

sion at Umpupulo, Natal. The stationed missionary had seven preaching places, at which his helpers preached, having been specially prepared for the service on the Saturday. "This is a matter of which we do not take thought enough," the inspector remarks; "yet the Norwegians are lacking in efficient evangelists, while we are much better provided through our Seminary at Eblauzenl, with its 16 pupils."

**Belgium.**—The Missionary Church of Belgium (Evangelical Society) reports a rich spiritual growth within the past year. A letter from Pastor Brocher says that this missionary church is composed largely of poor miners who have come out from Romanism. There are 22 ordained ministers, four evangelists, eight Bible readers, and four colporteurs, but a large portion of the work is rendered by the workmen who, from the mining and manufacturing districts, return to the village. There are now 27 churches, with sixty-one preaching stations and 84 other localities where the gospel has been preached occasionally, besides 200 places visited by colporteurs. Nearly 8,000 religious services have been held during the year, with a regular attendance of from four to five thousand hearers. Of the 60 Sunday-schools 18 are called "Missionary Sunday-schools"; that is, composed exclusively of children of Roman Catholic families. This certainly is a cheering report, and the appeal for financial aid which is made by this Missionary Church of Belgium should have a generous response.

**China.**—In Canton, with its 1,500,000 inhabitants, are fifteen Christian chapels, where missionaries and the native ministers preach the gospel, not on Sunday only, but daily, and from two to four hours each day, to audiences vary from fifty to several hundred. After the sermon, Chinese Evangelists continue the services. Free conversations and discussions follow; rooms are at hand for private conferences, and Christian books and tracts are kept in readiness, and disposed of in large numbers. The preaching halls are thronged during the hottest months—July, August and September—and from noon till three o'clock—the hottest part of the day. Tens of thousands of visitors to the city have heard the gospel in these chapels and halls, and have carried it hundreds of miles into the interior. The missionary encounters these in the most remote places on his inland tours, and sometimes listens with surprise while they repeat the substance of the discourse which they have heard. The dialect used by most of the missionaries, in preaching, is the Panti, or pure Cantonese, by which they have access to twenty millions of people.

—Letters just received from Dr. Happer at Canton, speak of the encouraging increase of students in the Anglo-Chinese College. The number at the beginning of May was 67. The Girls' Boarding School cannot re-

ceive all who apply; 70 applicants have been declined. A Training Class from the school visits female patients in the Hospital. There are six native teachers at work.

—The Baptist Mission in the Shantung Province, have, in the district of Tsing-cheu Fo, 65 churches, all self supporting, ministered to by five native pastors maintaining themselves and not drawing any of their support from the society.

—The Chinese Inland Mission has been enabled to send \$20,000 for the relief of the sufferers from the famine in China.

—The ratio of the gain in converts in all the Protestant missions in China during the decade is about 140 per cent.; and in Japan it is over 300 per cent.

**Central America.**—In the latter part of last year the Presbyterian Board of Foreign Missions made a liberal appropriation of funds to help the mission in Guatemala, Central America, in purchasing property and building for mission purposes in the city of Guatamala. Ground was immediately bought and building begun, and now a house is almost completed and a church well under way.

—City of Mexico, May 8.—News has been received here of a discovery of great archaeological importance in the State of Chiapas, near the ruins of Palanque, being nothing less than a large city hidden in the depths of the forests. Some buildings are five stories high and in a good state of preservation. There is a well-paved road several miles in length still perceivable in the midst of a tropical forest. Very few particulars have reached here, but the report comes from good sources. Palanque is said to be a mere village in comparison with this lost city of prehistoric times.

**Egypt.**—Miss Whately's work in Cairo. The schools and mission established in Cairo by the late Miss M. L. Whately will be carried on by her sister, Miss E. Jane Whately, who is well known as the biographer of her father, the late Archbishop Whately, and as a frequent contributor to various periodicals. She will have the valuable aid of Mrs. Shakoor, the widow of a Syrian gentleman, who voluntarily assisted Miss Mary Whately in her work until his death some years ago. Mrs. Shakoor had for many years been the devoted friend and companion of the late Miss Whately.

**England.**—English Presbyterians now number 64,000, according to reports submitted to the annual meeting of synod held in Regent Square Church at the beginning of May. This shows a gain of 1,500 communicants for 287 congregations in the past year—a small total and a small average. We had hoped for better things after the meeting of the Presbyterian Alliance in London last year.

—Dr. Dale, of England, thinks that India is