

Writing to the Bible Society, Rev. W. S. Nelson of the Syrian Mission says: The eight millions of pages printed, and the 25,000 volumes issued by the press in Beyrout surely represent no small factor in the process of elevating the Arabic speaking people of the East. These torches penetrate to the dark sections of Africa wherever the language of Mohammed is spoken. The Scriptures are found in almost every village in the whole of Syria.

There is a Christian community in Japan of about 175,000 souls. An exceptionally large number of these are men of influence and official position. But the greatest opposition comes from government officials.

Various colonies of Jews have been established in Palestine by wealthy societies and individuals. In the Plain of Sharon, near Jaffa, there are six or seven of these, and near Jericho, in the Jordan valley, two more, and three more near Safed. It is a remarkable fact that in Nazareth and Bethlehem there is not a single Jew.

Bishop Tucker, of Uganda, ordained seven men to the ministry recently, two of whom are the greatest chiefs in the country and govern great provinces. These were only ordained deacons. The ceremony took place in the cathedral, in which nearly five hundred trees are used as pillars. Some of them were brought five or six days' journey, and needed several hundred men to carry them. More recently twenty-eight men were baptized, and afterwards seventy-five were confirmed. More than 150 candidates for baptism appeared in a few days.

#### DEATH OF REV. W. J. MAXWELL.

The death of the Rev. W. J. Maxwell removed from Canadian Methodism a very strongly marked personality. He was a man of very superior ability, of indomitable industry and of great success in his work. As Brother Ross remarked at his funeral—He had “a passion for souls” and was never satisfied unless conversions took place under his ministry. He was a man of

strong originality, with keen insight into life and its relations, with a vein of quaint humour that attracted many who soon submitted to the mental and moral spell of his character. He was a native of this Province, born in Lambton, 1844. He had been twenty-three years in the ministry, and filled with acceptance such important appointments as Guelph, St. Catharines, Brantford, Hamilton and two churches in Toronto. As President of the Niagara Conference at an important and difficult crisis in its history he exhibited great prudence and force of character.

His strong and vigorous frame was seriously undermined by a long illness during his pastorate in the Bloor Street church. Before he was restored to health he entered with characteristic zeal upon his labours in the Elm Street congregation. He was soon, however, laid aside from labour, and after a long, painful illness was summoned from labour to reward. He seemed to rally for a few weeks before his death, but the hopes thus raised only made the feeling of bereavement at his departure the more intense.

His funeral at Elm Street church was an exceedingly impressive one. Several brethren from his former Conference, all the Methodist ministers of the city, and many of the other churches, with a great audience that filled the building, paid their last tribute of respect to the memory of a brother greatly beloved and revered.

Dr. Parker, Dr. Carman and Rev. Jas. S. Ross made impressive addresses. His bereaved widow will have many sympathetic friends in whose hearts the memory of Brother Maxwell will long remain.

---

WE regret that through an inadvertence the name of the publishers of the new edition of Dixon's *Her Majesty's Tower* was omitted. The publishers are T. Y. Crowell & Co., New York. 2 vols., gilt top, \$2.50. The cheapest edition of this book has been \$4. The English edition, of which it is a fac-simile, is \$10—present edition, \$2.50.