

national distinctions, and more for the one great feature of faith in the Lord our Saviour.

I am delighted to learn that the Board of Missions of the United Presbyterian Church in Scotland 'have resolved to take immediate steps for the establishment of a mission in Japan.' There is room enough for many more labourers here; and if there be true Christian union among those who undertake the work of evangelizing this nation, there need be no clashing of interests,—indeed there *can* be none, for there is no antagonism in unadulterated Christianity. At present there are seven ports open to the missionary, viz. Hakodete in Yezo, Niigata on the west coast of Nippon, Yedo and Yokohama on the east coast, Osaka and Hiogo, or Kobe, on the southern coast, and Nagasaki at the south-west extremity of Kiusiu. There are missionaries at all but two of these places, viz. Hakodete and Niigata, and good men are scattered here and there as teachers of schools in various other places in the interior. The most populous of the open ports are Yedo (now called Tōkiyo), Yokohama, Osaka, and Nagasaki. Niigata is difficult of access, for want of a harbour. But for this drawback, I regard it as a very desirable place for the establishment of a mission. There is a population of some 30,000 in the town, and the province of Echigo, in which it stands, is very populous and productive.

A large majority of the Protestant missionaries now in Japan, chiefly Presbyterians, Reformed Church missionaries, and American Congregationalists, are of one mind in respect to the great desirability of keeping denominational distinctions out of the country, and are endeavouring to form one Church here as catholic as the Church of Jesus Christ. We regard it as a great evil to introduce into this country the divisions that mar the seemliness of the Church in Christendom, and long to see one Church in Japan possessing the characteristic unity that Jesus prayed for in behalf of His followers. The first and only native Church is at Yokohama, and now numbers 44 in all. It is Presbyterian, in that it is under the government of elders and deacons. The native Christians have gone to the Bible for the constitution of their Church organization, and this is the result. May God prosper them in building up churches here that shall be *one* in Christ! If your missionaries come here to build up Christ's Church, they will be welcomed most cordially.

The Presbyterian Church in the United States has raised nearly \$100,000 extra for Foreign Missions since the meeting of Assembly.

Sir David Baxter of Dundee has bequeathed to the Free Church £55,000 s.g.

The Presbytery of the Established Church, Edinburgh, has decided by a majority that Dr. Wallace is censurable for expressions used by him in his sermons and printed works.

Numerous Thank Offerings are sent in to the Treasury of the Free Church in acknowledgment of the mercy that prevented a schism at the last Assembly.

ASSISTANCE.—The Otago Presbyterian Church have sent home £200, and the Sydney Presbyterian Church have sent £100 to the Free Church of Scotland, to assist paying the expenses of ministers that they may send to the Presbyterian congregations in these colonies.

Dr. MORGAN, one of the leading ministers of the Irish Presbyterian Church, died at Belfast on the 5th ult, in the 74th year of his age.

A Conference of Christians of all Nations will be held in New York for ten days beginning on the 2nd October. The Conference is convened by the Evangelical Alliance, but all Evangelical Christians are welcomed.

Last month the Free Church sent to South Africa *four* Missionaries, and the United Presbyterian Church *seven*,—in both cases including wives.—The funds of both churches show a gratifying increase.

In Prussia, the Archbishop of Cologne has been taken to ask by the Government for excommunicating two priests who had 'Old Catholic' sympathies. The Archbishop holds out, and it remains to be seen whether the Government will resolutely enforce the new ecclesiastical laws.

Pere Hyacinthe has been invited to an official dinner by the President of the Swiss Confederation, and the French and Belgic representatives have been invited to meet him. The former, however, has declined the invitation. On the Lake of Lucerne, the Ultramontane Bishop of Bâle has been all but mobbed. In Geneva, the authorities intend to recognise and pay no priests except those who are 'Old Catholic!'

THE WEST.—Good news come to us of Presbyterian Progress in Manitoba and the great West. There is a wide and vast country west of us to be possessed and evangelized.

SUSTENTATION FUND.—Says the *Free Church Record*:

On the very next day after the Assembly a meeting of the Sustentation Fund Com-