

may become greatly useful in the evangelization of their country. The anniversary of the China Mission of the English Presbyterian Church was held in Regent Square at the close of the Synod in April. Mr. Carstairs Douglas is now the oldest missionary in the field. Along with him are six ordained ministers, most of them, if not all, licentiates of the Free Church, and three doctors of medicine. The total expenses of the mission for the year have been £7,379, and at the beginning of the year there had been a debt of £824. To meet this sum total of £8,203, only £7,330 was available, so that there was again a deficit of £873.

At a meeting in England lately, the present Bishop of Lichfield (who was for a great many years previously Bishop of New Zealand) gave it as his opinion, that the missionary spirit in the churches is very much less warm and lively than it was before he left for the antipodes. We fear there is some truth in the assertion. But what a melancholy thing to confess, with the fields white unto the harvest.

British and Foreign Bible Society.—The annual meeting of this Society was held on Wednesday the 4th of May. The Earl of Shaftesbury, President, took the chair. An abstract of the Report was read, which showed an increase of circulation of the Scriptures in most parts of the great field to which the Society's operations extend; the issues from its depots at home and abroad during the year have amounted to 2,186,186 copies, which raises the total issues since the commencement of its work to over fifty-nine millions. The income during the past year has been £182,265 6s. 3d., but that includes £3,387 8s. 7d. towards the fund for building the new Bible House, which cannot be reckoned permanent receipts. The sale of Bibles and Testaments has brought in £80,155 7s. 8d., and after deducting this, and the various sums contributed towards special objects, there still remains about ninety-five thousand pounds in free gifts towards the promotion of the Society's general objects. Over £3,000 have been received from Spain, and in that country 135,600 volumes have been circulated, partly entire Bibles, partly New Testaments and portions of the Scriptures. The expenditure has been £173,476 2s. 0d.

Shelburne and Ragged Islands. The day, as regards weather, was all that could be desired—fine and beautiful—as we love to see a June day. A large congregation gathered, filling the church. All the sections of the congregation, far and near, were represented, manifesting the general interest taken in the event of a new minister being settled among them.

The Rev. E. McNab preached, taking for his text Col. 4: 12,—“Epaphras, who is one of you, a servant of Christ, saluteth you, always laboring fervently for you in prayers, that ye may stand perfect and complete in the will of God.” It was a most appropriate sermon, setting forth Epaphras as an example to every gospel minister, as a servant of Christ, laborious and prayerful, that his people may be perfect in the will of God.

Rev. Mr. Christie presided at the ordination, related the steps taken to have Mr. Archibald settled as pastor of the Shelburne congregation, put the formula of questions to minister and people, and offered up the ordination prayer, when Mr. Archibald was ordained by “the laying on of the hands of the Presbytery.” The 132nd Psalm, from the 13th verse, was sung; after which the Moderator and other members of Presbytery extended to Mr. Archibald the right hand of fellowship.

The newly-ordained minister was then addressed by Rev. M. G. Henry, charging him respecting the duties devolving upon him as a minister of the word and pastor of the congregation. He is an ambassador for Christ with the message of the gospel to men. He must be a faithful preacher of the gospel, keeping the Cross of Christ the central and most prominent subject. He must be a close student, especially of the Bible. He must diligently and regularly visit the flock, giving special attention to the sick and aged. He must be prayerful, having power with God if he would have power with men, and in all his labor be animated by the thought that he is a servant of Christ, and will receive a full reward. Rev. G. Christie and P. Morrison then addressed the people. The former presented with great earnestness their solemn responsibility in possessing the privilege of the gospel ministry. This day will prove one of the most terrible or most blessed days, according as the word to them becomes the savor of life unto life, or the savor of death unto death.

Mr. Morrison most forcibly urged the people to give good attendance upon the ministrations of their pastor on the Sabbath day, and upon the prayer-meetings—to punctually and fully pay him as well as pray for him—to build a manse, that he may have a home—and give him a home. in

News of the Church.

Ordination at Shelburne.

On Wednesday, June 1st, Mr. S. Archibald was ordained to the gospel ministry and pastoral charge of the congregation of