

Items from Abroad.

Sixty-four counties in Dakota have declared for prohibition under the local option law.

The city mission work in Berlin makes use of twenty halls, and employs forty-two missionaries.

The Boston Metropolitan Board of Police has increased the fees for liquor licenses from \$800 to \$1,000.

Seven hundred and thirty-three thousand gallons of rum were sent to Africa last year from the port of Boston alone.

Two-thirds of the infant children of the Sandwich Islands before the advent of Missions were strangled or burned alive.

Two thousand Icelanders immigrated to America during the year 1887, the greater part of this number having settled in Manitoba.

The King of Siam proposes to place the Presbyterian mission-schools on the same basis as to State aid as the government schools.

The French have completed the evacuation of the New Hebrides. Such is the announcement that comes by cable from Australia.

It is a curious and interesting fact that over fifty Presbyterian ministers in the United States and Canada were at one time Roman Catholic priests.

Berlin has a population of 1,000,000, only two per cent. of which go to public worship. With nearly 400,000 people in Hamburg only 5,000 attend service.

It is estimated that fifty persons have committed suicide at Monte Carlo during the last three months while the receipts of the established gamblers at that place were during the same period largely increased.

When Ranavalona the Second came to the throne of Madagascar, in 1868, there were in connection with the London Missionary Society alone about one hundred and twenty churches; at the time of her death, in 1873, there were twelve hundred. The day-schools likewise multiplied from twenty-five to twelve hundred. Besides a great advance in morality, many beneficial changes of a political character were effected.

There are said to be less than one thousand Roman Catholics in Sweden; and the king of that country is one of the rulers in Europe who refused to send congratulations to the pope on the occasion of his jubilee.

Two Protestant Spaniards have been condemned to six days' imprisonment and also heavily fined because they did not kneel or take off their hats when they met a priest carrying the viaticum in the street of Madrid.

The Moravians report for the past year 29,283 communicants in their mission fields with a total of 83,052 persons under the care of their missionaries. The total receipts were \$95,345. There is a deficiency of upward of \$5,000.

Bishop Williams gives encouraging news from Japan. In a recent visit to Osaka and its neighbourhood one hundred and seven persons were confirmed, and at other places which he was unable to visit candidates were ready.

The most popular Established minister in Edinburgh is said to be Dr. McGregor, of St. Cuthbert's. He has an enormous congregation, numbering about 3,000 communicants, and as his church is in the west-end of the city he has many wealthy people in his flock.

A daughter of Rev. Robert Gault, Free Church minister of Glasgow, who is at present in India, recently paid a visit to Miss Tucker, better known as 'A. L. O. E.' She is about seventy years of age, and is still engaged in active work amongst the women of India.

The Turks, who are prohibitionists by order of the Koran, are working to abolish saloons kept by the 'Christians' in Constantinople. All drinking places within two hundred and fifty feet of the houses of Turkish worship have been ordered closed, and the police are enforcing the decree.

An Indian fakir, having been converted to the gospel, still occupies a position by the side of a great thoroughfare, but instead of standing on one foot and holding his hand above his head for hours at a time, as before, he has built a little chapel and dug a well, where he entertains passers-by with a cooling draught while he discomfies them of the waters of eternal life.