

A mission church is to be erected in Zululand, South Africa, on the fatal battle-field of Isandhlwana.

Four German expeditions are now prosecuting their researches in Africa, two from the east and two from the west side of that continent.

As a proof of the good impression produced on the native population by the recent British intervention on behalf of order, public prayers have been offered in many mosques, not only in Cairo, but also in the provinces, for the Queen of England, as the Mirror of Justice. Such a fact is probably without precedent in the annals of the Mahometan world.

Miss Whately, whose school for girls in Cairo has accomplished such a good work, has returned and reopened it, to the great joy of her scholars, both Moslem and Coptic. She says: "Several Moslems to whom I have spoken seem greatly struck by the kindness shown to wounded prisoners by the English, and allow that this forgiving and kindly spirit is from God, and appear to be touched by it."

#### Asia.

Jerusalem has gained almost 4,000 Jews within a year.

Here is a proof that the work of missions does not hesitate to grapple with the very worst ills that flesh is heir to; in one of the leper asylums of India 300 Christian converts were baptized last year.

Of seventy-one churches in India and Ceylon connected with the American Board, there are fifty that receive nothing from its treasury, in other words the proportion of Self Supporting congregations is nearly the same as in the Maritime Provinces.

The Synod of Syria was organized by the American Presbyterian missionaries in Syria in December of 1882. There are five Presbyteries in this Synod, and these bear the name respectively of Beirut, Sidon, Mount Lebanon, Tripoli and Zahleh. Each Presbytery will consist of the American missionaries at these stations, and other Presbyterian missionaries who may wish to join them. It is a pleasant thing to note this outstretching of the Church to the old lands in which it was originally established, and in which it has been re-established in purity by men from the new world.—*Phil. Pres.*

#### LETTER FROM G. L. McKAY.

Many of our readers remember well the visit of G. L. McKay two years ago. At meetings in all our centres of population, hearts were thrilled as he told of his work among the Chinese. Although the missions is not supported by us, but by the Western Section of the Church, yet all feel a deep interest in the progress of the gospel in that distant field, and the following letter will be read with thankfulness.

Formosa, Tamsui, Jan. 2nd 1883.

*Rev. Prof. McLaren, C. F. M. C.:*

MY DEAR BRO.,—Another year is past forever. God has been most assuredly with us during its fleeting moments. Since our return to our beloved Formosa, I baptized 140 persons, including old and young. Let cold hearted professed Christians in Canada tell us if this work in Formosa is not of God. At *Sintiam*, when we observed the commemoration of our Saviour's dying love, fully 500 souls in and outside the chapel either sat or stood with profound solemnity. What an outburst of song when we closed by singing the hundredth Psalm in Chinese! I would not give it for all the jaunty, theatrical performances in some churches by ungodly men and women, though their voices should be sweet enough to charm the devil.

At another town just when the converts were being seated around the Lord's table, two sorcerers appeared in front of the chapel and summoned hundreds of devotees by beating gongs, etc. In a few minutes an angry mob pushed to and fro looking in at us. What think you? The converts took their places as coolly as going to their dinner table. I stood on the platform and announced the 23rd hymn of our collection, the famous song we used in days gone by, "I'm not ashamed to own my Lord," etc.

Almost unconsciously the converts were on their feet, and made the chapel ring and echo with praises to the God of our fathers. I thought of the covenants in the moors and glens of dear old Scotland. The mob stood completely baffled. A few moments and men from the Yamen appeared and dispersed the crowd. We had a sweeter communion than if the enemy had not been aroused. "At evening time there shall be light" After all of that I nearly ended my poor labours on