

Seminary. All this is the growth of some 15 years. There are 69 Foreign Missionaries in all; and 5 Theological Seminaries; 48 ordained native ministers; 264 Protestant Congregations; 13,000 communicants and about 27,000 adherents. The field is most inviting.

SOUTH AND CENTRAL AMERICA.—Over two hundred members were added, last year, to the Presbyterian Churches in Brazil. What is this in so vast a country! Yet it is a beginning. The largest oak was once folded up in an acorn. In Brazil, there is a fair measure of liberty of conscience, and the Presbyterian missionaries are increasingly popular. Three hundred years ago, the Huguenots tried to establish a mission in South America, but the experiment failed. We are glad to see Presbyterianism in the 19th century resuming the work that failed in the 16th.—Presbyterian Missions are prospering in Mexico, in the face of much persecution, organized and stimulated by the priests. A few missions exist in Chili, Peru, Ecuador, and other republics. Our United States brethren are feeling more and more that they have a most important work to perform in relation to the people of the Central and South American Republics. Romanism never Christianized those nations. The priests have usually been prominent in vice and evil deeds. The common crowd are idolatrous, and the educated classes treat the religion of the state with utter contempt. Those lands are in need of the Gospel as truly as the Zulus or the Coreans.

CANADA.—The Congregational College Board of Montreal have invited the Rev. Dr. Barbour, of Yale College, Conn., U.S., to become Principal of the College. Dr. Barbour preached in Emmanuel Church during Christmas vacation with very great acceptance. He is a man of about fifty-five years of age, was formerly a professor in Bangor Theological Seminary, and for the last ten years has held the position of preacher in Yale College. His reputation as a scholar, teacher and preacher has made him widely and favourably known. Dr. Barlow has accepted the appointment. Subscriptions for the new buildings and endowment of Victoria College have now reached \$116,500.

Foreign Missions.

FORMOSA.

TAMSUI, Jany. 11th, 1887.

Rev. Dr. Wardrope,

DEAR SIR,—According to promise, I give you a few of the methods of work employed in this mission. These methods have been used from the beginning, and are still in operation, with what success the Canadian Church already knows.

1. Dependence on native preachers rather than on foreign missionaries. From the very first, it was Dr. MacKay's aim to establish a native church, ministered to by pastors taken from among themselves, and so he early selected a number of young men to be trained as preachers. The foreign missionary was among them teaching and organising, and fitting the students for the work they were to do in the future in gathering in converts, when they would separately have charge of congregations.

2. Travelling with the students and teaching while travelling. For several years, this plan was exclusively followed, Dr. MacKay's vigorous constitution making it possible in such a trying climate. During the past year, circumstances have made it absolutely necessary that the same method of teaching be carried out. At the time I write, the students are in Oxford College being drilled, and in a few weeks more four will be teaching them,—Dr. MacKay, Rev. Giám Lien Hô who was a Chinese teacher before becoming a convert and always remains in the college, then such help as I may be able to give.

3. Subjects taught and modes of teaching them. To the practical nature of these I have already referred in former letters.

4. The constant practice whenever occasion has permitted of holding evangelistic services, with short addresses by two or more speakers, short prayers and much singing.

5. Another important means of success is the medical work carried on by native preachers in the country. Medicines are dispensed at the chapels, and on a small scale surgical operations performed, also teeth extracted when instruments are at hand. This relieving of suffering is a powerful agency in day by day removing prejudice; a favorable impression thus made is closely followed up by the preaching of the gospel to the very one impressed and by the very preacher who has impressed him, if not by Dr. MacKay himself. We ourselves have met with a number of converts who have told us this is the way they were brought in. The longer I am here and see these methods in operation, the more I am convinced that they are apostolic, common sense, and so far as I can learn, the most practical that could be employed.

Yours sincerely,
JOHN JAMIESON.

TAMSUI, Jan. 11th, 1887.

Rev. Dr. Wardrope,

MY DEAR BRO.,—When I will tell you that there is a heap of letters six inches high before me (without envelopes) to be answered, and that the steamer will leave in less than an hour, you will see how I can only send a short note this time. The F. M. C. promptly and nobly responded to my appeal for money. Oct. 25th, 1886, I began to build three new