

## Field Notes.

THE General Secretary, who, with the Hon. John Macdonald, was appointed delegate to the General Conference of Missions, sailed for England on the 19th of May. His stay will be short, as he expects to be home in the beginning of July.

ON Thursday evening, May 17th, the Pundita Ramabai, a high-caste Brahmin lady, addressed a meeting in the St. James' Square Presbyterian Church Toronto. This woman is a convert from paganism, and was baptized in the Church of England. She has spent about a year on this continent, her talents and energies being used in arousing sympathy and securing practical help for the child-widows of India, of whom 79,000 are under nine years of age. The Pundita proposes to establish a secular school for some of these poor children, hoping thereby to alleviate the condition of many who could not be reached, were it announced to be a religious institution, as the Hindoos are a very devout people.

A committee has been formed to look after the interests of this movement, of whom Rev. Dr. Hay is President, Rev. Dr. Brooks, Vice-President, and Miss Frances E. Willard, Secretary-Treasurer.

WE would call the attention of our readers to the General Conference of Foreign Missions, to be held in London, from the 9th to the 19th of June, 1888. The Committee of Conference has issued a "Call to Prayer," a copy of which will be found in another column. As great results are looked for from this meeting, it is earnestly hoped, that while these consecrated men of God are deliberating as to ways and means of disseminating the seed of truth, the Church will look to its Great Head for the Spirit's blessing and guidance in all their conferences.

WE quote the following extract from a letter from the Rev. B. Hills, of St. George's, Bermuda:—

"Have had grand missionary meetings. There will be no decrease, and probably an increase all round. You are aware that there are a considerable number of Portugese settled in Bermuda, Roman Catholics of course. At Harris' Bay a number of them have been attending our services for several years, and four or five have been converted, and have united with the Church, and others appear to be sincerely seeking the truth. Monday evening, at the missionary meeting, a purse was put in the collection basket, and we were amazed to find that it contained twenty sovereigns, the gift of a converted Portugese. He is a planter in extremely moderate circumstances, but his heart is filled with

love to God and zeal for the salvation of his countrymen. There is a grand opening for work among this class of our population. A few Portugese Bibles and tracts would be of very great service to Bro. Borden in his work."

THE following paragraph we take from a letter of Mrs. Roy's, who has charge of the Ladies' School at Acton Vale, Quebec, to Mrs. Ross, President of the Eastern Branch of the Woman's Missionary Society:—

"I so coveted my whole class for Christ, that it grieves me that any of my girls should leave here this spring with the great question of life unanswered; but I trust that the seed sown in faith and prayer may yet spring up and bear fruit, 'after many days.' A thought of Miss Havergal's has influenced and helped me much this winter; she says, 'I like to use God's own words, for of them we have the promise that they shall not return unto Him void.' I never enjoyed teaching the Bible before as I have here, and I never had pupils taking so deep an interest in it. In addition to our Bible lesson, we have taken up a course of study upon the principal points of difference between Protestantism and Romanism, proving our points by texts from the Bible. I never realized before the full meaning of the expression, 'The Sword of the Spirit.'"

ON February 3rd was completed a translation of the entire Bible into the Japanese language. Success has crowned the indefatigable labors of Rev. J. C. Hepburn, M.D., LL.D., and the other eminent scholars by whom he was assisted. The translation is highly spoken of by missionaries capable of judging of its merits, and has received favorable commendation from the *Japanese Weekly*.

THE various branches of the Evangelical Alliance propose holding a conference from the 22nd to the 26th of October next, in Montreal. Among the invited speakers are Rev. Wm. Burns, D.D., of Halifax; Dr. Duryea, of Boston; Rev. W. R. Taylor, D.D., and Rev. J. Hall, D.D., of New York; Rev. Chancellor Sims, D.D., of Syracuse, N. Y.; Rev. W. Gladdin, Columbus, Ohio; Rev. Dr. Russell, Oswego, N. Y.; Bishop Baldwin, London, Ont.; Principal MacVicar, Montreal; Rev. Chancellor MacVicar, Toronto; Rev. Chancellor Burwash, of Cobourg, as well as representatives from Britain. Many will remember the pleasure and profit derived from the meeting held in 1874, and as the work of the Alliance is developing, we have no doubt that this one will be even more successful than the last.

IN Kochi, Japan, the city occupied by the missionaries of the Southern Presbyterian Church, work was begun only two years ago. Now there is a Presbyterian Church of over two hundred members. The gain in the whole of Japan for the last two years has been 77 per cent.—*Ex.*