

Editorial and Contributed.

Editorial Notes.

THE following item from the *Missionary Review*, will be read with interest by many, especially by the members of the Sherbourne Street Methodist Church, Toronto, Ont., of which Dr. Avison was formerly an active and useful member: "The Korean Government has requested Dr. Avison, of the Presbyterian Mission in Seoul, to resume charge of the Government Hospital in that city, on most favorable terms, and he has consented to do so. Dr. Avison was formerly in charge of this hospital, and was cordially supported by the king, but the obstructions put in his way by subordinate Korean officials compelled him to resign his position. The tide of Japanese victories has, however, secured for Dr. Avison a new and stronger backing from the Government in power."

THE Rev. F. E. Clark, originator of the Christian Endeavor Movement, in his book, entitled, "Our Journey Around the World," records the following testimony to the value of Christian Missions: "I am glad to have my last words in this book testify to the fact that missionary work of all the various Protestant denominations in all parts of the world is, in my eyes, the most promising and hopeful feature of modern civilization. For the enlargement of commerce, for the spread of civilization, for the uplifting of humanity, for the redemption of the world, there is no such force as that which is exerted by the Anglo-Saxon missionaries of the Cross, the ministers of the Lord Jesus Christ."

A LETTER just received from Dr. D. W. Stevenson, of the China Mission, dated November 2nd, 1894, contains the following: "In a short time our fine new dispensary building and one ward, to accommodate twenty patients, will be entirely completed. I expect to open in the new dispensary next Wednesday, and anticipate a crowd of patients. I also have a lot of operation cases just waiting for me to open the hospital. My health keeps good, although I am the only one who stayed in the city all summer."

"The World's Outlook."

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WITHIN the past few months especial attention has been directed to COREA, both for missionary and political reasons. For some time it was the theatre of the contending forces of Japan and China, and it seemed as though missionary operations would be greatly retarded, but in a much shorter space of time than many expected the contending armies passed into China proper, and since then Corea has declared her independence. Just what effect this will have upon Christian missions in that land it is too soon to predict, but it may be regarded as

certain that Corea cannot now relapse into her old hermit condition. She has been caught in the current of modern ideas and must go with the stream. It has been supposed by some that the Koreans entertain a strong dislike of the Japanese, dating from an invasion by the latter in the sixteenth century, but recent events do not seem to confirm that impression.

Catholic missionaries have been in Corea for more than a hundred years, but it is only about ten years since the first Protestant missionary entered. With a population of from twelve to fifteen millions there are, perhaps, not more than twenty Protestant missionaries now in active service. Christian propagandism is still prohibited, but it is thought that contact with western civilization will prevent the enforcement of anti-Christian laws.

For some years past there have been signs of a reaction in JAPAN, and the various missions have made but slow progress; indeed, most of them have barely held their own. Matters have been further complicated by the war with China, which absorbs the attention of all classes, and therefore affects Christian work. One of the most hopeful signs is the fact that the Japanese churches are seriously pondering the duty of sending the Gospel to the regions beyond, and a mission to Corea is talked of. The conclusion of the new treaty with Great Britain, although at the request of Japan it does not come into full effect for five years, will be beneficial. It recognizes Japan as an equal, treating on equal terms, and does away with the extra-territorial clause. On the whole the outlook is more hopeful than it has been for years.

THE DARK CONTINENT is opening to the light. The slave-trade has been extirpated in some large districts, and greatly checked in others. Tippu-Tib, who, three years ago, had two thousand armed men under him engaged in the traffic, now opposes it, and has ordered his countrymen in the Upper Congo to quit the business. But, as the slave-trade ends, the rum-traffic, sad to say, begins. Through all possible channels it is being pushed among the native races, and the usual demoralizing and destructive results follow. It should be remembered, too, that one-half the continent is dominated by the disciples of Islam, and the whole number of Christians, including the Abyssinian and Coptic Churches, do not exceed seven millions. Evangelistic laborers, in proportion to the population, are equal to about ten men for Great Britain, or one for the whole of Massachusetts and Connecticut put together. It will be seen, therefore, that a vast work has yet to be done before Africa is won for Christ.

It is a favorite theory with some that Romanism is regaining its lost ascendancy, but the present state of PAPAL EUROPE does not confirm that impression. There it is losing, not gaining. Within the past year the Pope issued a pathetic appeal to all Catholics to keep nearer to him, and to all dissenters to return and submit themselves to his authority, but the appeal fell flat upon irresponsible ears, and no results