successful efforts made by churches on different sides of the sea to become better acquainted with each other by the interchange of deputies.

Foreign Mission work is at the same time a test of vitality at home and a means of growth abroad. How has last year left its mark on the Foreign field? Generally speaking, old missions have been sustained and extended, and new centres of light established. In China the labours of missionaries have brought forth more results last year than during the last ten years. In India it is noted that only one car of Juggernaut could be started at the festival of that god, and the one car could not be moved but a short distance. The beneficial influence of Christianity is extending far beyond its outward professors. In Madagascar, too, there is marked progress. All the great societies, such as the London Missionary Society, the American Board of Commissioners, &c., report increased receipts and extended operations. The missionaries of the Old School Presbyterian Church have completed and published a Japanese Dictionary, which will afford great aid to future labourers. A Bible House has been established in Constantinople.—Persecution assailed our Presbyterian brethren in Egypt. The storm is not over yet; it was truly disastrous; but it served at least to widen and intensify interest in the good work.

A most hopeful symptom is that while God is opening new fields for evangelistic effort, His Spirit is moving young men, students in colleges, to devote themselves to the work. There are now more than fifty students in American Presbyterian Colleges, candidates for Foreign Mission work. Another equally hopeful sign is that churches gathered in heathen lands are becoming self-sustaining, and also manifest missionary zeal.

Let us look at the world in the most hopeful aspect, still it is dreadful to think that an overwhelming majority of the earth's

inhabitants sit in heathen darkness, far from the means of grace. When is this fearful mass of darkness and death to be pierced by the light of the Gospel? Oh, what a loud call to all who love God and man to be up and doing! The population of the world is increasing perhaps at a rate greater than Christian effort for the salvation of the world. How then can we overtake the stupendous task? God can help us: He is willing—He is waiting to do so.

THE YOUNG.

A work of immense magnitude and importance has to be accomplished for Christ on earth. The Kingdoms of this world have to be brought into subjection to Him who is King of kings and Lord of lords. The kingdom of Satan has to be overthrown. The idols have to be broken, and the world's inhabitants led to sit at the feet of Jesus, clothed and in their right mind. The Young must be God's helpers in this vast work. He is preparing the way, ordering the battle, organizing victory. The Pope is trembling on his throne; his dependence is on the French army, and that stay may fail him at any moment. But while the Pope is in sore trouble, Popery was never bolder or more aggressive than now in Protestant countries. The young will very likely see the crisis of the battle between Christ and antichrist, if indeed we do not see it now. How carefully therefore should we train the young, in an intelligent, loving, faithful Protestantism. Then think what glorious triumphs of Divine grace in heathen lands are in the near future! The gospel is leavening, slowly but surely, the great nations of Asia, and the dark tribes of Africa. The Bible is printed and circulated in the languages most widely spoken by mankind. If the next quarter of a century should show progress in the same ratio with the last quarter, how much more bright and hopeful the aspect of the world!—Let us prepare the young for the heavy responsibilities and the glorious privileges awaiting them, in connection with mission work. God asks their help now, and He will need it all the days