## The Mission Field. <br> THE CHINESE AS MISSION$E R S$.

The Chinese have to some extent been in the Diocese of Westminster from the first, but now they are pouring in with increasing rapidity. This partly may be accounted for by the practical refusal of the United States to receive them. There are some 9,000 already on the manland engaged in the fisheries, agriculture, to some extent in mining, but chiefly in domestic service, and on the railway. They are thrifty, sober and good workers. At present, alas, for want of means, the Church has been unable to make any attempt to Christianise them; so they return to China, after spending some few years in the colony, still in the darkness of their religion, which is a mixture of Confucianism, Taouism and Buddinsm, and frequently an utter absence of any belief at all. Gov seems to have placed them in our hands in a very marked way, and if Missionaries adopting China as thear field of work could be prepared by two or three years' training in New Westminster, they would have the benefit of commencing their very difficult labours under circumstances of peculiar advantage. Firstly, they would be able to learn the language from Chinese fairly conversant with the English tongue ; secondly, they would be able to work amongst them untrammelled by those restrictions and obstacles which meet the Missionary in China.

The following letter has been received by the S. P. G. from the Rev. J. Coles, Missionary at Tamatave, dated Uct. $26:$-"Our position $m$ Tamatave is just the same as it was three months ago. Neither the Malagasy nor the French have done anything, but remain entrenched almost in sight of each other. During the past month the French soldiers, re:quiring material to make shelters near the fort, carried away the root of our church at Harte Point. On my calling on the captain and telling him that the property belonged to theSociety he apologized, and sald that had he known whose property it wis it should not have been destroyed He was told it was a Hova churst. under Mr. Shaw, and in chat calse he said it belonged in France, and be made use of it accordingly, but now he would have it replaced as it was before. This has been done."

Lagos is becoming quite a Christian country. On Lagos Island there is seven Churches, ind seven native clergy, three of the $\cdot \mathrm{m}$ being in charge of Churches under the ' Na . tive Pastorite Establishment;' there are six day-schools, in which are taught over 1000 children. Ebute Meta and Badagry have each had a native clergyman for some time, and now t've C. M. S. Intelligencer announces the extension of this privilege to several other places.

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