

passed since we commenced the work in Port Limon, where we reside, and which place is at present the centre of our operations. We hope to commence building our church very soon, although we have not enough money as yet to complete it. We conduct services four times weekly, including the Sunday-school, in the largest building available. On the new railroad in course of construction to San José, the chief city of this country, we frequently hold services with the men in their camps; also among the little settlements of people on the existing railroad.

"The condition of the people, morally considered, is of an appalling character. Drunkenness, immorality, gambling, cutting and shooting, are common occurrences. As the writer is the only Protestant missionary in the Republic, you may conceive his hands are more than full. To visit those people means a great deal of traveling. Bibles in English and Spanish, tracts, books and booklets, are sold and circulated; thus the seed is being sown. While I am up country my wife conducts services in the town. Our work at present is chiefly with the English-speaking, of which there are many. There is a splendid opening for Protestant preaching in San José and towns near. A missionary speaking the Spanish language, possessing a clear head, a good knowledge of human nature, a bright, genial disposition, a heart filled with the love of Jesus Christ, and compassion for men's souls, would soon get a good foothold and make rapid progress.

"As far as I know there is only one Protestant missionary in Nicaragua, at Greytown. He is a good, faithful brother; he has recently rebuilt the little Protestant church there, and God is blessing his labors. Greytown is an open port, enjoying religious liberty. But outside that place there is scarcely toleration. It is gratifying to know that the majority of the young, influential men of Nicaragua are agitating for, and will soon secure the boon of religious liberty. But at the present time, one acting judiciously could preach the gospel in private houses, scatter the Word of God, and thus work on until the brighter day comes. The Jamaica Baptist Missionary Society would gladly send more missionaries into these countries, but at present cannot for want of funds. Possibly by giving these particulars publicly in your REVIEW, the means may be forthcoming for securing men

and money for the much needed work in these countries."

The statements of this letter abundantly confirm our previous paper. It cannot be that the powerful United States, whose missionaries are going forth into Africa, China, Burmah, India, Turkey and the Isles of the Sea, will utterly neglect these sister republics lying so near to us, and with whom we are seeking more intimate and extensive commercial relations.

In the *Gospel in All Lands*, for April, the Hon. N. F. Graves has a paper on "Costa Rica," which we would like to reproduce here, but can only refer to and cite a few points:

Costa Rica is the most southerly republic of Central America. It is a small country, containing only 26,040 square miles, and having a population of 210,000; but the population is now rapidly increasing.

In all parts of the country except the sea-coast the climate is mild and temperate. The thermometer seldom rises above eighty degrees or falls below sixty-five degrees. The climate of the coast is hot, but on the tablelands in the interior, with an elevation of about 4,000 feet, there is an agreeable climate, with moderate warm, dry, and cool nights. Nine-tenths of all the people live on the tablelands. Nearly all the people belong to the white race. It is quite different from most of the other Central American States. Here there is a very little of the Indian mixture and none of the negro. In the city of San José it is said that nearly nine-tenths of the population are of pure Caucasian blood, and you meet as many beautiful ladies, and as well dressed, as you do in the Northern cities. The people of San José reside in elegant residences replete with not only every convenience, but every luxury. The merchants and professional men of Costa Rica stand high in manners as well as in capacity for doing business. They appear like Americans. Education is not so universal as in our country, but all leading families are highly educated. The government is vested in a president elected for four years. The Senate is chosen, two from each province, and the representatives are elected, four from each district of ten thousand people, and all persons who are of age and can support themselves are voters. The schools are free, and