

## Our Foreign Missions.

In the brief sketch of the New Hebrides Mission, given in the January RECORD, a typographical error gave to our Church four mission families instead of three, the correct number.

**W.F.M.S.** The nineteenth annual meeting of **West.** this Society was held in Toronto, 16-18 April. The meetings grew better year by year, and this was the best and largest, 500 delegates being present. Central Church was crowded at the regular meetings, while at their grand evening rally there were enough to fill Cooke's Church and to spare. This Society was formed in 1877, and that year, with 18 Auxiliaries and 3 Mission Bands, it contributed \$1,005.39; ten years later in 1887, it consisted of 256 Auxiliaries and 76 Mission Bands in 20 Presbyterian Societies, and raised \$18,581.00; while six years later, at the present meeting, there were reported 585 Auxiliaries and 250 Mission Bands, in 25 Presbyterian Societies, and an income for the year of \$43,351.16.

Stirring and inspiring addresses were given by returned missionaries and others. China was represented by Mrs. Goforth and Dr. Smith, and India by Mr. and Mrs. Campbell and Miss Jamieson, who all spoke earnestly and effectively.

**Chinese** The Chinese population of **Montreal** real continues to increase, though most of the upwards of two hundred who have arrived from the West within the last few days have gone on to Cuba, or remain here temporarily until they can be passed over into the States. A new Chinese School has been recently organized in St. Paul's Church, with a present attendance of over fifty scholars. Thus are the different Churches seeking to bring the Gospel to "these from the land of Simin."

The interest at Ottawa is also most commendable, where on a recent visit from our missionary, a school was organized in the Bank St. Church, enrolling about all the Chinese in the city. They also attend the Church service in considerable numbers. A most interesting sight, and one perhaps to be witnessed nowhere else in the world on the same scale, is the Sabbath evening school in Knox Church, Montreal, where one evening we counted *ninety-four* Chinamen, each with a separate teacher, diligently at work, while the alert missionary and superintendent kept all running smoothly, the missionary holding a service with them, before the school, in their own tongue.

**A Trophy.** At the recent thirteenth Annual Meeting of the Montreal W. M. S., there was exhibited an interesting object, a large 3 x 6 feet, richly colored, pictorial scroll idol, that of "Kivan

Sai," the God of War, also the divining blocks, joss-sticks, holder and other articles, used in the popular worship of this idol. A father in China had purchased it six years ago, at considerable cost, for his home, where the family all worshipped it. When his favorite son was leaving, much as the father prized his god he gave it to the son to bring him good luck. The son came to Montreal and opened a laundry. The god was hung upon the wall and faithfully worshipped. But with others he attended the classes of our Chinese Mission and learned of the true God. Having no more use for idols he gave his god to our Chinese Missionary, Rev. Dr. Thompson, a trophy of Christ's triumph over idolatry.

**An Earnest Hindu.** An interesting incident of the zeal and success of a poor humble convert is given by Mr. Wilkie in connection with the Mang ingathering. "Last Sabbath one of these new Christians took me out to his school, which he has been carrying on in his spare hours without any remuneration, and I was most agreeably pleased to find an interested congregation of young and old that looked up to this poor fellow as their teacher. A little more than a year ago, he, too, did not know a letter of the alphabet. The truth and power of Jesus are so manifest in his modest unpretending effort, that I was much cheered.

Oh, it is a grand service in which we are engaged. Oh, for more grace to more fully appreciate our privileges, and appropriate that grace that will enable us in work with and for Him only and alway. Our services are crowded, and we never had such deep interest and attention amongst the people."

**Rome in the New Hebrides.** "About two years ago" writes Mr. Mackenzie, "there was a good deal of talk among the settlers on Efate, who are mostly French, about building a school house, and securing the services of a priest or nun to teach their children. A good site was procured and a sum of money was sent from Noumea—the capital of New Caledonia, a group of Islands, some 200 miles distant, used by the French as a penal settlement—towards putting up the building. As it was approaching completion, the French priests tried to get it completely under their own control. But in doing so they overshot the mark. One of the people, by far the most intelligent and influential settler here, saw through their plans and would have nothing to do with it or them. He was willing enough to engage a priest as teacher, so that if he did not give satisfaction he could dismiss him, but he is very much opposed to the priests as a class. He has engaged a Protestant lady from Sydney as governess, and I have not heard anything farther about the school.