

REV. C. R. FLANDERS, B.A., writes a suggestive note: "One of the leading officials in my Church has given up smoking, and wishes to devote the money hitherto spent on that indulgence to mission work. Will \$50 support a native missionary in China or Japan for one year? If not, how much would? This brother is already a generous supporter of missionary interests, and this is a special contribution."

[\$50 will very nearly support a student-evangelist in Japan, or a native preacher in China, while unmarried.—ED. OUTLOOK.]

THE Indians at Cape Croker, stimulated perhaps by the example of their brethren at Saugeen, have also bestirred themselves in the matter of Church building, and have erected a handsome and commodious stone structure, which will be dedicated early this month. We heartily congratulate Bro. Carson and his Indian congregation on the success of their enterprise, and much regret our inability to be present at the dedication.

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## Editorial and Contributed.

### EDITORIAL NOTES.

THE work in Formosa goes on with unabated power. A native assistant began work in a group of villages, and when the place was visited subsequently by Dr. McKay, he found many of the people well enlightened by Gospel truth, and all of them ready to abandon idol worship. A council was held, and the people handed over for Christian service an idol temple which they had built at a cost of \$2,000. The next day parties went from village to village, gathering up idols, incense sticks, etc., and made a bonfire of them all. Such an occurrence gives token of the near approach of the day when the prophecy shall be fulfilled, "The idols He shall utterly abolish."

SUPERSTITION dies hard in Africa. Recently two Wesleyan missionaries, Messrs. Ward and Baldwin, went into the courtyard of the Queen's residence and spoke to some people who had been left in charge. Wishing to explain how the people build

their houses, Mr. Ward traced some lines upon the sand. This at once aroused suspicion, and the missionaries were accused of witchcraft. The Queen was furious, and summoned the missionaries before her. Mr. Ward being sick, Mr. Baldwin obeyed the summons, accompanied by Mr. Goy, of the French Protestant Mission. Mr. Baldwin was seized and cruelly maltreated, the people shouting, "Strangle him! Throw him into the river!" He was then allowed to go, on payment of a fine. Still the people shouted, "We will kill this white man; he wanted to bewitch our Queen!"

WE learn from the *Missionary News* that another self-supporting Mission is projected. The headquarters of the Mission is at Tripoli, North Africa, where a Missionary Training Home has been opened; but the objective point is Lake Tchad, in the Soudan. The term self-supporting is, perhaps, not quite correct. It only means that the workers depend upon voluntary contributions, or, as they put it, their dependence for financial support is upon God alone. Their principles are few but strong, namely, full salvation, the baptism of the Holy Ghost, and New Testament patterns of missionary work. It looks sometimes as if the indefinite multiplication of distinct missionary agencies would be a source of weakness; but if by this means the Gospel can be more quickly preached to every creature, then the more agencies the better.

THE tendency to independent missionary effort, by individuals or Associations outside of the Societies supported and controlled by the Churches, is on the increase, and calls for careful thought. One is loath to say a word that may have the slightest tendency to dampen true missionary zeal; but when the "zeal" is "without knowledge" we should try to turn it into the safest channel. Independent workers in the foreign field have ultimately to face the problem, What shall we do with our converts? One of two things they must do—hand them over to some Church already on the ground, or else organize still another denomination, and thus increase the perplexity of the heathen, who cannot understand these endless diversities. Would it not be far better for these independent workers to throw their energies into line with some Church already organized?

To evangelize the world is one thing, to build up and edify the Church is another. The first is to be done by witness-bearing, the second by teaching. The first is the common work of all Christians, the second is the work of pastors and teachers, called and qualified by the Holy Spirit. That there is a distinction, in New Testament teaching, between what we now call clergy and laity, it would be vain to deny; but the