

This revival has extended to the neighbouring Girls' Institute, a few of whom have been converted and received into Church membership. Besides the seven young men admitted to the Lord's Supper, six or seven more follow in their footsteps, and are not far from professing the same faith, while many have become serious and have acquired the habit of prayer; such are the ostensible fruits of this revival. Since it began there has been a very general and marked improvement in the behaviour and application of the pupils. What is most rejoicing is, that amongst the seriously disposed and earnest inquirers, although not yet converted, are to be found those whom I considered formerly as the cases which gave me the most trouble and required my constant watchfulness. The Spirit of God, like the wind, bloweth where it listeth, and we hear the sound thereof, but cannot tell whence it cometh or whither it goeth.

It is well to state that those who are converted or mostly under the influence of the Spirit are the flower of the establishment. The seven who were received into the church are all young men of prepossessing appearance, 18 to 24 years of age, robust, active, hard students, and now full of zeal for the salvation of souls. I should not wonder that all become useful in the missionary field, whether as teachers or catechists, while one might study for the ministry. They all wish at least to labour in the work of God, and inasmuch as according to my practice in such cases, I have not influenced them to follow that course, I am inclined to see in this the finger of God. Among these not yet converted but serious, are also several promising young men, whom I recommend to the prayers of the friends of the Society. If, after God, this religious awakening may be traced to human energy, I would ascribe it principally to the prayer meetings established of their own accord, by two of our young men whose Christian influence and zeal have been greatly blessed to this revival. Besides this, the death of Mrs. Tanner, that of a young girl from Montreal, the regular preaching of the Word, the Sabbath-school, and the lessons of religion, have all undoubtedly contributed to this happy result.

But let us not forget to ascribe all the praises to the Lord of the harvest, for the good work that has been done among us is emphatically His. Human agency has had less than usual to do with it. It has taken place amid the display of our weakness, and many infirmities, and in days of trial. May God continue and extend the fruits of this season of grace, and make it instrumental to the salvation of many and to the forwarding of the interests of this mission.

Your affectionate friend in Christ,

CHARLES ROCK.

In view of the above facts, and of the inadequate means of the Society to carry on this great work; and especially of the solemn duty incumbent on Canadian Christians to supply the light of the Gospel to their numerous French fellow-citizens, the Committee trusts to receive from your congregation all the help which may be in their power to bestow.

With Christian regards, I am on behalf of the Committee,

Yours in the Lord,  
PHILIPPE WOLFF,  
Secretary, F. C. M. S.

#### MISSION TO JAPAN.

A meeting was held at Park Street Church, Boston, not long since, to hear a statement from Rev. Dr. Bettelheim, respecting his Mission to Japan.

In 1845, a meeting was held in London, by persons who were desirous of sending out a missionary to the Jews in China, and by another class of persons who wished especially to ascertain whether the North American Indians were

the lost Ten Tribes. Dr. Bettelheim, being himself of Jewish descent, and a minister in London, was sent to China for these objects. But no door being open there, to accomplish anything for the purpose of his Mission, his attention was turned towards Japan. How to get there, he did not know. He finally became acquainted with an American sea captain from Boston, who for a small consideration, took him to the Loo Choo Islands. These are a group of thirty six islands, about 500 miles from China. They form a part of the Japanese Empire. Dr. Bettelheim was set on shore by the captain, and left among these heathens. They inquired why he had come among them? He told them that his God had sent him to preach the Gospel to them. For a long time they kept aloof from him, and made no suitable provision for his wants. He, at first, took up his abode, in one of their Idol Temples. They afterwards procured for him a respectable private dwelling, but placed a guard of eight policemen around his house, who were not permitted to speak to him, or have any intercourse with him, thus effectually to prevent all communication between him and the people. By a careful and conciliating demeanour, however, he gradually gained the confidence of the guard, and finally of the people. He instructed their Physicians in the science of medicine until they understood and admitted the superiority of his skill. From this he gained their attention to the great truths of Christianity, and has been blessed with what, in the circumstances, must seem to be remarkable success in his Mission. He has done something to elevate the condition of woman. No Japanese woman is permitted to come into the presence of her husband without kneeling. He taught them that Jesus Christ, after his resurrection, appeared first unto a woman; and he showed them by his own example, what respect and kindness were due from the husband to the wife.

