

The progress of the Gospel in Japan, during the past ten years has been very remarkable. *Ten years ago* there were not ten converts ; no Church organized ; no native agency ; no schools for the training of such an agency ; no missionary devoted to preaching ; only the scantiest christian literature, and that derived from China ; placards appeared every where denouncing the very name of christian. *To-day*, there are more than two thousand five hundred professed believers in Christ, a recognized evangelical community three times larger ; a fine body of earnest and faithful native preachers ; christian schools for the preparation of a native ministry ; a christian literature, including more than one hundred thousand copies of portions of the new testament ; editions of the Life of Christ, and other works, reckoned by thousands, and finding a ready sale ; and a christian newspaper that circulates in all parts of the empire. The American Board of Foreign Missions has been cultivating that extensive field, with much zeal, and joy inspiring success.

Amid the commotions still prevailing in Russia, owing to the spread of Nihilism and the unavailing efforts of the government to suppress it, it is pleasing to note that the Word of the Lord is having free course, and is glorified in many parts of the empire. Colporteurs in various places report a thirst for the water of life, and that the people regard the Bible as a treasure of inestimable value. "In it you will find God's love to man." "You will find in God's book the salvation of your souls." "It is life ! it is freedom !" Such are the terms in which, sometimes, priests and nuns express their admiration of its precious truths. Happy would it be for Russia, and every other people, if they would learn that their only hope of national well-being, lies in the circulation of these leaves of the tree of life which are "for the healing of the nations."

The anti-Jesuit decrees of the French government have been put into execution. On the 20th June their establishments were broken up in Paris and elsewhere. It is reported that one portion of the exiled fraternity intend to locate at Charlottetown, P. E. Island, and to take charge of the Roman Catholic College at that place. Wales is also spoken of as the future abode of the prohibited community. Would it not be a painfully significant fact, if the Jesuits, expelled from Roman Catholic France, should find a legal asylum in Protestant England or its Dependencies ?

The Reformed Presbyterian Synod of Ireland met in Londonderry on the 21st June. Rev. A. M. Stavely, late of St. John, N. B., was unanimously chosen Moderator. Rev. Messrs. Brown and Maxwell were appointed delegates to the Pan Presbyterian Council to be held in Philadelphia in September. Mr. Brown may possibly visit the Maritime Provinces.

The General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in Canada, at its late meeting in Montreal enjoined upon its ministers to discourage Sabbath funerals. That is evidently a move in the right direction.

The Bill to legalize marriage with a deceased wife's sister has been again rejected in the house of Lords.

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