

opened in 1840. Through the courage and perseverance of the first missionaries Mrs. H. Feller and Rev. Louis Roursay, it overcame the opposition of those early days, and soon gained the respect of many of the people. Thousands of pupils have taken advantage of its classes, and many have learned the way of life from its devoted Christian teachers.

### THE ALMA MATER SOCIETY.

WE are glad to publish this month a communication from the President of the above society, suggesting a few changes in its constitution, which changes are expected to add to its usefulness. The society, in the past, can hardly be said to have been a grand success. But that is no reason why it should sink out of existence. There is surely room for such an organization. The constitution declares that its object is "to further among its members a spirit of loyal attachment to the College, and to promote its welfare by such means as may be devised from time to time." In the past the society has endeavored to fulfil this object by conducting the COLLEGE JOURNAL, by giving an annual scholarship of fifty dollars in Oriental languages, and by holding an annual banquet. THE JOURNAL was handed over to the Literary Society, the scholarship has been withdrawn, and last year the banquet was omitted. Practically the only schemes which the society has on hand now are, first, a movement toward the sending out of a foreign missionary, which hardly comes under the avowed object of the society, and, second, a plan for the establishment of separate branches of the society in the various synods and presbyteries. This later is a good enough idea, but why multiply organization without having any definite work laid out for them? If such subordinate societies are to be of any real value they must do more than merely talk over the memories and associations of college life.

There must be a clear cut plan emanating from the central society. The best way to further among the graduates a spirit of loyal attachment to the college is to give them some definite work to do for the institution. No alumnus can object to do such work if it is at all in his power. Common honesty will lead a man to wish to assist an institution from which he has received great advantages. He should have more interest in its success than any other man.