

Field Notes.

THE July number of the OUTLOOK is mailed simultaneously with the June number. This is done that the paper may reach all the ministers before moving begins, and hence we cannot give facts and figures concerning the year's income. Sufficient is known, however, to inspire the hope that there will be a healthy advance on the givings of the previous year.

THE minutes of the Japan District are to hand, and afford gratifying evidences of progress. Seventeen ministers and probationers assembled in District meeting, of whom ten were natives. The membership aggregates nearly 800, and there are 650 scholars in Sunday-schools. Five young men (natives) are recommended as candidates for the ministry, and two are recommended for ordination.

BESIDES those mentioned above, and the probationers of one, two and three years, there are ten native evangelists, making a total of twenty-two native workers exclusive of students who give occasional service, and teachers who serve in the college.

THE report presented from the Theological School shows thorough work. Three young men, examined in the first year's course, including Biblical Theology, Life of Christ, Old Testament Exegesis, Old Testament History, and Ethics, obtained an average of $79\frac{1}{2}$, $85\frac{1}{2}$, $86\frac{3}{10}$ respectively. Ten young men, probationers, are recommended to be sent to college the coming year.

THE question "Can anything be done to improve the financial condition of the District?" was carefully considered, and a number of resolutions on the line of self-support were adopted. It is gratifying to know that our Japanese brethren are aiming steadily at financial independence.

A CONTEMPORARY states that the last survivor of the first band of Christian pioneers who carried the Gospel to Madagascar is dead. This was Mrs. Baker, who died at Hillside, New South Wales, on the 9th of June. Her husband, Rev. Edward Baker, as we have already recorded, died on the 15th of March last, leaving his aged and bed-ridden widow looking forward to a happy reunion in heaven. We now learn that she had not long to wait. Mr. Baker was the author of the first Malagasy grammar, and he also translated the "Pilgrim's Progress" into the language of Madagascar. His wife was a noble-hearted helpmate in a work which perhaps transcends in interest any chapter in the modern history of the Christian Church.—*Religious Intelligencer*.

Editorial and Contributed.

STRENGTH IN WEAKNESS.

CHRIST'S Church is still a "little flock;" vastly enlarged, it is true, since He first gave command to disciple all nations, but small when compared with the great mass of unenlightened and unsaved men. This has sometimes discouraged friends, while it has excited the scorn of foes. "Where," they ask, "are your boasted triumphs? You tell us Christ's Church shall yet take possession of the world; but that Church has been in the world for more than eighteen centuries, and see how little it has accomplished! By its own confession less than one-third of the world is yet Christianized, and two-thirds of it is yet Pagan or Mohammedan. This does not look much like conquering the world." Our answer to such taunts is not hard to find. The race is not always to the swift nor the battle to the strong. We are small, in human estimation; so is the grain of mustard seed, and yet it grows and spreads till the fowls of the air lodge in its branches. We are feeble, in human estimation; so is the leaven, and yet that leaven, working silently and unseen, assimilates whatever it touches, and transforms into its own likeness the surrounding mass. And let it be remembered these are the figures which Christ Himself has employed to describe the nature and growth of His kingdom. "Providence," said Napoleon, "is on the side of the largest battalions;" but all history gives Napoleon the lie. Providence was not on the side of the largest battalions when Gideon's three hundred swept away the pride of Amalek; nor when Leonidas and his three hundred Spartans held the pass of Thermopylæ; nor when the "thin red line" of British valor humbled the pride of Russia on the field of Balaclava. God is not governed by majorities; and still it pleases Him to use the weak things of this world to confound the mighty, and to teach men that in spiritual warfare it is not by might nor by power, but by the Spirit of the Lord of Hosts.

REPORT OF THE TO-YO-EIWA GAKKO,

For the Term ending March 31st, 1887.

THE spiritual outlook is good. One of the advanced students has made a public profession of faith in Christ during the term, and two others in the highest class have asked for baptism. All of which is to us a source of encouragement and hope.

Total students at the end of the term:—Boarders, 83; day students, 264; total, 347. The cash receipts for the term from all sources, such as entrance fees