

## MISSION FIELD.

## CHINA.

It is said that the English and American converts put together amount now to something like 50,000 as against half a dozen forty-five years ago; and in one mission alone—a mission of the Church of England—in the Province of Fuh-Kien, there are some 2,000 baptized members. That mission was begun in 1850, and for the first ten years there was no result that could be seen, so that in 1861 the C. M. S. was on the verge of transferring the one missionary who remained there, after the death of three others, to another mission. He entreated a year's delay, and during that year began the results which have since attained such remarkable proportions. There are Christian stations in at least a hundred different places, worked almost entirely, of course as a rule, by native Chinese. The work done in Fuh-Chow and Fuh-Kien is one of the most wonderful things since the Apostles' time.

## JAPAN.

After his consecration, Bishop Bickersteth announced his intention to establish an Associate Mission at the city where he will reside, after the type of the University Mission in India, with which he had been connected, with the special object of reaching the educated classes. He says, 'Great advantages have been found in such missions in India, from the fellowship in devotion and study, and the division of labor. It is hoped that in time, educated Japanese Christians will be attached to the staff.' A theological library will be in it, as in the Cambridge Mission in Delhi and the Oxford Mission in Calcutta.

## INDIA.

The returns of the S. P. G. Madras missions show the work in 916 villages of fifty-seven clergymen, of whom forty are natives and 713 native lay agents. During the year 492 adults were baptized, as well as 1,560 children. The number of (baptized) Christians is 41,856, in addition to 13,344 catechumens. The number of communicants is 13,040, as against 12,449 in the previous year.

## MISSIONS ADVANCE.

The Rev. Dr. McVickar, in an address at Wilmington, Del., gave some very striking facts. In less than fifty years the cannibal Sandwich Islands have been christianized, and now send missionaries to other lands. In fifteen years cannibals of Fiji have 22,000 Church members, and 57,000 children in schools, and half the population are Church goers. In Madagascar, in 1861, there were 2,000 Christian martyrs, and from the fifty convents left, there have since sprang 5,000. Forty years ago there were no Protestants in China; nine provinces are now supplied with mis-

sion stations, and therefore thousands of converts. In 1871 he Missions of the world reported for the year 60,000 converts.

## CENTRAL AFRICA.

This Mission was set on foot in 1859, at the request of Dr. Livingston, who, though himself a Presbyterian, was anxious that the United Church of England and Ireland should undertake it; and whilst chiefly looking to the University for its supply of clergy, it from the first appealed to the Church at large to set up the kingdom of Christ among the slave-trodden tribes of Eastern Intertropical Africa. At the present time the Mission has three great centres of operation—(1) Zanzibar, (2) the Usambara country north of Zanzibar, (3) the Revuma District, 400 miles south of Zanzibar, and leading up to the district originally occupied by Bishop Mackenzie. One great feature of this Mission is the part it has played in the suppression of the slave-trade. It has turned the old slave-market in Zanzibar into a centre of Christian teaching, and a noble church, mission-house, schools, and a native Christian colony, now occupy the spot where, twenty years ago, some 30,000 slaves were annually exposed for sale. Here the Church completes the work of freedom that the nation begins, by receiving the slaves that are intercepted by British cruisers, tending them whilst they are sick, educating them, and Christianizing them, and in many instances then restoring them to their own country. For this purpose the Mission has a farm of 130 acres at Mbweni, outside the town of Zanzibar, for the reception of adults, on which the girls' school also stands, and a boys' school at Kiungani, also outside of the town, where there are various workshops, and especially the printing press, at which the released slaves have printed the whole of the New Testament, as it has been translated in Swahili, a language understood throughout the interior, by Bishop Steere. There are now twenty natives, formerly slaves, employed in Zanzibar, and on the mainland, in the direct work of Evangelization; one of whom is in Deacon's Orders; and no expedition to the Interior, whether explorative, mercantile, or Missionary, is considered complete without one or more of the lads trained by the Mission as guides. Another special feature of this Mission from its beginning has been not to pay stipends to its members, but to supply them with all necessities. By this system rich and poor are able to work well together as brethren. The Bishop, the Archdeacons, the richest man or woman on the staff, eat at the same table and lodge in rooms furnished on the same scale with the poorest, and the community of feeling thus engendered has proved of the highest value to the Missionaries themselves and the success of their work amongst others. There are, at the present time, thirty-six Europeans on the

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