

ences, sometimes numbering as many as 4,000. Some of the most influential men in the Empire have embraced Christianity.

—Chinese in America.—The New York Chinese mission has between 4,000 and 5,000 Celestials in its Sunday-schools. About sixty have joined the various churches. The first Sunday-school for these people was founded in New York 18 years ago.

Columbia.—There is an established agency at Bogota, the capital of Columbia, for the burning of Bibles and Protestant books. Columbia is probably more under the power of the priesthood than any Roman Catholic country in the world.

Ciscaucasia.—The first portion of the word of God ever printed in the language of the Kumuks is now on the eve of publication. The people live on the western shore of the Caspian sea, northeast of the Caucasus Range, near Kishlar and the river Terek. The Gospel of St. Matthew has been translated for them by Khasan Bey, a young Mollah, and his work has been carefully revised. The printing has been done in Germany. The difficulties to be surmounted in securing a reliable version have been great, and the labor has extended over some six or seven years.

Egypt.—A most remarkable history attaches itself to the mission work in Egypt, since its very beginning. Along the valley of the Nile, from Alexandria to the first cataract, are 79 regularly established mission stations and 70 Sabbath-schools, numbering 4,017 scholars. The 65 day and boarding-schools number over 5,200 scholars. A recent American traveler, after looking into the faces of the 327 native students of Asyot Training School, said: "This is the grandest sight I have seen in all the East!" The steady growth in the evangelistic and educational departments is almost without precedent. The opportunity for such work is to-day greater than ever before, and never in the history of Egypt has there been such a demand for the Bible. During the past year 3,651 copies of Scriptures, 8,993 volumes of religious books, and 19,179 volumes of educational books were sold by colporteurs and shopmen. Four women's missionary societies have been organized among the natives, with a membership of 217. These four societies contributed last

year \$165 towards the extension of Christ's kingdom. The total amount paid last year by natives for all purposes, church schools, books, Sabbath-schools and zenana work, was \$29,188, an average of \$14 for each professing Christian. Dr. Lansing reports that 53 of the congregational schools are entirely supported by the natives, as well as over two-thirds of the salaries of the nine native pastors being paid by the people whom they serve.

England.—More than twenty candidates have offered themselves for work under the Universities' Mission and are awaiting Bishop Smithies' answer. It is feared that lack of funds will keep many of them back. To bring the income of the Mission for general purposes up to £10,000, it is proposed to appoint correspondents in each rural deanery. The increase in the figures of the Mission are thus given: In 1874 the income for general purposes was 2,992*l.*; other funds, 448*l.*; gross income, 3,440; European missionaries, 5. In 1887, General Fund, 8,713*l.*; other funds, 6,900*l.*; total, 15,600*l.*; missionaries, 63.

Fiji Islands.—Of the 17,743 Fijians inhabiting the Fiji Islands more than nine-tenths attend church with fair regularity; where, fifty years since, there was not a single Christian, to-day there is not a single avowed heathen; all the Fiji children are in the schools; the schools and churches have wholly displaced the heathen temples.

[From a speech by Rev. A. G. Webb at Melbourne in November last, we give the following account of his work in Fiji.—Eds.]:

"Now, the great work that has been done in Fiji has been touched upon by others, and many stories have been told of the terrible doings of the Fijians when heathens. But I am not going to tell you those stories to-night; I prefer to tell you a story that is a Christian story. I think that Christian people ought to be far more interested in that than in the doings of a race of wild cannibals. All traces of their ancient heathenish practices have been cleared away, and visitors now cannot imagine that this people, with their almost Parisian manners and their mellifluous speech, were the cannibals of ancient times.

"I have the latest Government returns, showing the present state of the people, but they only partially represent it. The true character of the work cannot be estimated by figures, but by the inner lives of the people. There are at present in Fiji—Fijians, 111,743; Europeans, 3,587; half-castes, 796; Asiatics, 4,30; Polynesians,