

sea-shore. But men in pursuit of wealth, brave even the most unhealthy regions, and combat disease in its most virulent forms. Shall the soldiers of Christ be daunted where men of worldly ambition and enterprise are undaunted? Shall life be risked in quest of "filthy lucre," the treasure that perishes with the using, and shall it be deemed madness for the followers of Christ to emulate the devotees of Mammon in Christian enterprise to win lost souls?

**Lagos.**—This is the landing-place of our missionaries to Central Africa. It is situated on the right of Beatin, about 20 miles eastward of Badagry. It is a populous town since its occupation by the British, and will, doubtless, become a depot of great commercial importance, having water communication far into the interior, as well as hundreds of miles along the coast. English steamers from London will land here twice a month. It is now a missionary station, occupied by the Church Mission Society. Mr. Colmer, one of the missionaries, thus refers to it:

"I would acknowledge the goodness and mercy of God, so richly bestowed upon us during the year now closing. Twelve months ago, we were surrounded by wars and rumors of wars, and the horizon threatened a fearful storm. It soon burst forth, drove the deadly exhalations beyond, and left the cool, refreshing air behind us. The destruction of Lagos dispelled all the dangers and anxieties of wars, and brought us tranquillity and peace. What a change for Lagos! Twelve months ago it was in full possession of the prince of darkness. Now his stronghold is broken open, his bulwarks are overthrown, and his banner must give place to the standard of the Gospel of Christ Jesus. Twelve months ago thousands of poor people were under an iron scepter, degraded below the brute creation. Now an air of comparative liberty pervades the place, and cruel oppression is reprobated, changing the expression of despair into a happy smile. Twelve months ago, the king, chiefs, and people invoked their gods, and called the neighboring gods even to their assistance, and bloody sacrifices abounded. Now many people assemble to hear God's word; sacrifices are discontinued; idols thrown away; and the true God believed in and worshipped, at least by some. What a change! What has God wrought! What an earnest for Africa's speedy salvation! God hasten the time!—*Home and Foreign Journal.*

**CHARACTER OF THE CHINESE INSURGENTS.**—Mr. Talmage, in writing from Amoy, June 3, makes the following statements in respect to the men who are in arms against the present government of China.

If the insurgents triumph over the present dynasty, we have reason to expect that the whole Chinese empire will be thrown open to the preaching of the gospel. Many of the insurgents profess to be worshippers of God and believers in Jesus. Possibly this profession is general among them. They have a portion of the sacred Scriptures, printed by themselves, and circulated among them. We have seen a part of the Book of Genesis which they had printed. They are well acquainted with many facts of the Old Testament history, and with some of the facts of the New Testament. They have published several tracts. Their Commentary on the Ten Commandments is very good. A tract which they have published against idolatry is said to be excellent. In their prayers they usually insert the petition of the Lord's Prayer, "Thy kingdom come." They offer their prayers in the name of Jesus, relying on his atonement for the forgiveness of sin and the salvation of the soul. They keep the Sabbath and enjoy morning and evening worship. In some of their books there is much superstitious and fatal error. From all that we can yet learn, we may hope that there are many sincere Christians among them, and we have reason to fear that there are also many fanatics, and some wicked impostors. Their books show a much more intimate acquaintance with the writings of Moses than with the writings of the evangelists and apostles. Thus we may account for many of their acts and religious rites which are inconsistent with the spirit and teachings of the New Testament.

"If," says the North China Herald, "this first half of Genesis be only the commencement of a series which the insurgent chiefs intend to continue as soon as they have opportunity, and as soon as the various documents comprising the 'Holy Book' come into their hands, we may then expect to see, in course of time, should the insurgents prove successful, the whole of the Jewish and Christian Scriptures published by authority and circulated throughout the empire." If this should take place it would give the Bible a circulation in China which it has been anticipated would not take place for many years to come.—Two copies of a version of the New Testament have been placed in the hands of one of the chiefs of Nanking, and were received with respect and gratitude.—*Journal of Missions.*

**FUH-CHAU.**—The brethren at Fuh-chau "have more than ordinary reason for recording the goodness of the Lord in blessing them with health, and preserving them from the violence of men; and they render him the deep gratitude of their hearts, and beg also an interest in the thanksgivings and prayers of his people, that they may still be permitted to labor for the evangelization of that people." In the four schools connected with the mission, having an average attendance of eighty-five scholars, the instruction is chiefly religious. The attendance at the chapels varies; some of them frequently well filled, and present somewhat the appearance of regular and orderly congregations; the influences of the Holy Spirit are needed to give effect to the truths preached. Wayside preaching is continued, and by means of it the precious news

of salvation is widely disseminated and a great preparatory work performed. The progress of the truth is doubtless hindered for the present by the rebellion, but "a brighter day seems at hand." Says the report of the mission, "We have reason to believe that the rebels are in possession of much religious truth and are governed by principle. In case of their success China will probably be better governed, and (drawn upon more fully to the influence of the gospel) And in either event we cannot but hope that the long night of heathen darkness is passing away. For that let Christians in our deserts and unchristianing pray"—16

