

several mission stations among the Sioux Indians. The view he takes is highly favorable. He has little criticism to offer. The work bears the scrutiny of one who is well entitled to be regarded as our greatest expert and enthusiast in this line of benevolent endeavor. The General has, however, been quick to discover and make known that better school accommodations are much needed at one point—the Good Will Mission. These ought to be provided at once before the winter sets in, if possible. So good and successful a work should be encouraged by all necessary appliances. Above all things, it ought not to be crippled just at this juncture of special promise and growth. We would call special attention to the matter, in the hope that some one or more individuals or churches will feel constrained to act, and that speedily. It will be a wise expenditure.

Italy.—Signor Gavazzi of Rome, at the Pan-Presbyterian Alliance, gave an account of the doings of the Free Christian Church in Italy. There are 14 ordained pastors, 18 evangelists, a theological college in Rome, with several promising students, 30 regular churches, and 4 out-stations regularly visited. The communicants number 1,600, and the catechumens 300, all of them native Italians and converts from Romanism. There are elders and deacons in good order and number, three colporteurs, a Bible-woman, and numerous Sunday-schools and day-schools, from whom it is hoped there will come many who will be faithful members of the Church of Christ. Speaking of the aggressive character of the work, Signor Gavazzi described it as fighting, without bloodshed, against Romanism on the one hand, and skepticism on the other. The battle is not against conscientious Papists, individually, but against the many errors of the Romish Church in general—against the human impositions of Popery, whereby the Scriptures are kept from the people. Going to the Italians with the sword of the Spirit, the Bible—only the Bible, and the whole Bible, the inspired and infallible Word of God—the Free Christian Church endeavors to preach the gospel of Christ and Him crucified, and intends to follow the Captain of Salvation, marching on to victory.

—Dr. Post of Beirut, Syria, says there are more copies of the Word of God to-day, after sixty years of missionary labor, than there were in Christendom in the days of Constantine. There is also an Arabic Concordance which took ten years to prepare. A convert in Beirut has issued thirteen volumes of an Arabic cyclopaedia and dictionary. The revival of learning is a part of the reformation before the reformation in Asia Minor.

—A revival has been going on simultaneously in different parts of Japan. As a result, the increase in all the churches of Tokio cannot be much less than a thousand. Yokohama has also enjoyed a rich blessing, and reaped a glorious harvest. Many of the cities and towns of the empire are now wonderfully stirred up.

—A most remarkable fact is reported in connection with the Doshisha at Kyoto. Mr. Neesima and his Japanese friends have for a long time desired to enlarge the institu-

tion, and to make the present theological and academic schools departments of a university. In view of this proposed enlargement, contributions have been asked from prominent gentlemen in Japan, and in *The Japan Mail* of July 28, a list of subscriptions appears from some of the most eminent men of the empire. The proposal is to establish a distinctively Christian university. For this purpose Count Okuma, Minister of Foreign Affairs; Count Inouye, late Minister of Foreign Affairs, but who has recently returned to the Cabinet as Minister of Agriculture and Commerce, have subscribed 1,000 yen each. Viscount Aoki, Vice-Minister of State, gives 500 yen, while six other prominent officials and bankers have given together 22,500 yen. This is a striking fact as indicating the progress of opinion in Japan. But it must be borne in mind that this sum is not towards the \$50,000 needed for the existing theological and academic departments. When Japan is doing so much, it would seem that the friends of Christian education in this land would be impelled to furnish the \$50,000 repeatedly asked for for the Doshisha. Other government officials have contributed 50,000 yen as an endowment for a ladies' institute, the object of which is to give instruction to women, free from religious bias. An effort is to be made to increase this endowment to 100,000 yen. The religious character of the instruction given in the Christian schools now provided for women is not agreeable to those Japanese who oppose Christianity.—*Miss. Herald*.

Siam.—Siam, for its population of eight millions Siamese, has but eight ordained missionaries, all but one of the Presbyterian Board. There are, besides, one or two Baptist missionaries laboring among the Chinese in Bangkok. The harvest is beginning in Siam; 547 converts are in the churches, 522 children in the schools; scarcely a letter but brings glad tidings of the welcome given to the truth, and of additions to the churches far greater in numbers than in any previous year.

Sweden.—The missionary activity of the Swedish churches is a considerable factor in the missionary movement of our time. From an interesting and comprehensive volume of the operations carried on by the various Missionary Societies accompanying the June *Missions-Tidning*, we give the following notes: The total contributions (not including the Mission to the Laplanders, which is carried on by means of itinerant preachers and Schools or Children's Homes) for 1887 were £20,000, the expenditure £21,459. In East Africa they have 3 stations, with 8 ordained missionaries, 3 female missionaries, and 17 native assistants; in South Africa 4 stations, with 3 ordained missionaries, 5 female missionaries, and 2 native assistants; on the Congo 2 stations, with 6 ordained missionaries. In India they have 9 stations, with 14 ordained missionaries, 9 female missionaries, and 57 native assistants. They have 2 ordained missionaries at Behring Straits, and 5 ordained missionaries among the Jews. They send 15 ordained pastors to minister to Scandinavian seamen in foreign countries. In addition to the above, 2 Swedish missionaries are in the service of the China Inland Mission, and 1 laboring with the Santal Mission.