

occupation of natives who were willing to work, were set under way. The land previously owned by the society was more thoroughly cultivated. At home, the affairs of the society were concentrated and the mission made more independent, if possible, of the churches and the auxiliary societies. The houses for the education of the children of missionaries were erected in 1853. An invalid and widow's fund was established. Mite societies were organized; agents were assigned to various fields to solicit money. The new mission house was erected chiefly through the munificence of Mr. Marian in 1860, and the churches in the various mission fields were called upon to contribute more liberally to the support of the society. This was an era of large expenses, and yearly deficits were heroically made up. The mission field was not extended, but efforts were concentrated in every department, and the efficiency of the work of the society largely augmented.

The brief term of office of the fourth inspector, Otto Schott, (1879-1884) did not allow of any particularly marked developments. But in some respects he added considerably to the efficiency of the society. In the home department he succeeded in avoiding the deficits of his predecessor's era. He won over to the missionary cause a number of outsiders. He went to India on a tour of inspection and there emphasized the work among the heathen, rather than that among the native Christians. Female and medical missionaries were sent out for the first time. Finally he withdrew from the inspectorship, largely because he was conscientiously opposed to what he considered to be the secular influence of the mercantile establishments connected with the mission.

In 1882 one of the secretaries, the Rev. H. Praetorius was made sub-director and was sent out on a visitation tour to the Gold Coast, accompanied by Dr. Machly, who was charged with a medical visitation of all the stations and to report on the sanitary condition of the Gold Coast. This tour proved a very costly one to the Basel mission, for Mr. Praetorius was stricken down by the climate and died. He was their most promising man, and every one had expected a new magnetic life would be given to the society when, in due course of time, the directorship should be placed upon his shoulders. Since 1884 Rev. Th. Ochler, a comparatively young, but a thoroughly equipped man, has held the directorship of the Basel mission. January 1, 1887, a new field was taken over by this society from the London Baptist Missionary Society at Cameroons and Victoria when that colony was annexed to the German Empire.

To-day the Basel Society has four fields of labor, East India, China, Gold Coast, and Cameroons and Victoria in West Africa; 44 stations, 89 ordained male European laborers, 31 day European lay workers, 85 female European laborers, 577 native workers; 19,988 adherents; 9,497 communicants, 25 schools and 7,486 scholars. The annual income of this society is £36,000, of which the native converts contribute £778.