

beef or dog. My bill of fare had now narrowed down to rice and himche (made from a vegetable almost like to our cabbage and raw turnip, prepared somewhat similar to sauerkraut) three times a day, with, occasionally, fish, chicken, or eggs."

Japan.—There are now 92 Christian churches in the city of Tokio.

—The Methodist Episcopal Church, South, has a prosperous mission in and about Kobe. Six years ago it was opened by three men who went from China. Now there is a membership of 505, with 87 names on probation; a conference of 12 missionaries and 5 native preachers; 5 church buildings, worth \$5200; 2 institutions of learning owning property valued at \$40,000, besides numerous day schools. There are also 38 Sabbath schools, with 1535 scholars and 71 teachers.

AFRICA.

—How vast are the spaces contained within the boundaries of this colossal continent, and spiritually how desolate! All Europe could be put into an area in Central Africa that has not a single missionary! A thousand men scattered over those 12,000,000 square miles are equal to about 18 men for the whole of France, 10 for Great Britain, 4 for England, about the same number each for New York and Ohio, and 1 only for Massachusetts and Connecticut together!!

—Africa is now the centre of the world's enterprise. The report with reference to Johannesburg, a town in the Transvaal, seems incredible for Africa. It has grown up entirely within the last ten years, is called the Golden City, and stands on a gold reef upon which 50 companies are now working, employing 3370 white men and over 32,000 natives. The city has a population of over 40,000, and has all the modern appliances of light, cars, etc.

—According to a telegram from London, the preparations that are being made for the expedition of Mr. Gerald

Portal, who has been appointed British Commissioner to Uganda, disclose the thoroughness of the plans of the government for the occupation of that territory. Beside taking a strong contingent of Ghoorkas, drawn from the army of India, Mr. Portal has been authorized to engage for the Queen's service Nubian soldiers in the service of the British East Africa Company. English officers, commissioned and non-commissioned, will lead. His guard, consisting of 400 well-armed natives, were to start for Mombasa on December 16th.

—From that same region, toward which so many anxious eyes have been turning, Bishop Tucker writes: "Exaggeration about the eagerness of the people here to be taught there has been none. No words can describe the emotion which filled my heart as on Sunday I stood up to speak to fully 1000 men and women who crowded the church of Uganda. It was a wonderful sight! There, close beside me, was Katikiro, the second man in the kingdom. There on every hand were chiefs of various degrees, all Christian men and all in their demeanor devout and earnest.

—The Bishop of Mashonaland names three portions of South Africa where prohibition actually prohibits. They are, first, Bechuanaland, under Khama, a noble Christian native chief; second, Basutoland, where Sir Marshall Clarke holds jurisdiction; and, third, the Orange Free State.

—A cable dispatch from the Congo announces that the railroad has been completed from Matadi to Palaballa, ten miles. After the track layers reached that point, a mile and a half of the road was completed in ten days, though nearly two years were taken to build the first ten miles. The road has been carried beyond obstacles that long made rapid progress impossible; and now the great enterprise will be easily pushed forward until the upper river, at Stanley Pool, is connected with navigation on the Lower Congo.

—In Liberia are American missions of