

audience with the present emperor, we did not attempt to see him, but we got a communication to his father, the Seventh Prince, which has called forth expressions of great interest and a desire for more information on the subject. As he and Viceroy Li are next to the emperor, we may expect that everything will be done that can be done in the matter.

### Italy.

[We have received the following brief statement from a well-known Brooklyn lady who is deeply interested in Italian evangelization.—J. M. S.]

DEAR EDITORS:—I have been deeply impressed with your earnest and ready sympathy in the cause of missions, and not having seen any mention of the Free Christian Church in Italy in your Review, I enclose a report for the year 1888, last year's report not having reached us yet; also a little sketch of the church.

Hoping you may find something that will be of interest to lay before your readers, and also draw the attention of the Christian world towards this worthy mission, and thus hasten the coming of God's kingdom in this land of superstition and bigotry, I am yours truly,

Brooklyn, N. Y.

M. L. S.

#### THE FREE CHRISTIAN CHURCH IN ITALY.

This brave little church deserves more than a passing notice. Struggling, inch by inch, through the bitter opposition and persecution of the Romish Church, it is, nevertheless, steadily advancing, and becoming a power of great good in the evangelization of Italy. New fields are being occupied, the labors of teachers and scholars are being abundantly blessed, contributions of the church are on the increase, showing a great spirit of self-denial among the members, many of them being poor in this world's goods.

Statistics for 1888 show 32 churches, large and small, 15 ordained ministers, 12 evangelists, 3 colporteurs, 70 deacons, 80 elders, 1,522 communicants, 222 catechumens, 60 Sabbath-school teachers, 936 Sabbath-school children, 32 day and night-school teachers, 925 pupils, 43 out-stations. Hundreds of places are open to this little church, and demands are constantly made for preachers, but, for lack of means, they have painfully to refuse many.

Is not the Lord, by His wonderful working in behalf of this people, in the very heart of Papacy, showing to a Christian world a great opportunity to aid in the extension of His kingdom in this land, by the aid of their prayers and contributions?

Their colleges and schools are preparing earnest men to carry forward this work. These native teachers, through their bitter knowledge of what Popery is, and their acquaintance with the language, are much better adapted to the evangelization of their country than

strangers could ever be. Rev. J. R. McDougall says, "My own deep conviction remains unalterable as to the truly spiritual character of the Free Italian Church Mission, and the immense service it is rendering to the cause of Christ in Italy."

### Tibet.

Edgell Road, Staines, June 10, 1890.

DEAR DR. PIERSON:—I thought you might like to have the enclosed letter from Mr. C. Pollhill Turner, in northeast Tibet.

The Manchuviceroy (Ching-Chai) for Kuku-nor (Blue Lake) province lives at Sining, the capital of Kuku-nor.

Kumhun, the Mecca and Jerusalem of Lamaist Buddhism, is only a day's journey from Sining to the southwest, 20 miles. I suppose half the Thibetan race is to be found on the Kansu borders.

Neither the Chinese nor Tibetans seem to be jealous of our movements so far north, and it may be, when this wide open door is occupied, God will open the Sampo basin. It should be noted that the language of Amdo is much like that spoken at Tawna, whereas the dialect of Leh is very different.

The principedom of Iang, said by Him to be the most powerful of the Kansu chiefs, has been open even for ladies quite ten years. My wife and another sister spent two months at Choni, the town whence Iang rules three tribes—the Choni, Chokna, and Tiepu—while I evangelized the neighboring Dungan and Chinese (Moslem half-castes, Turk and Chinese.)

Does not jealousy of the English indicate a special call for American Christians to occupy this field? I am quite familiar with all the approaches to Eastern Kuku-nor and Southern Mongolia and Eastern Turkistan, but Central Asia only has the third claim among the innermost parts of the earth.

The native races of South America seem to have been almost overlooked, and Central Africa ought to have a share of every coin given into Christ's mission treasury.

The interior regions, if attended to, will necessitate a filling in of the routes thither.

Conferences for the advancement of the spiritual life are going to be abused by becoming spiritual entertainments with a surfeit of provisions.

Devotional literature is multiplying. I get seven-fold more profit from news respecting the peoples and tongues of the earth and missions to them.

Those who are actively engaged and deeply concerned in the spiritual needs of the regions beyond will necessarily be in spiritual health. It will be wrong if in all our large towns new halls have to be provided for serving out these spiritual dainties when languages are still unlearned by Christ's witnesses, and races are yet unvisited by heralds of Jesus and His resurrection.