

From all Quarters.

A Presbytery of Central Africa is about to be formed.

The semi-jubilee of the introduction of Good Templary into Ireland has been celebrated. The membership is now 10,000.

In 1861 three men came to the side of Christ in Foochow, and now in that one province there are 30,000 professed Christians.

The whole village of Marentino, Italy, has dismissed the Roman Catholic priests and placed its religious affairs in the care of the Waldensians.

During the year ending May, 1895, 11,500 persons were deported to Siberia, exclusive of 4,300 who were disposed of by other methods.—*Indian Witness*.

Dr. Law says, "On the shores of Lake Nyassa a few years ago the habitation of cruelty, there are now Christian schools with 150 teachers and 7000 scholars."

The Sultan of Morocco is reported to be sending private emissaries into interior Africa to propagate the Mohammedan religion, and set a barrier to the advance of Christian powers."

There are no less than 160 Israelites in holy rorders in the Church of England, who have either been converted from Judaism or else are the sons of parents who have been so converted.—*J. M. Epstein*.

"A sound body, a trained mind, linguistic talent and common sense, a rounded character and a loving heart, clear, firm faith and consecrated piety—these constitute fitness for the mission work."

Christianity is becoming a great power in Japan. Twenty-five years ago there were but twenty Protestant missionaries and eight baptized natives in all Japan. To-day there are six hundred missionaries and forty thousand Protestant Church members.

In 1865 not a single town in India had a supply of pure water; now nearly all the large cities and cantonments have water works, with the result that the death rate among the British troops of 69 per 1,000 thirty years ago has been reduced to 15 per 1,000. This is one thing that Britain has done for India.

The Chinese Viceroy, Li Hung Chang, is supposed to hold more personal property than any other resident of this planet, his estate being valued at \$500,000,000. Yet, with this colossal fortune he was unable to cope with a famine-stricken district sixty miles from his palace.—*Heathen Woman's Friend*.

The Natural Feet Society recently formed at Shanghai is the next in line after the Heavenly Foot Society formed in Amoy several years ago. It is a hopeful feature of prevailing thought in China when two strong societies are pledged to put down and do away with so outrageous a custom as foot-binding.—*Heathen Woman's Friend*.

Europe is spending twice as much on armaments as at the time of the Franco-Prussian war. The number of men lost to industry has been increased by one half; the number of those ready for service has been trebled. Thus the tax-payers of all countries are mulcted for the military glory of that campaign to the tune of two hundred millions a year.

A Roman Catholic servant girl, converted to Christ was urged by her brother, still a Roman Catholic, to send for the priest, as she was about to die. She refused, saying: "I have closed with my one and only great High Priest. He is the propitiation for my sin and I need no other." Her last audible words, as she died, were these: "No—not the man that has to be told, but the man that told me all things that ever I did, *that's the Christ*."—*Observer*.

Bishop Whipple of Dakota, who has done a noble work among the Sioux Indians, recently said to a reporter: "The Indian is proverbially honest, unless he is demoralised by drink. In thirty-six years' experience with the Indians, I never knew one to tell me a lie, and I never had a thing stolen by one. I asked an Indian once if it was safe to leave my property in my wigwam while I made a distant journey. He laughed and said: 'Quite safe. There isn't a white man within one hundred miles of you.'"

A missionary of the American Board in the interior of China, in writing of some of the difficulties and trials under which they are laboring, but in view of which they are by no means cast down, says that when he hears the statement that foreign missionaries have less of hardship and more of comfort than are found in the home field, he is reminded of the words of the negro who was told that he would be better off in the South under his old master. "Massa," said he, "de situation am open."

The Russian government has determined to assume a complete monopoly of the manufacture and sale of intoxicating liquors, in this way abolishing the private saloon. The system will not be in universal operation until Jan. 1st, 1898. This new Russian law, unlike the French law, which aims at revenue, aims to rid the Russian people from the demoralization of the liquor traffic as conducted by private enterprise. But the government would use its autocratic power to better advantage by enforcing prohibition.—*Pres. Rev.*

It is an interesting result of the work of the Waldensian Church in Italy, that from Girgenti, one of the most bigoted and intolerant towns of Sicily, there has just gone the first evangelical missionary from Italy to China. Other Waldensian pastors have entered upon mission work, but they have gone from the native churches of the valleys of Piedmont. This is the first fruit of their work farther south. The Waldensian theological school at Florence has 155 students, 106 of them coming from the Waldensian valleys, and from their number two missionaries have gone to the Zambesi and one to Lessouto.—*Independent*.

When Dr. Duff began work in Calcutta he found that a cow had more rights and higher rank than a woman, and he said that to try to educate women in India was as vain as to attempt to "scale a wall 500 feet high." To-day, in the province of Bengal alone 100,000 women and girls are under instruction, and India's most gifted daughters are laying hold of the treasures of the higher education. Zenana doors have been unlocked by the gentle hand of Christian womanhood, and a transformation is already accomplished which centuries of merely human wisdom and power could not even have begun.—*Dr. A. T. Pierson*.