

unity for them is now or never. I trust all these things are a sign that Christianity is doing its work quietly yet thoroughly. The older Christians tell me of wonderful changes here since the Mission was first begun by Mr. Ferguson. As education spreads the change will grow more and more rapidly. Much might be accomplished here by elementary schools in the villages.

I have received notice from the Committee that Mr. Bailey is to be here in spring to start again the Leper Mission. I shall be delighted to see him and to help him in any way I can. There is, I believe, a large number of lepers in Chumba State.—*Kirk Mission Record.*

CHURCH VISITATION.

THE plan of church visitation adopted a little more than a year ago by the Presbytery of New York, and subsequently carried out among the churches, has been adopted by the Presbytery of Los Angeles. The Presbytery of Oregon also has had in operation the same system, thus showing how soon a good, workable plan will be taken advantage of in all parts. Several Presbyteries nearer home are active in the same way; so that it may be said that these bodies, the Church over, are undertaking more than is their wont—and on the whole recognizing and fulfilling their duties of supervision and care over the churches with a good degree of faithfulness. There are many weak and pastorless churches that especially call for this oversight, and their care and building up is just what a Presbytery is for.

By all means, let this good work of visitation by well-constituted Presbyterial Committees proceed. We would commend it to all our Presbyteries. Even when such visits fail to reach the point of obvious spiritual awakening, they yet serve to introduce a better order of things, which may lead up to the best and most desired results. They are sure to promote acquaintance and fellowship between affiliated churches, which in itself is a great thing, having especial apostolic sanction. They serve to help isolated and discouraged brethren. Revivals come this way. The Holy Spirit uses those who make sacrifice in this work, enforcing and fastening their words, it may be, quite beyond their expectations of success.

In the plan marked out by Los Angeles Presbytery, the Committee on Visitation have appointed two members of Presbytery to visit each of the churches. It is left to the Sessions

to arrange for the time of each visit, and they are also expected to provide the expenses of the visiting brethren. It is intended that the latter shall visit the fields to which they are assigned, and hold a series of meetings—the time of their continuation to depend upon the interest awakened. But a meeting at each place of at least a week or ten days is expected. The brethren may both be present at one time, or, if thought best, follow each other. E.

SIGNS OF THE TIMES.



WILD and wicked spirit of rebellion is prowling abroad far and near. The Irish and French Catholics are raging to rule Canada, and England too; and indeed they seem to be domineering in the United States at present, from the insane view of the Fishery Question put forth in the Senate and Congress. The worst masses are not afraid to revile the best rulers, and, by the aid of rum and whiskey rings, to

“Tumble Order heels o'er head, and, yelling with the yelling street,
Set the feet above the brain, and swear the brain is in the feet!”

Let all loyal and honest people be ready; watch sharply; stand steadfast, and act promptly, now or never, BEFORE IT BE TOO LATE.

EUROPE feels a hidden tremor by fits and starts; and then a dead calm as before a great political earthquake. FRANCE and RUSSIA are the dreaded magazines of explosion; but the PORTE, the VATICAN and the JESUITS are also secret manipulators.

GERMANY and AUSTRIA make enormous preparations for defence; and so does GREAT BRITAIN and ITALY. These four Powers are likely to be friendly to each other.

The ITALIAN garrison has had a terrible defeat with the Abyssinians sent to relieve Kassa in the Soudan. No doubt they will be reinforced and avenged. Let us hope that the Arab slave trade will be put down for ever. STANLEY's expedition to rescue EMIN BEY in Central Africa will also aid.

BELFAST has been again disgracing itself by bloody Riots, beginning on Jan. 30. Many lives were lost.

THE BRITISH PARLIAMENT is again in session, striving to give good Law and Order far and near.

THE BELGIAN Government has introduced in Parliament a bill to suppress drunkenness. It provides that drunkards in public places