

The World Field.

Rev. J. Frederick Stanley is authority for the statement that there are six hundred papers and periodicals at present in the Empire of Japan, where not a single one existed twenty-three years ago; and they have never issued a copy yet on the first, or Lord's Day, of the week.

The Assembly of the Free Church of Scotland adopted, by an overwhelming majority, a resolution proposed by Principal Rainey, in favor of a general re-union of Scottish Presbyterians. It also made mention of the proposed union between the Free Church and the United Presbyterian Church, and declared that the reasons for this movement became more urgent every year. The Assembly appointed a large committee to take this subject into consideration, and enjoined upon this committee to place themselves in every proper way in communication with representatives of the United Presbyterian Church. It is evident that this particular movement has taken a decided step in advance.—*Philadelphia Presbyterian*.

FISHER FOLK IN SCOTLAND.

A correspondent writing of an article in a previous issue of the RECORD, entitled "an old man's recollections," says:—

"I wish to assure the writer of that article that the fisher folk on the east parts of Scotland have not fallen away from the ordinances of the Church, especially as regards the district in which he lived. I am glad to think that he is mis-informed, for I have lived in these parts and have heard the name of Col. Hutchison. My grandfather having kept post office at Boddam or Buchaness, I was (in my youth) in a position to know the feelings of the people generally. I am a young man; still I have passed up the front street of that fishing village and have been obliged to take off my cap, as everybody did in passing up the street, because service was being held at the 'gable of Meelik's' and every man, woman and child almost, would bring their Bible and stool and listen to one of the fishermen preaching, and they did invariably preach well. The best part of this service as it seems to me was the congregating of all denominations. This is not surely falling away from the ordinances of the Church inasmuch that these fisher folk went to their own Church just as regularly; the street service being additional. I thus write in brief to assure the writer of the afore-mentioned article that their sanctuary is still the House of God."

FACTS ABOUT JAPAN.

Now that Formosa, one of our mission fields has come under the dominion of Japan, a few facts from the *Christian Standard*, about that kingdom, may be of interest.

"Japan, the 'Sunrise Kingdom,' consists of four large islands and a great number of smaller ones, and embraces 150,000 square miles, or is a little larger than Montana. It is a wonderful country, whether it is considered in respect to its people or its government.

The population is about 40,000,000. About 40,000 of that number, or one to every 1,000, is a Protestant Christian.

Fusi-yama is the sacred mountain of the empire. It is 14,170 feet high, or 23 feet higher than Pike's Peak. It is an extinct volcano, and is now perpetually covered with snow. Every year hundreds of pilgrims make their way here to pay homage to the mountain god. It has 263,207 temples for the worship of false gods, and 70,775 priests. The two great religions are Shintoism and Buddhism.

About 1637 the following edict was issued: "So long as the sun shall warm the earth let no Christian be so bold as to come to Japan. And let all know that the king of Spain himself, or the Christian's God, or the great God of all, if he violates this command, shall pay for it with his head."

Everywhere in Japan youth is delightful. The country is a realm of babies and young mothers who delight in the merry, romping games of children. The homes are attractive and always clean. Infanticide is not known. The Japanese are cleanly, orderly, exact. They are a people of great physical endurance. They have great respect for parents, and old age is a time of peace and happiness.

It is the most progressive of eastern nations. Christianity has worked wonderful changes since 1853, when John Wiggins planted the first Protestant mission there. The empire is growing commercially, intellectually and spiritually. Statistics show surprising results. The promise of the future is full of cheer. The converts are numerous among the young people, and comparatively rare among the older."

THE WORLD FOR CHRIST.—WHAT REMAINS TO BE DONE.

By Rev. J. F. Smith of Nonan, in his *Baccalaureate Sermon* at the closing of Queen's University, from the text, "Let the whole earth be filled with His glory."

¶ ET us take a hurried glance at some of the different heathen countries and see how much remains to be done before the ideal state of our text will be realized and "the whole earth be filled with His Glory."

If the members of even a dozen of our congregations were thoroughly in earnest, they could, in a few years, carry the Gospel to every Indian of the few thousands there are in our own Northwest.

Mexico has 12,000,000 souls, and, notwithstanding the noble efforts of the last twenty years, we find only a few thousand Christians.

Central America has a population of millions, and scarcely a good beginning has yet been made to evangelize its people.

South America, our sister continent, has 35,000,000, millions of its people still unreached.