

and hindrance come to missionary toil ; and yet it can hardly be but that in the end substantial gain will accrue to the kingdom of heaven in that peninsula.

Japan.—A missionary thus speaks of a congregation at a church service : “ Japanese audiences are models of politeness. No one yawns, snaps his watch, shuffles his feet or goes out, even though the speaker is talking in an unknown tongue. Every eye is upon the speaker. When he begins to speak he is greeted by a polite obeisance from every one in the audience ; and when he concludes, another low bow from every one in the room says silently, ‘ I thank you. ’ After the address another song, a prayer, and benediction, and then what ? A grabbing of hats and canes and overcoats, and a ‘ break ’ for the Joor ? Ah ! no ; the Japanese have not learned thus to close their worship. All drop into their seats again ; for a full minute they sit with covered eyes and bowed heads, and then slowly and reverently pass out of church or break up into little groups. ”

—A recent official report shows that in December of 1892 there were 42,899 doctors in this empire, which is one and a fraction for every 1000 people. There were also of midwives licensed by the home office, 1486, and of those licensed by local offices 31,530. Apothecaries numbered 2836 ; drug-stores, 13,225 ; druggists, 1375 ; public hospitals, 196 ; and private hospitals, 378. Many of these doctors are thoroughly well-equipped men, and not a few of them have received their medical training in America or Europe. It appears, then, that *medical* missions are not much needed in Japan.

—Rev. Henry Loomis mentions in the *Chinese Recorder*, as a cheering fact, the removal of all objection to the possession or use of the Scriptures in the higher normal school in Tokyo.

—An open-air mission has been organized by Rev. Shinoke Nagasaka, a Japanese convert of no ordinary power. His labors in Hawaii for his own coun-

trymen led to his becoming a member of the Salvation Army in San Francisco, that he might be thoroughly initiated in its methods of open-air work. He has twice been permitted to visit Korea in a Japanese warship, and is the only Christian preacher who has been allowed to present Christ to the navy of his own country.

—A journal published in Yokohama states that the Japanese religious press calls for more women evangelists, or Bible-women, and it is plain that the responsibility of the enlightenment of the women of Japan rests, to a great extent, upon the native Christian women of this empire. To meet such a want two women connected with the American Board established in Kobe first a training class and later a school. Already 40 have graduated after six months of study for three successive years, and as long a period of practical work. Other similar schools have been opened by other missions.

#### AFRICA.

—The area of South Africa adapted to white occupancy is said to be six or seven times that of France—that is, it embraces much more than 1,000,000 square miles.

—In the twenty years since the Livingstonia Mission was founded, Scotland has contributed to its fund \$450,000.

—During the ten years of his service, Bishop Smythies visited Nyassa five times. Each visit involved a walk of 450 miles from the coast to the lake, and on two occasions a return on foot. The last journey was a painful one ; his strength gave way, and he arrived at Likoma in a deplorable condition, with deep wounds in his legs, and utterly exhausted. This convinced him that he could not again hope to undertake the great fatigues of the long journey ; further, it convinced him that it was practically impossible for one person to exercise episcopal supervision over both the work of the mission at Lake Nyassa and the work at Zanzibar and on the East Coast.