

## Our Foreign Missions.

In the San Fernando Field alone, in our Trinidad Mission, are 20 Sabbath Schools, 79 teachers, and 949 pupils, with an average attendance of 790 scholars. In the central school there are 26 teachers and 218 pupils on the roll, and their collections during the past year were \$113.15. But for that mission, most of the teachers and pupils as well would have been to-day in heathenism, and that is but one of the four principal districts wrought by our missionaries in Trinidad.

The simple graphic picture by Rev. Jas. Menzies, M.D., in this issue brings the work of the medical missionary very vividly before us. The beautiful touch in the closing sentence where he refers to McClure of Drumtochty is worthily given, for our Dr. Wm. McClure took a high place among his fellow students, and might easily have been among the leading physicians of Canada, and resigned an honorable position in the Montreal General Hospital, to go as a missionary to the heathen.

Dr. Menzies was himself very ill for some time with fever, but is slowly recovering. He scarcely mentions his own illness even in a private note, and with like modesty, chooses for the subject of his description, not his own dispensary at Chang-te-Fu, but that of Dr. Wm. McClure, at Chu Wang.

### SHALL WE ENTER KOREA.

The Foreign Mission Committee, Eastern Division, are in a strait betwixt two. On the one hand is pressure to open a new mission in Korea. On the other is a debt of \$3,500; while the fields which they now work, in the New Hebrides, Trinidad, and Demarara, are taxing their income and some of them calling for more.

The story of Korea is that Rev. W. J. Mackenzie, one of our young ministers in Nova Scotia, had that hermit nation as such a burden on his heart that he felt impelled to go and carry to it the Gospel. Our Church had no mission there and did not feel justified in beginning one.

The Presbyterian Church, U. S. A., which has a flourishing mission in that country, would have employed him as her agent, but rather than sever his connection with his own Church, he went out about four years ago, on his own responsibility, trusting to what friends might send for his support.

Going out into the country alone with the people he lived among them to learn their tongue, and at Sorai, as a centre, was so successful that in a few months he could tell them the Gospel story, had won some converts, and had started them to build a small church, to which, in their deep poverty, they gave most liberally. Then

after but a few months of labor, when all seemed so hopeful, came his sudden and untimely end.

The proposal that our Church should take up the work has been at different times before the minds of many in the Eastern Section, but the difficulty in overtaking the work already in hand prevented the assuming of further burdens.

At a meeting of the Foreign Mission Committee, 23 Feb., the W. F. M. S. brought before them the question of a mission to Korea, urging a number of reasons for doing so.

1. "That the people there desire to have Canadian missionaries sent to them."

2. "That many in the Maritime Provinces desire to contribute to a mission in the field so hopefully opened by the late Mr. McKenzie."

3. "That two of our own young men have decided to go to this field—if not as the agents of our Church, then of the Northern Presbyterian Church of the U. S. A."

4. "That the temperate climate would be more conducive to the health of our missionaries than the fields in the tropics which we now occupy."

5. "That reasonable variety and dispersion of Foreign Missionary effort would appeal more strongly to the large variety of tastes and sympathies among our Christian people than concentration on only one or two fields can do, and would thus evoke a degree of liberality now unknown, and be sure to produce a revenue capable of meeting the additional expenditure involved in this new undertaking, as well as constant expansion in the fields now occupied."

6. "That the unused contributions to the work of the late Rev. W. J. McKenzie are now in the hands of the Agent of the Church, and amount to \$2,259.26; that this fund must be employed for the benefit of work in Korea, either by our own Church or some other to whom it could be handed: that this sum would provide mission premises and should be utilized by our Church."

The Committee after long and careful consideration decided to ask the Presbyteries of the Maritime Synod to take the whole Foreign Mission work of the Church into their early and earnest consideration and to ask them to report to the Foreign Mission Committee, before the middle of May, their opinion as to undertaking a new mission in Korea.

In seeking counsel from Presbyteries, the Committee has deemed it wise to lay before them the following considerations:—

1. "We are now committed to work in the New Hebrides which calls for \$7,000 per year."

2. "Our mission in Trinidad has reached large proportions and is capable of rapid expansion, by means of educated Christian Hindoo agents, if funds could be obtained for the purpose. The expenditure is now