

missionary Tidings what the representative of Christian work in Japan ought to be. We advise our readers to send \$1 to Rev. F. Staniland, Yokohama, as yearly subscription to *Missionary Tidings*, if they wish a record of mission work in Japan.

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THE *Missionary Review of the World*, for August, comes to our table laden with the best of the wheat. Articles from the pen of Dr. Pierson are too well known to need a word in their behalf. Among the remaining articles are "The Gospel in Spain," by Rev. J. E. Budgett Meakin; "Planting Christianity in Germany," by Rev. Henry Gracey, Gananoque, Canada; and "Eugene Bersier and Huguenots," by Alice Bertrand. The other departments are equally well sustained. Funk & Wagnalls, New York, and 86 Bay Street, Toronto. Subscription, \$2 per year.

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WE have received the *Gospel in all Lands* for July, with the same sense of pleasure that one hails the coming of a friend. Among the leading articles are, "Monthly Missionary Concert," "United States," "The Navago Indians," "Mormon Literature and Hymnology," "The Esquimaux of Alaska," "The United States as an Evangelizing Nation," "The Language of Malaysia," "A Little Journey in Japan," "The Political Situation in Bulgaria," "The Gospel in Russia." Published by Hunt & Eaton, Fifth Ave. and 20th Street, New York. Price \$1.50 per annum.

Editorial and Contributed.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

A VISIT to the North-West and British Columbia, after an interval of three years, afforded a good opportunity of grasping the ratio of growth, alike on the material and the spiritual side. Those who entertain doubts about the future of the North-West may set their minds at rest. Already its future is assured. Enough has been done to show its splendid capabilities. Railway enterprise is opening up its vast resources; visiting delegates from the United States and from the Old World have travelled widely through the country, and have returned with glowing reports, and it is only a question of time—not a long time, either—when the North-West will be the granary of the world. The harvest prospects for the present year are splendid, and the probabilities are there will be more than 20,000,000 bushels of wheat for export. A moment's thought will show what a vast amount of ready money this will set afloat in proportion to the population. The farmers of the North-West can well afford to lose a crop occasionally. In religious matters, progress is

equally marked. The Churches are keeping well abreast of the needs of the population, and in this good work the Methodist and Presbyterian Churches hold foremost rank. In the friendly race there has sometimes been a little friction, but no serious hurt has been done. Still it will be well for leaders on both sides to act in the spirit of Abraham toward Lot, "Let there be no strife, I pray thee, between thee and me, and between my herdmen and thy herdmen, for we be brethren."

Let me correct one erroneous impression. Many people have an idea that in the North-West religion has a feeble hold, and the churches are but poorly attended. I did not find it so. Taking Winnipeg, Portage la Prairie, Brandon, Calgary, etc., as samples, the bulk of the people seem to attend religious worship, and as regards reverence and fervor, the congregations do not compare unfavorably with those farther east.

The evidences of enterprise and progress on the Pacific Coast are very marked. Towns are growing rapidly. Prices of real estate advancing too rapidly, I fear, and unless checked there will be a "boom" with all its disastrous consequences. Until within a few years British Columbia was generally regarded as a somewhat sleepy region, with little push or enterprise, except in wickedness. All this is changed, and there is now an alert, wide-awake spirit that promises well for the future. By common consent the people attribute this change to the completion of the Canadian Pacific Railway, an enterprise that has infused new life into all departments of trade. Vancouver, the terminus of the road, is itself a marvel. The town site was laid out in 1885; in June, 1886, the few buildings that had been erected were swept out of existence by a forest fire. To-day, five years later, there is a city claiming a population of from fifteen to eighteen thousand, with electric lights and tramway, well-built churches, residences, stores and hotels, and all the appliances of modern civilization. At other points—New Westminster, Victoria, Nanaimo, etc., there are also signs of rapid growth, and land outside the towns is being taken up for farming purposes and fruit culture. In religious matters, too, there has been marked progress. The British Columbia Conference reports a decided growth in membership; new fields have been opened, additional men asked for, and a hopeful spirit prevails that augurs well for the future.

Clerical visitors to the Pacific, if their experience is like mine, are not in much danger of rusting. Reaching Vancouver on Friday afternoon, my work for the