

which are manifestly scriptural may be abandoned.

—The number of converts in the Japan Mission of the American Board has increased in fifteen months from 4,226 to 7,098, a gain of 2,872. This is the most remarkable record in any mission connected with the board, with the exception of the great gathering in the Sandwich Islands.

—At the service in the Doshisha church, Kobe, Japan, March 24, there were 103 of the pupils who united with the church. Five were from the girls' school, 62 from the preparatory department, 20 from the first year collegiate, and 16 from the second and third years.

—The Japan "Mail," of Yokohama, in a series of articles on the rising generation in Japan, says that the young reformers agree that there must be a new moral system for Japan, and that it must harmonize with the spirit and aim of modern civilization, but they are divided on the question whether it shall be the Christian system of morality or that which is based on science and philosophy. The *Mail* goes on to say:

"That in recent years a wonderful change has taken place in our attitude toward Christianity is now a well-known fact, and need not be dwelt upon here. Only, however, within the last two or three years, or, in other words, since the awakening of the rising generation, has the new creed become a vital element of the nation's civilized life. Its influence is now felt through the rising generation, not only by reason of the fast increasing number of young converts, but also, and perhaps to a greater extent, by means of the creation of a powerful literature thoroughly imbued with Christian spirit."

—"The Twelfth Report of the Council of Missions co-operating with the united church of Christ in Japan," published at Tokio, January, 1889, says: "The united church of Christ in Japan has enjoyed a year of constant growth. There has been no excitement and no extraordinary efforts have been put forth." Yet it says in no previous year have the additions been so many. The adult members of the church number 7,551. The "infant members" number 1,139, the total being 8,690, an increase of 1,631 during the year. The churches number 61, three having been added during the year. This church was formed in 1877 by the union of eight churches and 623 Christians, including the children. In the past three years the church has doubled its membership, and in eleven years has progressed from 600 to 9,000. A like progress for the remaining twelve years of the century will make the membership in the year 1,900, the number of John's vision, 144,000.

Samoa.—Mormon invasion. The London Missionary Society has news from Sa-

moa of the invasion of that troubled kingdom by a band of Mormon missionaries. Six of them have appeared and six more are on the way from Utah, and they say they are going to carry on a vigorous campaign in every village in the group. They appear to have plenty of financial support. The natives receive them coldly, but they have made an impression on European traders.

Thibet.—Thibet is the only known country on earth not open to missions. It has an area of 750,000 square miles, about as large as the United States East of the Mississippi River. The greatest length from East to West is 1,500 miles, and the population is estimated at 8,000,000. It is the stronghold of Buddhism. Lhasa, the capital, is the "Rome" of the Buddhists, and the Dalai Lama is the Buddhist pope. He is supreme in both temporal and spiritual things. One monastery has about 5,000 Buddhist priests, and there are about 60,000 in the country. Thibet is virgin soil for missions. The country is tributary to China.—*Illustrated Christian Weekly*.

—Mr. and Mrs. Turner, of the China Inland Mission, have begun work in Thibet from the Chinese side. They travel in Chinese clothes. This fact is a most important one. Thibet is inaccessible to Christian missionaries from the Indian side, the natives supposing that the British Government have designs to annex the country whenever a missionary in European costume enters their State from the South. If the China Inland Mission "kneels low, keeps believing and keeps going forward," it has a still mightier future before it than in the past. The society that opens up Thibet to the gospel deserves the hearty thanks of the whole Christian church throughout the world.

United States.—Dr. Talmage, of Brooklyn, says: "The church, if it would do its duty, could convert the world in ten years. It has the men and money." On which *The Independent* makes this cutting and deserved criticism: "Perhaps so, but it must turn over a new leaf of generosity very soon if it is going to undertake so great and speedy a task. The Brooklyn Tabernacle last year, with 4,126 members reported, gave \$151 to home missions and \$138 to foreign missions."

—Romanism. Father O'Conner, the converted priest, is said to have led 800 Romanists into light in five years in New York City.

—Gift to United Presbyterian Board. Another 1,000 copies of the "Crisis of Missions" has been given to the United Presbyterian Board, the author and publishers uniting with Rev. J. D. Dales, D. D., in the gift.

—Woman's work. The Woman's Executive Committee of Home Missions of the Presbyterian church announces that its receipts for the year just closed amount to \$320,000, an advance over last year of \$91,000. Well done.