

With reference to Central Africa, the Committee of the "United Universities' Mission to Central Africa" have just published their first report:—

"This mission had for its object the spiritual and temporal welfare of those tribes in Central Africa in which Englishmen had become so deeply interested after the publication of Dr. Livingstone's work, detailing the discoveries and impressions which resulted from his adventurous and enterprising travels. The report details the steps which have been taken from the establishment of the mission and its progress to the present time. 'The first detachment sent out to occupy the field, consisting of Archdeacon Mackenzie with two clerical and two lay fellow-laborers, left England in October, 1860. After landing at Cape Town the archdeacon was consecrated as the first missionary bishop, on New-Year's Day, 1861, under the title of 'Bishop Mackenzie,' having charge of the 'mission to the tribes dwelling at Lake Nyassa and the River Shire.' The party then started for the scene of their labors, and joined Dr. Livingstone on February 9th.' The letters published in the reports detail the progress of the mission: 'One of the young princes had become a staunch christian, and report says the Sultan himself is anxious to know English thoroughly, that he may read the Bible. The second detachment, consisting of one clergyman, with his wife, and three lay coadjutors, sailed on the 16th of April last, and reached Cape Town on May 14th.' The report concludes with an appeal for aid for the funds of the mission. The cash account, which, though just published, shows the receipts only to the end of December, 1860, gives the total receipts up to that time as £18,619."

MISSIONS OF AMERICAN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.—The recent intelligence in regard to the missions of the American Presbyterian Church is, on the whole, encouraging. In India, several had been received into the membership of the church. In China, some hopeful cases of conversion are referred to. In Japan, Dr. Hepburn was pursuing his usual engagements with encouragement. He had treated about 150 patients, and much interest seemed to be taken in this work of benevolence by the Japanese. The missionaries, with their wives, lately sailed for their several destinations in India, China, and Siam. One left for Rio Janeiro.

BRITISH COLUMBIA—RECENT INTELLIGENCE.

The importance of British Columbia is every day becoming greater, and the probability is, that during the ensuing summer there will be a large accession to the population. We have read with interest letters lately received from the Wesleyan Missionaries in the field, and published in the *Christian Guardian*. In one letter, it is stated that the Governor of the Colony had written both to the English and Canadian governments, urging the opening up of an overland route by Red River. There is no doubt that there will be such a route before many years have passed. The richness of the gold fields is being developed from day to day, and recent explorations have established the fact, that between some of the mountain ranges there are millions of acres of prairie and wood land suitable for agricultural purposes. We subjoin some extracts from a recent letter from Rev. E. White, Wesleyan Missionary:—

MR. EDITOR,—When I wrote my last, I thought it would be my last, at least for some time to come; but the reports which are now going out in our local press, and in private letters, of the enormous richness of our gold fields, constrain me to send you a few lines. I do not mean that the reports are false and wish to correct them; but I write because they are true, and will soon be proved in such a way that they will be believed abroad as well as here, and I am exceedingly desirous that the emigration which *must* flow in upon us next year, should be properly *sprinkled* with good men. The bags of *dust* which are now coming down, confound and strike dumb every person who has dared to call Fraser River gold mines a *humbug*. I could give you a long list of those who went up last spring with hardly enough to pay their expenses to Cariboo, and are now returning with from \$5,000 to \$20,000 each. Some intelligent persons who have seen California in its best days, have lately made tours of observation in our mines, and they declare that Cariboo surpasses California, (so far as prospecting,) in its palmiest days.