

Presbyterians Abroad.

Boston Presbytery now has 42 organized congregations and over 60 ministers on its roll.

Dr. McAdam Muir has been translated from Morningside, Edinburgh, to St. Mungo's (the Cathedral), Glasgow.

The next General Council of the Presbyterian Alliance, which meets once every four years, will meet in Washington in 1900.

Dr. Marshall Lang, of Glasgow, was elected by the Presbyterian Council as President of the Presbyterian Alliance for the next four years.

Prof. W. G. Blaikie, D.D., has stated his intention to retire from the chair of Apologetics and Pastoral Theology in the New College, Edinburgh, at the end of next session.

The U. P. and Free Church are proceeding with a joint hymnal. The Committee of the Established Church have handed over to them the results of the joint labors of the three Committees.

Presbyterians support one-fourth of the Evangelical Mission work of the world. Let us be thankful for what has been done, humble that it is so little, and earnest in seeking to make it manifold more.

The Foreign Mission receipts of the Southern Presbyterian Church for the fiscal year recently closed were \$141,976.07, being 9,643.17 more than last year. There was no debt to carry over to burden the work of this year.

Rev. W. C. Cattell, D.D., long a prominent figure in the Presbyterian Church, U.S.A., as Chairman of its Board of Ministerial Relief, caring for Aged and Infirm Ministers, has resigned that work on account of age and infirmity.

Dr. Sheldon Jackson, for many years an energetic Home Missionary worker west of the Mississippi, and later well known as having charge of religious and educational affairs in Alaska, has given \$50,000 to found a Presbyterian University of Utah.

The Presbyterian Churches in different parts of South Africa, are doing what the Presbyterians in Canada did twenty-one years ago, and what the Presbyterian Churches in Australia are now doing, taking steps toward union, that they may the better accomplish their great work in the "Dark Continent."

Thirty-two years ago, four million slaves were freed in the U.S.A. They are now eight millions. Thirty years ago the Presbyterian Church, North, began work among them. To-day her Freedmen's Board has among them 166 colored ministers and 9 white, 306 churches with 17,000 communicants and 19,000 S. S. scholars. Much has been done, but a very small part, even of the increase, has been overtaken.

To help raise the "Million Dollar Fund," Presbyterian Church, U. S. A., for paying off the debts on all the Boards and giving them a working balance, the *Presbyterian Journal* issued a "Woman's Edition," which sold for five cents. The editor's good wife, a true helpmeet, bore a chief share of the burden, but, with her like-minded sisters, had the satisfaction of paying two thousand dollars into the Fund, with more to follow when the advertising receipts are all in.

Long have hymns struggled for recognition in the Irish Presbyterian Church. At length perseverance has won. The last Assembly resolved that since many of the congregations are already using various collections of hymns, it is wiser and safer to have a hymnal with the sanction of the Assembly, not to be placed upon an equality with the Psalms, but for those congregations that may wish them. The Assembly adopted the draft copy of the Union Hymnal, agreed upon by the Scottish U. P. and Free Churches.

At a denominational rally in Washington, during the great Convention, the C. E.'s of the Presbyterian Church, U. S. A., resolved: "As our Home Mission Board is in great distress because of a debt of \$300,000, we urge that each Presbyterian Christian Endeavor Society of our country make a special thank-offering of at least 25 cents per member for the liquidation of the debt of this Board. As all the Boards of our Church have just claims to our loyal support, we trust that this will in no way interfere with regular and increased contributions to them." A committee was appointed to carry out the scheme, which will mean to the Home Board over \$100,000. A good kind of Endeavor.

The world's Presbyterianism met in its sixth Council in Glasgow for ten of the latter days of June. The Reformed Churches holding the Presbyterian system formed an Alliance twenty years ago. Their Council meets once in four years. Last meeting was in Toronto in 1892. The next will be in Washington in 1900. The Council has no authority except to decide what Churches will enter the Alliance, as Presbyterian. The benefits of such an Alliance are, that it binds more closely together the world scattered Churches of the Presbyterian family, enables them to combine their influence on great moral questions at home, and to plan and work more comprehensively for evangelizing the heathen world. It gives visibility to their strength and makes them stronger for knowing it. Especially does it help and cheer the weaker reformed Churches on the continent of Europe. Papers were read and discussions held on many of the great leading questions of the day; questions doctrinal and practical, moral and philosophical, civil and religious; our own men taking a goodly part and as usual doing it well. Dr. Marshall Lang, of Glasgow, was chosen President for the next four years.