

are extremely sorry, however, to see that it has fallen behind in its finances.

—The appointment by King Leopold of Mr. Stanley as Governor-General of the Congo Free State, and the acceptance of the appointment, will be gladly received by all civilized nations.

Brazil.—The church at Sao Paulo has over 700 pupils, and the principal has been compelled to refuse admission to more than fifty in one month for want of room. *Brazilian Mission* says, "In several of the States of the New Republic it is proposed to make attendance on the public primary schools, to be organized under the new government, compulsory. Three hundred years of Romish ascendancy has left Brazil with over eight millions of people who can neither read nor write."

China.—Conference at Shanghai.—We learn from Dr. Happer that the conference has been a great success—430 members, of whom 204 are ladies. It has been arranged to prepare a Union Bible in three versions, all three agreeing in meaning—one in the high classical language, one in simple literary style, and one in Mandarin colloquial. This uniting on one Bible, after forty years of separation, is cause for devout thankfulness and rejoicing. When the report was brought in, the doxology, "Praise God, from whom all blessings flow," was sung, and devout thanks given in public prayer. A full report from him in our next issue.

Rev. Dr. Thwing also sends us this concise statement of the character and doings of the conference:

1. It was notable on account of its infrequency. Held but once in a dozen years or more, it had a special value. *Rarum charum est.*

2. Its numerical size. No such gathering of foreign missionaries on heathen soil has been before seen. At the first conference 129 were enrolled; 432 in this meeting.

3. Its geographic scope. Some were two, three or more weeks coming from distant parts of the empire by slow boats or slower mule-carts. India, Japan, Europe, and America were also represented.

4. Its intellectual and moral power. It was a brainy conference. There were missionaries new and old, gray-haired sinagogues, authors and Oriental scholars, physicians and surgeons, specialists in various branches of study and men eminent as educators or in the administrative departments of service.

5. The devotional and spiritual temper of the body kept pace with its intellectual. Occasional flies got into the ointment, but, for all that, the ointment was pungent and precious.

6. The wide horizon of thought opened by the fifty papers and the substantial unity of the conference in its central current of thought made it a stately and commanding power. Its well prepared papers and debates, making

a volume of 1,000 pages probably, will be a noble contribution to the already opulent literature of missions.

—Statistics.—The following is a summary of the statistics presented to the conference, carefully compiled by the Rev. J. W. Davis, D.D., of Soochow:

Foreign missionaries—Men, 559; wives, 399; single women, 316. Total, 1,295.

Native helpers—Ordained ministers, 209; unordained, 1,200; female helpers, 180.

Medical work—Hospitals, 61; dispensaries, 43; patients (during 1889), 348,439.

Churches—Organized churches, 520, wholly self-supporting, 94; one-half self-supporting, 22; one-quarter self-supporting, 27.

Bible distribution (1889)—Bibles, 1,454; New Testaments, 22,402; portions, 642,131. Total 665,987.

Communicants, 37,287.

Pupils in schools, 16,816.

Contributions by native Christians, \$86,884.51.

The statistics of our own church (the Presbyterian Church North) are included in the above summary. Dr. Happer also kindly gives them separately for the convenience of all interested:

Men, 38; wives, 43; single women, 21; in all, 122.

Native members of Presbyterian Church North, 4.

Statistics of the eight Presbyterian bodies in China—Men, 124; wives, 93; single ladies, 46; in all, 263.

Whole number of Presbyterian Church members, 12,347.

Whole number of pupils, 3,794.

Whole amount of contributions, \$13,007.

—A converted Chinaman on the Pacific coast sold himself to work as a coolie in New Guinea for the sake of working among his own countrymen, and before he died he personally led to Christ 200 of his companions. How many of such heroic lives have no written annals, save in God's "book of remembrance!"

France.—Missionary Conference at Chamounix.—There will (D.V.) be a missionary conference at Chamounix during August, probable date 18th to 22d, for prayer and praise, in connection with various fields of gospel labor, information concerning which will be given by Rev. F. B. Meyer, of Regent's Park Chapel, London; Pasteur Vernier, of Valence, Drôme; Pasteur Lecoat, of Tremel, Brittany; Monsieur R. Saillens, of the McAll Mission, Paris, etc. All Christian friends are earnestly invited. For information as to railway fares, board and lodging, etc., application may be made to Rev. N. L. Bhett, Avenue de la Gare, Annemasse, Haute Savoie, France.

India.—All missions at work among the Santals report numerous accessions and rapid development. At the present rate of progress, in a few years Santalistan will be as thoroughly Christianized as Timor. The Norwegian Lutheran Mission has a membership of 5,272 at 14 stations. More than 40 were baptized last year. Mr. Campbell, of the Scotch Free Church, reports very hopefully of his section of the field; he cannot provide teachers fast enough to instruct the people