

ministers in the United States, or one to about every 600 persons, while only one is allotted to half a million in heathen lands. *There are 1,500 counties in China without a single missionary.*

—There are about 600 native newspapers in India, all of which, with the exception of about half a dozen, are bitterly opposed to Christianity. Societies are now being organized for the dissemination of the skeptical writings of England and America. An important society is in operation from Lahore, as a centre, while another has its headquarters in Benares. *The pictures of the gods best known to the Hindu pantheon are even lithographed in Germany and England and sold in Calcutta!* Native rajahs interest themselves in circulating Hindu tracts, and have adopted shrewd methods to carry on their work. The Rev. Mr. Craven says he knows of one rajah alone who is printing at his own expense 2,000,000 of Hindu tracts, and intends to distribute them at the large fairs of North India. The missionaries, however, keep close watch over these antagonistic forces. They too are enlarging their operations rapidly. But the churches and societies which they represent should adopt far more liberal measures to furnish the millions of natives to whom they are sent with sound Christian literature. The passion for reading has struck every part of India. The people will have books and newspapers. It is for the western

Christian world to say what their fibre shall be.—*Dr. Hurst, in Harper's Magazine.*

—The *Chinese Recorder* gives the following statistics of Christian missions in China to Dec. 1, 1886:

Number of societies.....	87
Total number of missionaries.....	919
Men.....	446
Wives.....	316
Single ladies.....	157
China inland mission (men).....	92
Various Presbyterian societies (men).....	93
Methodist societies.....	70
Congregationalist societies.....	53
Episcopalian societies.....	39
Americans.....	164
English.....	230
Other nationalities.....	52

Of the single ladies nearly half are American. Others are not named.

—The *China Inland Mission* has 43 married and 129 unmarried missionaries. Including wives and 117 native workers, the entire force numbers over 300. They are asking for 100 more for this year. Their operations have been continued for years, and the hundred new men are called for by way of celebrating the majority of the society.

—The *Japan Mission of the Presbyterian Board* are asking for ten new men instead of a hundred, and the question is whether the Presbyterian Church is able and willing to grant their request. What will the synods, the presbyteries and the churches say to their petition?

—The *Chinese Governor* of the large island of Formosa in starting a college has chosen a missionary to inaugurate and organize the institution. Such a step would have been regarded as a miracle one generation ago.

VIII.—EDITORIAL NOTES ON CURRENT TOPICS.

A WORD TO OUR PATRONS.

Enterprises are nowadays so commonly started with supreme reference to pecuniary returns that it seems like an affectation of unselfishness to claim any other and higher motive in the wide circulation of this REVIEW. Nevertheless, the editors are conscious of no ulterior end but the arousing of the Church of God to a more

vigorous prosecution of the missionary campaign. And in our effort we desire the warm, sympathetic cooperation of all our subscribers. We undertake the work with a deep persuasion that it is *God's work laid upon us*, and we care for no reward beyond the consciousness of His approval. We mean to make this REVIEW indispensable, if we can, to all