

Dr. Mackay's In appearance little changed **Visit Home.** from that of thirteen years ago, our pioneer missionary to Formosa is with us again, thrilling crowded gatherings with the story of the Lord's doings in that land. Summed up, it means, on the one hand, twenty-three years of toil, hardship, opposition, persecution, and perils even nigh unto death, among a heathen community intensely bigoted against the foreigner and his religion; and on the other, a hospital, college, girls school, sixty churches or chapels (each with its native preacher), dotting the whole plain country of Northern Formosa, a communion roll of eighteen hundred, besides four hundred who have died in faith, and a people everywhere friendly, even those who once bitterly opposed and are not yet Christians, vying with each other in doing him honor when he was leaving them for a time a few months ago.

In token of their high appreciation of himself and his work, Dr. Mackay has been nominated by several presbyteries, Montreal, Toronto, Winnipeg, Algoma, and others, as moderator of the next General Assembly.

Prohibition Is moving rapidly onward. Province after province is declaring in its favor. Manitoba, which a few years ago was an almost untrodden prairie, a terra incognita, was the first to lead the way. Ontario followed, then P. E. Island, and now Nova Scotia with the most sweeping majority of all. Meanwhile the "Royal Commission" is trying to find out whether the country is ripe or ready for Prohibition. Language fails to describe the absurdity of the situation, so we forbear. If the people rule, their expressed desire will ere long be law.

Bread "There are in the entire world 51,000 **Destroyers.** breweries. Germany easily heads the list with 26,240, which produce every year 4,750 million liters of beer, the liter being equal to nearly a quart English measure. Next comes England with 12,874 breweries, and an output of 2,600 million liters; then the United States with 2,300 breweries and 3,500 million liters; Austria with 1,942 breweries and 1,300 million liters; Belgium with 1,270 breweries and 1,000 million liters; and France with 1,044 breweries and 800 million liters. In Bavaria, the annual allowance of beer per head of the population is 221 liters; in Berlin 191; in Belgium 169; in England 143; in Switzerland 131; in Denmark 133; in the United States 31; in Sweden 11; in Russia 5."

"Fifteen dollars a day represents the average amount paid into every saloon in the United States. This multiplied by 250,000, the number of saloons, and that result by 365 days, gives the total of \$1,263,750,000, which amount represents the drink bill for one year. No wonder there are hard times for workingmen and their families!"

From the Island of Hainan comes a petition to the American Board for a missionary. It is signed by ten leading men in an inland district, and a man walked 130 miles to carry it to the missionaries. These people had only heard the gospel during a brief preaching tour made by a missionary and two native assistants, and yet they were so impressed that they begged for a missionary offering to give ground for a chapel."

Cheo Han. An unfamiliar term to us, but too well known to the missionaries in North China, as the name of the author and instigator of the anti-Christian riots, the fire and bloodshed of the past few years in that country. It is said that he has recommenced his bitter attacks on Christianity and foreigners. His method is to prepare vile cartoons picturing Christ and Christians as guilty of the most horrible and revolting practices and crimes, and to scatter these broadcast by thousands, stirring up the passions and prejudices of the people and leading to bitter persecution.

It is reported later that he purposes paying a visit to Dr. Griffith John, the celebrated missionary at Hankow. If this be true, it looks as if the Spirit were working upon his hard heart, and it may yet be said of him as of Saul of Tarsus, behold he prayeth, and perhaps better still, in some future day, "He now preacheth the faith which he once destroyed."

Russian How often the "Acts of the **Preachers.** Apostles" is repeated in modern experience. An instance is seen in Russia. Many of the Stundists and Baptists in Russia are banished to new districts across the Caucasus Mountains. In some of these provinces these dissenting Christians number many thousands and are the majority of the population. Moreover many of them are in a good position for carrying on mission work among the Tartars and Persians. Many of them show remarkable ability in picking up the language of the natives of these provinces, and their first concern is often "to let their benighted neighbors hear the glad news of the Gospel of Christ." Some very interesting missionary experiences have been told. How like to the time when they that were scattered abroad in the persecution that arose about Stephen, went everywhere "preaching the word."

The Evangelical Alliance, in Great Britain, has intervened in behalf of the persecuted Stundists of Russia. To the representations made, the reply has come that the Emperor himself "was a Christian man, but that he was not the real ruler of Russia, the country being under the control of the Holy Synod of the Greek Church and the police." If so, then the Greek Church and the Russian police are institutions which ought to be reformed out of existence.