

on arriving at Hong-kong he was told that Formosa was blockaded by the French, so that he could not return. "The new churches at Bang-Kah and Sintiam are levelled to the ground. Converts hooted, beaten, &c. Increased hatred to *all foreigners*." In this trying time, Dr. Mackay entreats the prayers of the whole Church. We hope before our next issue to have better news from Formosa.

The new year has dawned on the *Record* auspiciously. Thanks to our agents, the circulation of last year will be exceeded this year. Those who have not yet completed their orders, should do so at once.

MEETINGS OF PRESBYTERIES.

Brockville, Spencerville, 3rd March, 10 a.m.
Winnipeg, Knox Church, 4th March, 10 a.m.
Sarnia, Strathroy, 10th March, 2 p.m.
Ottawa, St. Andrew's Church, 3rd Feb., 10 a.m.
Bruce, Walkerton, 10th March,
Kingston, Cooke's Church, 16th March, 3 p.m.
Chatham, St. Andrew's Church, 17th March
Owen Sound, Division St., 17th March, 1.30 p.m.
Glengarry, Alexandria, 10th March, 2 p.m.
Pictou, New Glasgow, 3rd March, noon.
Maitland, Wingham, 17th March, 1.30 p.m.
Paris, Woodstock, 10th March, noon.
London, 1st Presbyterian, 10th March, 7.30 p.m.
Lan. & Renfrew, Carleton Place, 23rd Feb., noon
Toronto, Knox Church, 3rd Feb., 10 a.m.
Montreal, D. Morrice Hall, 31st March, 10 a.m.
Peterboro, Port Hope, 17th March, 10 a.m.
Quebec, Morrin College, 17th March, 7.30 p.m.
Saugeen, Harriston, 17 March, 2 p.m.

Literature.

THE CONQUEST OF CANAAN: Lectures on the first twelve chapters of the Book of Joshua, by *Rev. A. B. Mackay*, pastor of Crescent Street Church, and Lecturer in Sacred Rhetoric in the Presbyterian College, Montreal: *Hodder and Stoughton, London*, 1884; p.p. 404. These lectures, thirty in number, preached as we are told in the ordinary course of the author's ministry, indicate a high order of pulpit ability. They are thoughtful, practical, and stimulating; the style is fresh and vigorous, and the tone thoroughly evangelical. The writer is most happy in his illustrations, and in pointing out the lessons for every-day life that underlie the narratives contained in this very interesting portion of the Old Testament Scriptures. The book is exceedingly well got up and deserves an extensive circulation.

SIAM AND LAOS, AS SEEN BY OUR AMERICAN MISSIONARIES: This attractive volume, just issued by *The Presbyterian Board of Publication, Philadelphia*, brings to notice a part of the world of which comparatively little is known—the Peninsula lying east of India and south of China, in which missionaries of the Presby-

terian Church in the United States of America have been labouring for a number of years with a success to which the young King of Siam bears positive and grateful testimony. It is made interesting to young people by the free use of excellent illustrations, and the reference to the customs and manners of the people, some of which are very curious. *Price \$1.85.*

MISSIONS ATLAS, by *Rev. Provt. Vahl, of Copenhagen*: This is the first instalment, in two parts, of a very important contribution to missionary literature by one who has devoted much time to this branch of study, and who is thoroughly conversant with his subject. The maps are ten in number, well executed, on a large scale, comprizing India, Burmah, the islands of the Indian Ocean, China, Africa, and Madagascar. They are accompanied by two volumes, each of 250 pages of letter press, descriptive of mission work in these countries, with statistics to date. Dean Vahl has also favoured us with a printed catalogue of his missionary library, which is probably the largest and most valuable in existence, including over four thousand books and magazines devoted to missionary intelligence.

THE CHILDRENS HYMNAL, prepared by a committee of the General Assembly, for the use of the Sabbath-schools of the Presbyterian Church in Canada, with music, price \$5 per 100. The committee have furnished our Sabbath-schools with, in our judgment, the best hymnal extant. It contains the best hymns found in most books of a similar kind, and, what we like very much, a few of the the Psalms and Paraphrases which we loved to sing long ago, but which never grow old. The collection is worthy of a less juvenile name. Because of its simplicity, it is even better adopted for use in the prayer meeting than the Church Hymnal. We should like to see at least five-and-twenty other familiar hymns that properly belong to the Sunday-school, added to it, but this defect admits of remedy in future editions.

THE PRESBYTERIAN REVIEW, is the name of a new eight-page weekly paper, of very attractive appearance, published in Toronto, at the very modest price of \$1 per annum. Having for its object "the quickening of the spiritual life of its readers," and pledging itself to be "thoroughly loyal to our Church, and to all that concerns her welfare," we extend to it a hearty welcome, and hope to avail ourselves frequently of the information conveyed in its columns concerning the march of Christianity in our own country and the wide world over.

A WORD IN SEASON: or counsels to young Christians in their every day life, by *Rev. James A. R. Dickson, B.D.*, of Galt. This little tract is well calculated to encourage young Christians and help them to do what is sometimes a very difficult thing—to draw the proper line of distinction betwixt the duty they owe to the Church and to the world respectively. *Price five cents or \$3.00 per hundred.* The Presbyterian Printing Co., Toronto.