

South America.—The American Bible Society reports that Bible distribution was fifty per cent. larger last year in South America than in any former year. The number of Bibles, New Testaments or parts disposed of by sale or gift (mainly the former) was 51,862. That this large increase was not the result of mere spasmodic effort is evident from the

fact that during the past ten years 264,542 copies have been circulated, of which 90,484 belong to the first half of the decade, and 174,038 to the last half. These figures are exclusive of the work of the Valparaiso (Chili) Bible Society, which sold during the year 4,563 copies, and during its existence of 28 years has distributed 54,417 copies in the Republic of Chili.

III.—MISSIONARY CORRESPONDENCE FROM ALL PARTS OF THE WORLD-FIELD.

Brazil.

Sao Paulo, Oct. 17, 1889.

DEAR DR. PIERSON: Knowing you to be an ardent friend of foreign missions, I take the liberty of sending you an item of news.

During the late sessions of the Presbytery of Sao Paulo, its licentiate, Senior Benedicto Ferraz de Campos, was examined for ordination. His final examinations and sermon gave evidence of very fine talent. His knowledge in Greek was especially noteworthy. A very large congregation assembled on a Monday night to witness the ordination, when the pastor of the church, Rev. E. Carlos Pereira, preached the sermon, and Rev. Carvalhosa gave the charge to the candidate. Both sermon and charge were especially appropriate to the occasion, but the crowning act was the final setting apart of the candidate by the laying on of the hands of the Presbytery. By invitation of the Presbytery, the representatives of other Presbyteries and of the Methodist and Episcopal Churches, were invited to take part; so that upon the head of the young candidate were laid the hands of different representatives of the Christian Church. 'Twas a beautiful sight and one which made a solemn impression upon all: that union of sympathy and brotherly love, which could lay aside all differences and unite in so solemn an act. The candidate was very deeply affected. We certainly have reason to believe that "the laying on of hands" in this case brought with it the blessing of the presence of the Holy Spirit. What an inspiration our newly ordained brother has received! "May the Holy Spirit ever bless his ministry."

The two young men, Messrs. Morris and Kinsolving, sent out from the seminary at Alexandria, Va., are winning for themselves and the church they represent golden opinions. They expect to accompany the newly ordained minister, Mr. Benedicto, to his field of labor, and there study the language, after which they expect to choose for themselves a good wide field of labor, of which there are many.

The Presbytery of Sao Paulo received three

candidates for the Gospel ministry. To the churches of this Presbytery were added during the last year 133 infants by baptism and 187 on profession. Permission was granted to organize two new churches. The reports of all the pastors were very cheering; each one reporting fields much too large for one man to occupy.

This Presbytery, in harmony with the Standing Committee on Home Missions of the Synod, is seeking for means to sustain and teach a class of *eleven young men*, married and single, for a year, in purely Biblical instruction, and then send them out to occupy the many places where the good seed of the Word has been planted and is bearing fruit.

Yours truly,

J. B. KALB.

China.

[Do not fail to read this letter from a remote corner of this vast empire.

—EDS.]

SINING, RAUSUH PROVINCE, N. W. CHINA,

Sept. 24, 1889.

DEAR EDITORS: Your April number of THE MISSIONARY REVIEW OF THE WORLD contained an article on "The China Inland Mission," by Prof. Hulbert, in which are a few statements which require some modification.

He says: "When I say the work is comprehensive, I give no idea of the vast area covered by the Inland Mission. Its laborers may be found from the borders of the Mongolian desert and the boundary line of Siberia on the north, to the banks of the Bramapootra river and the valleys of the Himalayas on the south; from the Pacific ocean on the east to the borders of Turkestan and the unknown plateau of Thibet on the west." Mr. Stevens, of this Mission, is located at Bhamo, on the banks of the Irrawady, in Burina. Mr. Geo. Parker has recently returned from a journey across the desert of Shamo to Hani, Urumtsi, and Ili, making only a few weeks' stay there, and then returning to Lanetes. He also visited Kokomor with a Russian exploring party.