MISSION FIELD:

From the S. P. G. Mission Field for November].

Nassau, the Diocese of the Baha mas. has its condition and recent progress thus summarised by its Bishop:

'In the summer of 1886 there were but twelve clergy working with the Bisnop. This was unusu-ally small but it had happened so through the vacancy in the See just tefore Five island parishes were without a resident priest, a sixth becan e vacant the same autumn. Now we have only one parish vacant, and twenty clergy instead of twelve, among whom are a Dean of the Cathedral. an Arohdeacon, and a Dioce san Missioner (designate).

. During the same of about four years, twelve new churches have been completed and opened for service besides several others which have been enlarged or improved in other ways

' Houses for the clergy were, and still are, wanting in several of the islands. However three new parsonage have been built, ard nearly £100 raised towards a fourth. while excellent houses have been bought for the parishes of St Mary's Nas sau and St Thomas, Turk s Island. A House of Rest has also been pro vided in Nassau by the purchase of commodious premises between the Cattedral and Church Hall. This has been found a great boon, as supplying a temporary home for out-island clergy who before had no place to receive them during a holiday.

In the summer of 1886 there was a Grammar Sc. ool for boys, but no High Secool for Girl-, in the capital. The latter has now be n in existe ce for more than three years, is well attended and has good school com ac ommodation.

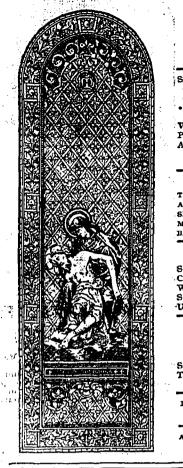
'The Diocesan Library has been nearly doubled, and beginnings have been made of parochial lending litrair es in reveral places Courses of loctures have been given in the winter at Nussau both sectlar and rel g ous, for the better educated classes.

. Three of our missionaries have been privided with boats for the vis tation of their parishes, but more requires to be done in this direction.

·Services have been multiplied and better rendered; choral celebratious have become common through out the Diocese; the Three Hours' Service. long adopted at some of the churches has been held this year on Go d Friday at the Cathedral and in nearly every parish. The altars and sanctuaries have been very gra dually improved, and appropriately furnished

'Baptisms have increased to very near a thousand in the year Confirmations to between seven and eight hundred; communicants are registered now at over four thousand. In each case there has been steady progress.

'Of deeper spiritual progress, conversion of souls to God, growth in grace holy living in its manifeld fruis, but we cannot of course speak here, but must leave our readers to tion of our Chinese Christians can



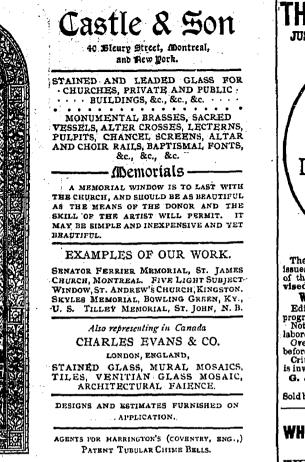
facts as stated. But if our people are scarcely so thoughtful or so stable as Europeans there is no reason to doubt the sincere piety of many among them. And perhaps almost the best of all our news is when we say and say truly, that they are learning self convol, and that their moral tone though still far from what Christ's holy law requires, is certainly higher than it used to be.

W to all this blessing resting on our labours we are not to think of staving where we are; 'necessi y is laid upon us 'that we should go forward still."

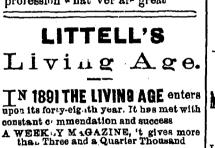
:0: MISSION WORK IN PEKING

Slowness must necessarily be a feature in the progress of Mission work in Peking for the present. One great difficulty is that of the secular occupation of the converts, who by becoming Christians almost c estroy the ordinary chances of ob taining a livelihood. The report of the Rev. W. Brereton shows how his industrial schools promise to solve this pr blem to some extent. After mentioning the baptism of two men and three women, he speaks of h s boys school and adds :

'You will remember tr ere are two indus rial departments attached to:it. namely, carpentry and Chine e type cu ting in wood, with printing of the same Most of the pupils in these departments have now com pleted their prescribed period of pupilage and have be ome qualified mechan cs Of these, two carpenters and four printers. They are now in the position of earning their own living, and are working independ-ently of the Mission. This new step in their lives is also an importanr step in the history of the Mission For the question is now being determined whether the rising genera



form their own conclusions from the remain faithful to our Church. or indeed to any Christian profession, without being more stipendaries. The material and wordly induce-ments to joining the Roman Mission are very considerable The same can be said in a somewhat less degree of inducements to join some of the American Protestant sects. Again. the temptations which might induce a mechanic to aband n all Chri tian profession what ver are great



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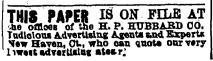
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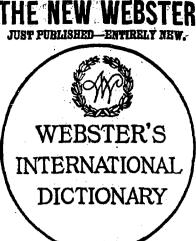
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