During the nine years that Dr. Bettelheim has been in Japan, his labors, and those of his wife, have been most incessant and untiring, and the results in accomplishment have been wonderful. He has made a Grammar and Dictionary of the Japanese language. He has translated the Gospels of Luke and John, into the Loo Choo dialect, and the four Gospels, the Acts, and the Epistle to the Romans, into Japanese. He has gathered a congregation of between forty and fifty individuals, and baptised four persons in the name of the Trinity.

We had supposed that Japan was the only nation that remained closed against the Gospel. But it appears that even this has not been so. God moves in a mysterious way to perform his wonders. He has been opening a door that we knew not of, and he has done this by the agency of a son of Abraham.

Dr. Bettelheim has left a successor in charge of his Mission, so that the work will not be unattended to during his absence. Our Government is the first which has succeeded in forming a Commercial Treaty with the secluded nation, and now it seems, very providential, to devolve on us to send them the Gospel. God, without our agency, has prepared an instrumentality to our hands, by which we can do this; and we need not be told that Japan, though so long, and so hopelessly hitherto enveloped in the shroud of Satan's darkness, is one of the kingdoms of this world which are to be given to the Lord and to his Christ.—*Puritan Record.*

#### BIBLE SOCIETIES.

##### BRITISH AND FOREIGN BIBLE SOCIETY.

The anniversary of this Society was held on 2nd May, the Earl of Shaftesbury in the Chair. The operations of this Society have been enlarged in every department. The whole issues of the

Society for the past year had been, from the depot at home, 1,018,882, and from the depots abroad, 431,994, making a total of 1,450,876 copies—being an increase of 83,348 over last year. There had been forwarded to the Naval and Military Bible Society, in connection with the war, 53,000 copies. The number of new auxiliaries reported during the year was 198, making the entire number of affiliated societies, 3,331. The receipts for the year had been in all, £136,032 15s. 6d., being larger than any previous year, with the exception of the year of Jubilee.

##### NAVAL AND MILITARY BIBLE SOCIETY.

The seventy-fifth anniversary of this institution was held on 30th April, the Marquis of Cholmondeley in the Chair. The Report was interesting and encouraging. It is stated that in the navy greater facilities than formerly had been afforded for supplying the ships of war with copies of the Scriptures. During the past year 63 of Her Majesty's vessels had been supplied—11,785 copies having been thus distributed. To the army, 23,337 copies had been supplied. Upwards of 20,000 had been distributed to merchant seamen, bargemen, &c.

#### THE PRACTICAL RESULT OF CLOSING TAVERNS ONE DAY IN THE SEVEN.

Mr. Duncan McLaren, ex-Lord Provost of Edinburgh, has published another elaborate letter on the working of Mr. Forbes Mackenzie's Act in Scotland, comparing the criminal and drunken statistics of Edinburgh, for the whole year during which the act has been in operation, with those of preceding years. The result is, that a most marked and blessed change for the better is clearly established.

Mr. McLaren proves, by the most careful statistics, 1. That the cases of drunkenness, taken up by the police have greatly decreased; 2. That not only is there a decrease in the number of Sabbath drunkards, but a small decrease in the Saturday and Monday cases; 3. That the commitments to prison have greatly decreased (the population of the prison being reduced from 625 in 1852, to 399 in 1855); and 4. That the consumption of whiskey and other spirits in Scotland has fallen off during the nine months preceding 19th February, 1855, by 503, 635 gallons! Mr. McLaren adds the following testimony to his statistical return:—

"After having furnished such an overwhelming body of evidence to prove the great diminution of drunkenness on Sundays, it only remains to state that the appearance of all the low neighborhoods in the city and suburbs, on Sunday evenings, has been so completely changed since the public-houses were closed during the entire day, that, in walking along the streets, as I have often done during the last year, one can hardly believe that the quiet orderly groups whom we see are in any way connected with the crowds of disorderly persons who were formerly to be seen, quarrelling, fighting, swearing, using obscene language, and on too many occasions under the influence of intoxicating liquor, behaving more like savages than Christians. That this blessed change has taken place I know from personal observation; but I have likewise frequently been reminded of the fact by other observers, including magistrates, ministers, city missionaries, officers of police, and multitudes of worthy citizens; and I think it right to state, that many respectable men engaged in the spirit trade have also assured me they have observed and rejoiced at the change; and they have expressed an opinion that, if a meeting were