

cities, schools where the Scriptures are a text book in her greatest thoroughfares. Italy, open and occupied; Rome, with schools, and Bibles, and chapels, and freedom to hear and believe the gospel of Jesus.

"The Inquisition itself at bay, with a Protestant minister waiting on its balcony at night, with lifted finger, to give a signal, if necessary, for the deliverance of an imperilled priest, who was in one of its secret chambers. Aye! has it come to that? A German Emperor blandly saying to the Pope, 'The Evangelical Creed, which I like my ancestors and the majority of my subjects profess, does not permit us to accept, in our relations with God, any other mediator than our Lord Jesus Christ.' And that! Mexico is stirring with a new life. Brazil is occupied at many points, and by noble workers for God. South American republics have opened their doors to Christian missionaries. Madagascar is won. The Sandwich Islands have decided for God, and the South Sea Islands wait for his law. Japan is awake. China has forgotten her long dream of countless ages and dynasties, and begins to mark time, and in some parts of her empire, to march with the hosts, who are pressing towards knowledge and liberty, and a life with God."

In addition, we might refer to the decided progress made by the Old Catholics, whose movement promises to tell on thousands of the adherents of the Papacy in the old world. They have now a Bishop, who has received a formal recognition from the Emperor of Germany. The old Catholics have received their constitution, while in some of the Universities provision is made for a Theological Faculty for themselves. With adherents at present numbering 50,000, Bishop Reinkens who is believed to be a truly pious man, and who is encouraging the people to read the Word of God, is likely by the blessing of God soon to see many more gathering around him. In the mission field, too, marked progress has been made during the past year.

We have to acknowledge God's goodness in permitting us in our own sphere to make some decided progress. We have been enabled to extend our Home Mission work and to take some decided steps for the enlargement of our Foreign Mission work. We have had the privilege of sending out our first two female missionaries, and the great Head of the Church has directed us to a most suitable medical missionary, who, with his wife, will, before many months pass, be ready to set out to join our devoted missionary Mr. McKay, in Formosa. One new Theological College has been completed and occupied, and another has been commenced, and will, we trust, be completed in time for the Session of 1874-5. In both our Seminaries, new Professors have been appointed, and increased efficiency been imparted. We have no room for boasting or glorying. Individually we are unprofitable servants,—as a Church, we have not improved, as we should have done, our opportunities of extending the Redeemer's Kingdom. But still we have reason to bless God for what He has done for and by us, and to set up a new stone with the inscription, "Ebenezer—hitherto hath the Lord helped us." Let our watchword for the year before us be "Onward." Let us forget the things behind and reach forth unto those which are before. Faithful is He who hath called us. Let us be faithful to Him, and He will give us the victory, and bestow upon us at least a crown of life.