

**Christian Miscellany.****GOSPEL VICTORIES.**

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WO hundred years ago upon the walls of the fort of Kewsew, Japan, one might see written in Japanese characters this inscription;—

"As long as the sun shall warm the earth let no Christian be so bold as to come to Japan, and let all know that if the King of Spain himself, or the Christians' God, or the great God of all, if he violate this command, shall pay for it with his head."

At the close of the sixteenth century when Christianity, as introduced by the Jesuits, excited the apprehension of the government, an order was issued for the utter extermination of the Christians. Many of them fled to the beautiful sea-girt island of Takaboko, which lies off the west coast of Japan. But thither bloody persecutors followed them, and all who did not perish by the sword were driven over the rocky precipice, and perished in the sea. But there are no persecutors severe enough, no barriers strong enough, no declarations powerful enough, though backed by kings and emperors, to keep back Jehovah from fulfilling his promise to His Son, "Ask of me, and I shall give thee the heathen for thine inheritance, and the uttermost parts of the earth for thy possession." And now that Government which defied and blasphemed the name of the God of heaven, protects the missionaries who go to proclaim to its subjects the glad tidings of the gospel of Christ, and Christian ministers are called to responsible positions in Japanese institutions of learning.

A few years ago the inhabitants of Madagascar destroyed their idols, and pulled down their temples of worship almost in a day, and many turned to the new and living way, which a few faithful Christians had been labouring, through long years of fearful persecution and privation, to point out to them. In their case the prophecy of Isaiah seems to have been literally fulfilled:—"Behold thou shalt call a nation that thou knowest not, and nations that knew not thee shall run into thee, because of the Lord thy God, and for the Holy One of Israel, for he hath glorified thee;" and now in the true Christian spirit they have established a Missionary Society in the island, which meets twice a year. One of these semi-annual meetings was held last January in the Memorial Church at Ambatonakang. The Foreign Missionary of the Presbyterian Church in