

enlargement of the boys' school building." The cost is set at \$28,000.

—The most common practice as a preventive of cholera is wearing a few strands of cotton yarn about the neck or waist to keep off the evil spirits, which bring disease. They also place little rude straws containing offerings to the spirits, on the sides of the street, or float them down the stream. And the following Siamese prescription for a snake bite will show the great need for medical missionaries: "A portion of the jaw of a wild hog; a portion of the jaw of a tame hog; a portion of the jaw of a goat; a portion of a goose-bone; a portion of a peacock-bone; a portion of the tail of a fish; a portion of the head of a snake."

China.—"It is very strange," says a Chinese scholar who believes in Christ, "foreign ships came here; everybody said they are better than ours. Foreign steamships came; all are glad to travel in them. Fire-oil (kerosene) came; everybody said, 'This light is better.' Foreign cotton came; people everywhere began to use it for clothing; not much market now for native white cloth. Foreign needles came; everybody agrees they surpass our own. But the foreign doctrine came and *nobody* wants it. Very strange!"

—The Chinese have no term corresponding to our *amen*. The translation of their word means, "The heart wishes exactly so."

—Says Morris, in his "Winter in China," "While the Chinese excel in intellectual ability, patience, practicality and cheerfulness, what they lack is character and conscience. And nothing less than the Gospel will meet China's need."

—Of the 1670 persons received into Christian fellowship in the Swatow Mission of the Baptist Missionary Union, nearly one half were baptized after they were fifty years of age, and no less than 361 after they were sixty.

—Says the Chinese *Recorder*: "The

most liberal contributor to the Methodist Episcopal Mission in Singapore is a Chinese banker, Mr. Tan Jiakkim. He gave \$1500, and collected from his Chinese friends nearly \$5000 more."

—In 1890 there were in the Empire 61 hospitals, 44 dispensaries, 100 medical students; patients treated in one year, 348,439. These figures represent the medical work as a whole. In 1891, in Shanghai alone, the number of patients treated by medical missionaries was 56,933. And Dr. John G. Kerr, of the Presbyterian Board, in Canton, has during his forty years of service personally given over 1,000,000 of attendances to the sick and suffering; performed over 35,000 operations, and trained 100 or more of the native Chinese in surgery and medicine.

—The Presbyterian Church, South, has 6 missions, manned by 36 representatives, and all are located in cities standing upon the line of the Grand Canal.

—The Chinese Christians in Canton have joined in a book-lending association, and send out a staff of book-lenders to distribute and gather good literature.

Japan.—"J. H. P." writes to the *Congregationalist* that "the Christians of Japan are somewhat aroused just now over the subject of church independence. Some of the leaders are stung by the taunt of Buddhists and others that Christianity tends to make men disloyal. They long by some striking act to convince these opponents of the Western religion that the Church of Japan, like its government and its schools, while borrowing ideas and methods from the outside world, is a Japanese institution thoroughly adapted to Oriental tastes and ambitions." And a missionary writes in a semi-discouraged strain to the *Christian Observer* of the disposition manifest in all quarters on the part of Japanese saints to take the management of things, creeds, and church order included, into their