**A NEW FIELD OPENED IN CHINA.**—It is strange how the growing light meets you in most unexpected ways. One day I stopped my carriage to enquire after some place I could not find. A young Hindu came forward, dressed like others, but having an intelligent look, he spoke English. I took him with me to find the place, and we got into conversation. He had been educated at one of the institutions, but had left it unconverted, and was now a merchant in one of the bazaars. I got his name and address, and felt here to a time opened up, for there must be many such—at least about Calcutta—ready to get hold of a few of them, and had an experimental meeting on Thursday night. Perhaps twenty came, mostly young educated unconverted Hindus, and a few East Indians, all of them either attendants at institutions, or engaged in the pursuit of mercantile affairs. I got their names and addresses, had a short Bible lesson, and then we fairly discussed our plans. They were very grateful to me for thinking of them. We settled that we should take up Romans for our Bible lessons; the last volume of *l'Autographe* on the English Reformation for our reading lesson. And one of them suggested that if we had a few spare moments I might read a few sentences of Young's "Night Thoughts"; another thought Milton might be better, but we agreed to give Young a little trial, and then turn to Milton. I found some at the Institution fund of Cooper. On Monday night we had our first meeting, and the large room I had taken for my class-room was crowded, so that I saw it would not do, and we determined after this to meet in the church. I gave away twenty-five Bibles, which Mr. Milne had got for me from the Bible Society. One young man, of whom I heard when I was visiting one of my people at the Treasury, is, I think, a hopeful case. He has been educated at our Institution, but had left it, like so many others, unchanged, and entered into business. I was told that he was such, so I wrote his name upon a little book, "Come to Jesus," and sent it to him. About a fortnight after, two young men came with a note of introduction, and it was my young friend and one of his companions. Since then he had been several times with me; I have got him a Reference Bible, and he has begun to read from the commencement. I trust he will ere long make an intelligent profession. He is living with his father, but could support himself with his salary independently. I should like to see more converts of this kind, who might be a help to us and not a burden.

**HAWAIIAN ISLANDS.**—The Roman Catholic party at the Islands is composed of the less intelligent class of natives. Most of their places of worship are native-built, and in a state of dilapidation. They have no books of science or religion for their seminary; and in all their common schools the Bible is wanting, and what of arithmetic they learn they obtain from the Protestant press. The Mormons seem to have made no very permanent impression except on some loose and dissolute persons, but so far as they exert any influence it is for mischief only. Though no extensive and powerful revivals have blessed the churches the past year, there yet have been received to them, on profession of their faith, 1,880 members, all but four having had more or less additions. The smallest number received is three, then fourteen, twenty-two, and so on up to 442. The effort which the churches are making for other islands of the Pacific is having a beneficial reflex influence upon them. "This is," says the report, "a new era for the Hawaiian churches. Our people now pray for foreign missionaries with far more love and zeal and solicitude than formerly; they are more liberal, moreover, in their contributions for benevolent objects, both at home and abroad." There are four ordained Hawaiian preachers of the gospel. "These brethren have thus far given good satisfaction to the churches and congregations, over which they have been placed; and the blessing of God has attended their labors. Four promising young men have recently graduated at Lahainaluna, who are looking forward to the gospel ministry; and if the way shall be opened for them, they purpose to go on a foreign mission." "We have many valuable native helpers in our churches," the brethren say, "who are very useful in conducting district meetings, and who are ready upon every good word and work." South Kona embraces a large portion of the richest soil of Hawaii. With almost no labor, the people can live in their way in comparative comfort. Laziness is therefore their habit, and all those vices which thrive where indolence prevails, are their besetting sins. Owing to the ill health of those who had been stationed there, and to other causes, but little labour had been bestowed on this field for some time previous to its being assigned to Mr. Price on his return from this country to the Islands. His heart was oppressed, on going there, with the desolations that met his eye. But there has been a change. The Spirit has come down as "showers upon the mown grass," and quite a number have been led to the Lamb of God. Some who had wandered far from God have returned. Old idolaters are coming from a distance to inquire the way of life. The people also are showing a spirit of benevolence. Besides paying more than \$1,200 for houses of worship,