

ent'd and learned class of men in North Formosa.

Iceland.—Rev. Geo. Bryce writes from Winnipeg, Jan. 17, that 58 members, all Icelandic converts, have been received to their first communion. At an aftermeeting 19 others professed faith.

India.—Ongole field alone has half as many members as in all Burma all under one pastor, Rev. I. E. Clough, D. D.

—The school which Pandita Ramabal will establish for high caste widows will be entirely secular, on account of the prejudices of the Hindus against Christianity. The medical work for women, fostered by Lady Dufferin during her residence in India, is now endowed to the extent of about \$275,000. It has three objects: to train female physicians, to afford medical relief, and to secure a supply of trained nurses. Five lady doctors and a nurse have been obtained from England. About 200 young women are being educated in the medical colleges of India. There are 12 female hospitals and 15 aided dispensaries. Classes have been formed for the training of female nurses. Although the work is not ostensibly Christian, missions are indirectly benefited.

—More than 1,200 adults were baptized by members of the North India Conference of the M. E. Church during the past year. Alluding to this at the recent conference Rev. C. A. C. Janvier assigned the following as some of the reasons why this success was granted: 1. Special and systematic efforts are made to reach the lower castes. 2. Large and speedy results are prayed and looked for as a necessary consequence of the presence of the Holy Spirit.

—Assam ranks tenth in territory and eleventh in population among the provinces of India. 2,424 schools in Assam have 63,997 male pupils, and only 4,628 females. These are less than ten per cent. of the population of school age.

—In the northwest of India and of Oude, missionary physicians are coming prominently into notice. Nearly 72,000 cases were treated at eleven missionary dispensaries, and 11,000 women sought relief at Mrs. Wilson's dispensary at Agra; 18,850 women and children were treated at the Thomas dispensary at Agra. The women doctors in charge successfully performed some very important surgical operations.

—The British Government and Buddhism. As a rule, Great Britain has not illustrated the teachings of the gospel in India. In Ceylon matters seem to have been going in about the same way. There the British some time ago became the patrons of Buddhism, as the Government assumed the responsibility of maintaining Buddhist worship. It turned over to Buddhist priests the revenues of hundreds of thousands of acres of public land. Because in this way it has made those priests in many cases un-

fit for their office by their idleness, if not their monumity, the native population of Ceylon now unites with the Church of England in demanding a dissolution of the existing partnership between the British government and Buddhism. The sooner this is done the better.

—Mr. W. S. Caine, M. P., writes thus to a number of influential English newspapers concerning his recent investigations at Lucknow: "An opium sot is the most hopeless of all drunkards—once he is well into the clutches of this fiend, everything gives way to its fierce promptings. He only works to get more money for opium. Wife, children, and home are all sacrificed to this horrible lust. The receipts of the government of the North-West Provinces and Oude from opium, bhang, and other intoxicating drugs is no less than £67,000, and is on the increase. It will give your readers some idea of the way in which this horrible traffic in intoxicants is being stimulated, if I give the average revenue for the North-West Provinces and Oude from all intoxicants for the three years 1878-79-80, as compared with 1885-86-7. In the former case, its yearly average was £284,000, in the latter it had run up to £548,000, showing a doubled consumption within seven years. Every day I spend in India brings fresh proof that the government are stimulating the sale of intoxicants to the very verge of decency, for the sake of the cheaply collected and rapidly increasing revenue which it furnishes."

Indians.—Twelve years since the Modocs were savages. Now they are industrious farmers, and half of them confessing Christians. The *Rocky Mountain Christian Advocate* says: "While the Dakota Indians were savages it cost the Government \$1,848,000 to take care of them seven years. The cost after their conversion for the same length of time was \$120,000, a difference of \$1,728,000 in favor of Christianity."

Jerusalem.—The city is growing rapidly and improving in appearance. The Rothschilds have completed a new hospital. Near is a new Abyssinian church. The Russians have erected a new church, consulate, and lodging-house for pilgrims of the orthodox faith. Near to the Russian Buildings is the "German House," for German Roman Catholics, from whose top the German and the papal flags float side by side. The Russians have also built a high tower on the summit of the Mount of Olives, from which can be seen the Mediterranean and the Dead Sea.

Japan.—According to a Japanese editor the Protestant churches have grown from 38 to 151, and the members from 3,700 to 11,600 in the last three years.

Dr. Duane B. Simmons died in Tokio, Feb. 10. He went out as a medical missionary of the Reformed Dutch church, 1859; after the