

cants, the ratio of increase being something less than it had been for several years past.

British Foreign Missions. By Rev. James Johnston, Bolton, England.

Corea.—A most encouraging letter has been sent to England from Bishop Corfe stating that the Government of Corea has allowed him a piece of land at Chemulpo sixty feet square, in an excellent situation, for the nominal price of twenty dollars. This will be used for a hospital building, and the bishop regards the favor as a mark of appreciation for the successful medical work done among the people. The mission dispensary is always crowded with patients—a proof that there is need for the hospital. Before the bishop left for Corea he was a highly popular naval chaplain, and in connection with his mission there is a hospital naval fund which is largely supported by officers in the British fleet. These scattered contributors will learn with pleasure the fruits of their generosity.

Anti-Opium Crusade.—Mr. Cheok Hong Cheong, Superintendent of Church Missions, Melbourne, Victoria, and Miss Soonderbhai Powar, an Indian Christian lady of Bombay, are visiting England to protest against the continuance of the British opium traffic in China and India. At a great demonstration in London Mr. Cheong said that the only remedy for the terrible evils which resulted from the vice was either to place the victims in strict confinement until they were cured, or to entirely prohibit the opium trade. He advocated the latter course, and further remarked that the opium trade, which was the plague of Asia, would soon become the plague of the world if it were not promptly overtaken. Miss Powar called attention to the "dreadful dens" in India where opium was smoked. The same drug was habitually given to children only three or four days old, and hundreds of thousands of children were annually

poisoned by it. Women who earned as little as six cents a day spent half of it upon opium and afterward endured starvation because they had not enough to provide the necessaries of life. Frequently Indian women had said that if the English people would stop the opium trade the natives of India would worship Englishmen as if they possessed Divine power.

Wesleyan China Mission.—Much interest gathers around the very recent arrival in England of the Rev. David Hill, who has spent twenty-seven years as a missionary in the "Flowery Land." He states that the principal wave of rebellion is passing over Central China, and doubts whether because the Christian missionaries are the chief sufferers that the Chinese have the strong dislike to Christianity which has been attributed. It was more probably an intense hatred of all foreigners, and the outcome of a widespread movement for their expulsion. Had merchants been as much to the fore in the unsettled districts they would have suffered equal persecution. In the course of the ten riots which had taken place at intervals the Wesleyan missions had borne the most serious losses, and the outcome of the present disturbed state of the country was practically to stop all missionary effort, inasmuch as they were compelled to withdraw for a time their missionaries, their wives, and families to British protection. A sad feature was the indirect connivance of the Chinese Government. The Pekin authorities objected, of course, to outrages, while they were agreeable that the foreigners should be excluded from the province in question. Hunan, with its population of 22,000,000, where the Protestant missionaries had not yet been able to get a footing, was the province most hostile to foreigners and the seat of the recent riots. Dr. Griffith John and other missionaries assert that the troubles emanate from the Hunan literary and official classes and not from the secret societies. Possibly the issue of the present troubles will