

ers fired, and the placards of red paper were displayed. The authorities co-operated in the attempted cheat, and the people thought that they should thus get the better of the divinity."

—The total statistics of the American Presbyterian missions, North, in China for last year are as follows: Ordained American missionaries, 53; total of American missionary laborers, 157; ordained natives, 48; total native agents, 398; churches, 64; communicants, 6081; number added on confession of faith, 862; number of schools, 203; total of pupils, 4078; pupils in Sabbath-schools, 2910.

—The American Methodists have 4 missions in China with 43 missionaries, 86 assistant missionaries, 79 ordained native preachers, 443 other native helpers, 6021 church-members, 4684 probationers, and 4225 pupils in 231 schools. The Sunday-school scholars number 7251.

—The Rev. L. O. Warner, an English Church missionary who has been making a journey of exploration in Korea, writes: "In travelling through the country we were shown with pride many memorials of filial piety. In many cases the turf round the parents' tombs was marked by the imprints of the feet, knees, and brim of the hat of the devoted sons who had come every day for many years and bowed and prostrated themselves at the tomb of their parents, as they offered them their daily food of rice and wine. Filial piety is considered the highest virtue, and sometimes, when the doctor orders it, a son will cut off his finger and cook it, and offer it to his father or mother to assist their recovery. This is considered a most righteous act, and is generally memorialized by a tablet."

Japan.—From the nineteenth annual report of the Department of Education these facts appear. The standards of the middle and higher schools are being raised. Native teachers are being rapidly developed, and begin to take the place of foreign instructors. Public libraries are being established through-

out the kingdom, 15 of the large cities having already organized and in operation libraries of considerable size. The library of the Imperial University now contains more than 80,000 books in European languages.

—The new religious life is making itself felt among all classes of people through the ably conducted religious press. Nearly every denomination has its organ, and even churches having less than 100 adherents have their papers. The first number of a new magazine, the *Japanese Evangelist*, published in Yokohama, has recently appeared.

—The oddest timber "corner" in the world is one that the Buddhists are trying to form for the purpose of preventing Christians from getting any more material with which to build churches.

—*The Missionary Herald* (A. B. C. F. M.) for January has an interesting article on "Applied Christianity in the Hokkaido: An Attempt at Prison Reform in Japan." Something is told of the 4 prisons in that northern island, which contain some 7000 criminals. A few years since Mr. Oinue was made superintendent, and presently reached the conclusion that the principles of Christianity were needed for the instruction of the prisoners, and finally secured a Christian *quasi*-chaplain for each prison. Every Sunday afternoon all are gathered for a moral address, and a Sunday-school follows with the Bible for a text-book. In one prison, out of 1506 prisoners 510 are studying the Scriptures, and 148 follow a course of daily readings from the Old and New Testaments.

—*Medical Missions at Home and Abroad* speaks of a movement to place a well-bound copy of the Bible in Japanese into the hands of every native physician in the Mikado's Empire. There are at present about 40,000 doctors for the 40,000,000 of the Japanese people. It is proposed that these Bibles shall be given by the medical men of England and America to their brethren in Japan.