

and their self-restraint increase; how they cease to be the slaves of the Mahajans; and how the chronic malady of debt, which depressed their vitality and made them such mere drudges, so down-hearted, ceases, and they can assume such a thoroughly independent bearing!"

JAPAN.—Persecution has been active in Japan. One of the teachers connected with the missionaries was arrested. He and his wife were seized at midnight and cast into prison. They were afterwards dragged to the capital, and tried for having a New Testament in their possession. He has since disappeared, and no redress can be obtained. The Protestant missionaries in Japan think that the time has come for the Christian Governments with which Japan is in treaty relations to remonstrate vigorously and earnestly against the persecutions of Christians. One of their number, the Rev. David Thompson, has been commissioned to visit Europe and America, to confer with leading men and officers of the various Governments, and secure their united action on the subject. What the missionaries unitedly and earnestly ask is that the Christian Governments shall instruct their respective ministers and representatives in Japan to protest against such persecutions as inhuman and unworthy of a nation that is trying to take on the arts and comforts of modern civilization. The missionaries think that the united and earnest remonstrances of the foreign ambassadors would be heeded, and would ere long secure complete religious freedom.

UNITED STATES.—The visitor will be struck on Sunday afternoon, at the crowd of negro boys and girls wending their way to the Presbyterian church in Lexington, Virginia. If he goes in, he will see a colored Sunday school, superintended by Colonel J. T. L. Preston, Professor in the Virginia Military Institute. If he asks about the school, he will be told: "This is Stonewall Jackson's old school." The facts are that this colored Sunday school was organized by Stonewall Jackson when he was Professor in the Virginia Military Institute, that he took the deepest interest in its success, (never going to it or from it without earnest secret prayer), and that when called into the army he expressed himself more loath to leave his Sunday school than any of his other public duties. His interest continued to the day of his death, and he was never known to write a letter to Lexington, without making special inquiry after his colored Sunday school.

Proceedings of Presbyteries.

PRESBYTERY OF DURHAM.—This Presbytery held an adjourned meeting at Durham on the 24th of October.

A petition having been read from Chesley branch of Chesley, West Bentinck, and Hanover congregation, praying for separation from Hanover, it was agreed that the same lie on the table till next ordinary meeting, and that parties be cited then and there to appear for their interests in the matter.

A circular from Mr. McLaren, Convener of the Foreign Missions Committee, relating to the necessity of taking immediate steps to increase the funds of said committee, was read, and owing to the absence of many members of court, laid on the table till next meeting, the Clerk being instructed to write to Mr. McLaren to that effect.