

only to recover lost ground, but also to recoup the loss of last year. The children of to-day are the hope of the future. If they grow up in sympathy with the watchword—"The world for Christ and Christ for the world," the speedy evangelization of the race is assured. There are over 233,000 scholars on the rolls of our various Sunday-schools, and an average of one cent a week from each of these would give an income of \$120,000 a year. Or suppose we leave off the odd 33,000 as representing schools so weak in numbers and resources that they cannot give anything for missions, and we have still 200,000 whose givings, at the rate of one cent a week, would represent over \$100,000. There are a great many Sunday-schools quite able to help who have hitherto done nothing. Don't say, "We need all the money we can raise for our own school work;" that is the way to train the children in selfishness. Besides, the congregation ought to provide the school with all needful appliances, and allow the givings of the children to go into the mission fund.

AN interesting and suggestive letter from a Chinese graduate appeared some time ago in the *Presbyterian Messenger*. The writer is evidently an admirer of Christianity. He recognizes the great truth that Jesus sacrificed Himself to save all mankind, and wonders "why it is that to this day so few in China follow Him." He points out that medicine which cures disease is good, but is for the most part unpalatable, and people are apt to loathe it. In like manner he holds that "the doctrine of Jesus is indeed beautiful, and is indeed good; but much of the translations of it are inelegant and crabbed, and scholars despise it." This utterance is worth considering. The Gospel, it is true, does not depend upon elegant diction and literary finish to become "the power of God unto salvation," nevertheless it is unwise to send it forth in a garb which repels educated men, and prevents an examination of its claims. "They that are sick" will be glad to welcome the physician although his medicines are not palatable; but we have to deal with men who do not realize their sickness, and who antagonize both the physician and his remedy; hence to present the remedy in a form which gives ground for believing that we are only quacks, is simply to erect a barrier between us and the men we desire to reach. Suppose a Buddhist came to us advising that we abandon our own religion and accept his, and gave us a translation of his sacred books in a language resembling "English as she is spoke," would not we be likely to treat the whole matter with ridicule, and advise him to go to school awhile before he undertook to teach us? The moral of which is that in the foreign field we need educated as well as godly men.

THE Wesleyan Mission in France comprises fourteen stations, eight of which are in and around Paris, two at Rouen, two at Havre, one at Elbeuf, and one at St. Servan. During the past three or four years the work has made great progress. Ten thousand copies of *La Bonne Nouvelle* are circulated monthly, and are a great help to the work.

SPAIN is commonly regarded as a country whose people are either Romanists or Atheists, and this is true of the bulk of the population. But Protestant Missions are making themselves felt, and the outlook is not all dark. Twelve foreign Societies are represented in Spain and the Balearic Islands, having some eighty preaching places, while some forty more are managed independently of any Society. General summary: preaching places, 114; pastors, 54; evangelists, 35; attendants at divine worship, 9,184; communicants, 3,442; day schools, 111; teachers, 139; pupils, 4,640; Sunday-schools, 80; teachers, 183; pupils, 3,231.

RECENT despatches from China are not re-assuring. The disturbed province of Hunan is on the verge of insurrection, and the anti-foreign feeling is very strong. Unless the Chinese Government acts promptly and with energy, the foreign powers will interfere, and by seizing important seaports, such as Shanghai, compel the native authorities to act. The Church will await, with deep interest, tidings from our missionaries whose route lies through the disturbed district.

THERE is a prevalent notion among ill-informed people that Africa, so far as the native races are concerned, is inhabited exclusively by negroes of a low type. This is a mistake. The bulk of the people south of the equator belong to the Bantu race, and, strictly speaking, are not negroes at all. The men are finely formed, tall and upright, with delicately formed hands and well-shapen feet, high, thin nose, beard and moustache. Like many of the negroes they are born orators. "A sermon that I heard from one of them," says a missionary, "was as fine as ever I heard in Europe or America, not only in point of delivery, but in its clearness of reasoning and in its profound perception of spiritual truth."

"THERE is but one lake on the surface of the globe from which there is no outlet, and that is the Dead Sea, which receives much but gives nothing. Such a lake is a perfect illustration of a church all whose efforts terminate upon itself. Around it there will be desolation, and in it there will be no life."—*William M. Taylor, D.D.*