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MISSION NEWS AND FACTS.

DR. GRIFFITH JOHN says that in 1842 there were only six Protestant Christians in China; in 1855, 500; in 1860, 1,000; in 1890, 30,000 and now there are more than 78,000.

LATELY, a Chinese young man, who is a graduate of St. John's College, Shanghai, and who has recently been in the employ of the Custom Service, has decided to become a student for the ministry. He makes a sacrifice of salary of 25 taels a month in order to become a member of the theological class.

A MISSIONARY speaking of the low wages paid to Chinese workmen asserts that an American burns up the day's wages of a Chinaman every time he lights a cigar, while his bill for shaving alone for the year would more than support two Christian school teachers during that time; and then adds: We have not touched the subject of giving yet; and one reason is that *we do not know what good the little we have to give may do.*

A TRAVELLER who did not believe in missions visited Fiji, and counseled a Christian chief to give up his faith in the Bible, which he said was no longer believed by the cultured intellect of Europe. The chief pointed his visitor to a huge stone, and then to a large oven on the hillside, and told him that on the one they were formerly accustomed to murder their captives, and in the other to bake them for eating "and that," he added, "is what we would have done with you if the Bible had not come here."

MR. JULIAN HAWTHORNE, writing from India for *The Cosmopolitan*, confesses that he formerly shared, to some extent, the feeling that missionary work had not been wisely or efficiently conducted, and then he says: "But one must live with the missionaries of India in order to understand what they are doing and how they do it. From first to last during my sojourn in India I saw many native Christians. Those that I saw are a remarkable and impressive body of men and women. I was always saying to myself, 'They are like the people of the Bible.' Some wore European dress; others did not. Their aspect was gentle, sincere and modest."

THE *American Citizen* says that in a recent missionary report this item appears: "An eminent Bishop, Dr. E. S. Camacho, for many years Roman Catholic Bishop of Tamoulipas, has recently, from deep Christian convictions, protested against the idolatry taught and practised in the Roman Catholic Church in Mexico, and has publicly withdrawn from its communion. His letters, declaring his convictions, have been published far and wide by the secular press throughout Mexico and have been read with great interest."

A RUSSIAN writer, N. A. Rubakin, has published a book entitled "Reading Russia," which contains some interesting statistics. It appears that only seventeen out of every hundred Russians know how to read. For the 25,000,000 of Russians there are but 900 newspapers, and their circulation is small. Most of the books read are translations of foreign authors, chiefly French.

A CENTURY after the triumph of Christianity under Constantine, St. Augustine remarks, that it was a common talk among the pagans of whom there were still great numbers, and many in very high places: "Ah, well! the Church has gained a temporary victory; but in doing so she has exhausted her strength. In a generation or two she will be heard of no more." This prediction sounds foolish to us now; but such forecasts will doubtless continue to be made until God has at last put all enemies under the feet of His Son."

"We are not so much to concern ourselves with what has been done as with what remains to do; and it is well that we should again and again endeavor to press upon men's minds the obligation which lies upon all Christians to take a part in the conversion of all that are not Christians. It is well that we should impress upon them that this is the very purpose for which the Church exists, the very purpose for which it has been called forth out of the